

# The Nebraska Independent.

The Wealth Makers and Lincoln Independent Consolidated.

VOL. XI.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 1899.

NO. 6

## A BLOW AT EDUCATION

The Full Story of the Monopoly Assault on the Kansas Agricultural College.

## TO GAG SOCIAL PROGRESS

Successful Professors Discharged Because They Taught Economic Truth.

Peety Political Plamire Politice.

The full story of the removal of five professors from Kansas Agricultural College at Manhattan, Kans., throws so much light on the present effort in this country to shut the teaching of professional political economy from the people, and especially from the scholars of higher education, that we print below the letter addressed to Governor Stanley by Carl Vrooman, the only remaining populist regent on the board. In Kansas the regents are appointed by the governor instead of being elected by the people. When Governor Stanley (republican) came into power this year he removed two of the populist members of the board and appointed republicans in their stead. This gave the republicans a majority on the board, and they discharged President Will and four other professors. The letter of Regent Vrooman tells the rest of the story.

When it is considered that professors who teach the free investigation of social and political questions have been discharged from leading colleges all over the land where rich men had given endowments, this latest effort to shut off advanced economic truth from a hearing in western state schools ought to rouse the people. Simultaneously with the organization of the greatest combinations of capital the world has ever seen the spirit of monopoly strikes a deadly blow at freedom of thought in one of western free schools. Will the people ever rise to drive from the land this brutal rule of money, hypocrisy, and darkness. Below we give the story as told by Regent Vrooman.

"During the Lowelling administration the populists had the power to reorganize the agricultural college, the normal school, and the state university, to 'fire' every republican official and professor and fill their places with populists. Did they do this? No. They did not discharge a single republican, and they employed only one populist to fill a vacancy. This moderation is the more remarkable when you remember that in every college in the state populists and populism were hooted at and subjected to open ridicule.

"Again, in 1896, during the Leedy administration, the populists had full power to turn every college in the state into a populist 'kindergarten,' and to give live jobs to hundreds of 'hungry reformers.' Did they do this? In not one single instance. It is true they reorganized the agricultural college. If for a moment you will clear your mind of the willful and malicious misrepresentations of your party press I will tell you exactly how this reorganization was carried on. Fully one-half of the new professors engaged were republicans, and a large majority of the old professors retained were republicans. It is true that some populists, democrats, independents, and mugwumps also were engaged. Thus today, for the first time in its history, the college is on a truly non-partisan basis, all parties being represented. In former times, practically all the professors were republicans. That is the 'non-partisan' regime which the republicans want revived. That is what they mean when they demand that the institution be taken 'out of politics.'

"A little incident which illustrates this point is the recent action of the republican regents, who received an invitation formally made to Hon. W. J. Bryan and formally accepted by him, to deliver the commencement address, at the grounds that he was prominent democrat. In the populist reorganization, on the other hand, professors were engaged strictly on their educational qualifications, with absolutely no reference to their politics. I have the documents to prove this. Out of dozens of similar letters written by President Will, and produced as evidence before the committee, I will quote one or two. Following is a letter to Regent Hoffman, dated May 31, 1897:

"While down town for a moment yesterday afternoon I was accosted by a Riley county populist politician, who informed me with some enthusiasm that a certain candidate, whose name as yet, however, I think we have not received, may be expected to descend upon the board at its coming meeting, armed with a 'treasonous political pull,' for the purpose of capturing a certain chair in the faculty. On my suggestion that too much 'political pull' might imply that the individual was not strong on professional lines, the reply was that he had no doubt that the man was all right on those lines, too, but he believed 'best to the victors belong the spoils.'"

"How much of this kind of thing the board may have to see I am, of course, unable to say, but our business that

many, if any, of the members are prepared to yield to such pressure. However, it is well enough to be prepared for the worst that may come. My own conviction, and I believe in this you fully agree with me, is that no greater danger can possibly threaten the new administration than exactly this sort of thing. The conservative press, from New York to California, is eager and waiting for the chance to confirm their charges, and to prove that the overturn here has been designed simply and solely to make room for spoilsmen; and if they can prove it clearly and specifically in perhaps a single case, we will be weakened irreparably.

"You, I know, will stand like a rock against everything of this kind. I mention it, however, since this episode of yesterday most clearly reveals the spirit of certain people who are pleased to pose as 'reformers.'"

Another letter from President Will to John Wiley, Seattle, Wash., of the same date, in reply to the offer of a professorship, begins by asking him to keep the offer open a little longer and ends as follows:

"In one week our board meets to fill the vacancies in this institution. Dark hints are dropped occasionally to the effect that political pressure will be brought to bear upon the board to compel them to make political appointments and make this institution a prey to spoilsmen. I have great faith in the wisdom and courage of our board and believe they will successfully resist such pressure. Nevertheless, should they yield I should feel compelled to resign, for I could not conscientiously be a party to such a proceeding. Aside from the above fear, which I trust exists only in idle talk, the outlook here for broad, progressive work is excellent."

"Yes," as a republican replied to these statements the other day, "it didn't matter to you about the politics of a teacher of mathematics, but you took good care that all the professors of economics believed in the free silver heresy and your socialistic vagaries." This likewise was proven in the evidence to be a direct fabrication. Professor Bemis testified that he had written Professor Will before accepting the proffered position, that he did not believe in the populist position on the silver question, that his views coincided with those of the republican party, and that President Will wired back, 'guarantee you four years and no muzzle.'

Professor Parsons holds views on finance that are not in accord with the platform of any political party. President Will, then, remains as only one out of the three professors of economics who believes in the 'free silver heresy.'

Complaint has been made vociferously and with endless iteration that the teaching of agriculture has been neglected to make way for economics and politics. First of all let me state that the course in economics has been enlarged. The board of regents believed that every American sovereign should be taught the fundamental principles of the science of government. It believed that with proper educational facilities even farmers and workmen can understand the great issues of the day, and that they can and should vote their own honest convictions, but the statement that agriculture was neglected, even in the interest of an intelligent citizenship, is a baseless and malicious falsification. Two years ago the agricultural college of only two states in the union taught fewer hours of agriculture than did that of Kansas. Under the populist regime we have increased the number of hours of agriculture from 185 to 424, making an increase of over 200 per cent, and reaching at a bound third place in the list of colleges.

The fact that socialism is mentioned in our college catalogue has thrown some pious souls into convulsions. Such hysterics are the result of a ponderous and profound ignorance of educational matters. I have not been able to find a single first-class university in the world that does not include in its course of study the theories of socialism. Following are a few quotations from leading university catalogues indicating the courses given:

Columbia University—Page 74. "Economics 11. Communistic and socialistic theories. Lectures and private readings."

Harvard University—Page 652. "Economics 14. Socialism and communism. History and literature."

Princeton—Economics 6. An historical and critical analysis of the principal theories of social reconstruction from the early Utopias to the various forms of modern anarchy and socialism."

Ohio State University and Agricultural College, James H. Canfield, president, the greatest educator Kansas ever had, who was hounded out or the state by the republican press for his so-called 'political heresies'—Economics 6. A critical study of socialism from the historical and economic standpoints."

State University and Agricultural College of Vermont—Page 30. "Economics 1. Social theories. Examination of various social schemes. Plato's Republic, Cicero's De Republica, Augustine's Civitas Dei, More's Utopia, Modern theories: Comte, Spencer, Kautsky, Proudhon, Fourier, Goldings. Collectivism—Communism—Socialism."

Similar quotations could be made from the catalogues of almost every great university in the world. The position of educators towards socialism is this: You may or may not believe in the principles of socialism, but no educated man can ignore it. The socialist literature and the socialist movement are realities. To deny this, to refuse to study and examine them, reveals neither scholarship nor discrimination, but rather a miserable mixture of cowardice and ignorance. The professors at the agricultural college have never used their official positions to proselytize for socialism. In one of the half dozen courses in economics, its claims and theories have been presented to the students.

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

## BRYAN IN MARBLE.

Mrs. Bryan has received a marble bust of her husband, presented to her by the democrats of the District of Columbia. It is the work of one of the most celebrated Italian artists. It is not only a perfect likeness but every line of it is so exquisitely done that it will rank along with the very best art work in this country. Along with it came the following letter of presentation:

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 5, 1899.

Mrs. William Jennings Bryan, Lincoln, Nebraska.—In behalf of the democrats of the District of Columbia it becomes the pleasant duty of the undersigned committee to present to you on your birthday, June 17, 1899, a marble bust of your eminent and gifted husband, Hon. William Jennings Bryan, the work of the famous sculptor, Chevalier Treutmann.

The high regard and esteem in which Mr. Bryan is held by the democrats of the District of Columbia prompted them to seek this means of conveying in an enduring form a slight expression of our kind regards, through your womanly devotion to the lofty ideals of our republic, your gifted husband finds strength and encouragement to fight the battles of the plain people.

In giving voice to the sentiments of the democrats of the District of Columbia, we are conscious of the fact that we reflect the sentiments of the democrats of the nation, who appreciate the nobility of character with which you are fortunately endowed, that enables you to seek your own greatest good in your country's greatest triumph, that of maintaining in all their integrity the institutions founded by the fathers, the cornerstone of which is the rights of man.

The homes wherein religion and patriotism harmoniously blend are the nurseries of God's messengers. It is only from such homes that men go forth with unclouded visions and unflinching resolves to a work of uplifting mankind. Mr. Bryan's life work testifies to the character of his home and endears her who presides therein to all lovers of liberty. The constant benediction of wife and home are evidenced in the work of your distinguished husband, from whose lips flow words of burning eloquence that thrill with heaven-born zeal and fervor the hearts of his countrymen, and kindle in them the fire of hope and resolution.

We ask you to accept this slight token of our regard with the sincere hope that it will not only be a source of joy to you, but to your children and your children's children for endless generations.

## AGAINST FREEDOM

Gold is the dust that blinds the eyes. Trust not the man who asks you to believe that the republican party is all pure and that there are no specks on it. The republican party has a face for every day of the week and two of a Sunday. Hypocrisy, self-esteem, and dissimulation have been used to fool the people too long. Money by the millions, and all for what, to keep the old false party in power, backed by the bishops and ministry. All for what? Because the bondholders and the moneyed men are flocking into that party. That is their only refuge and only party where they can get what they want. Behold the trusts and corporations and a host of combinations too many to mention. They all ride rough shod over the laws. What do they care for laws? Their money will carry them through. The merchants and small manufacturers will one day have their eyes opened. It is about time or they will soon be swallowed up by the trusts and combines. You who voted for McKinley to look after the people's rights, did he mean your rights or those of the moneyed men. That is what makes him a great statesman and so popular with the rich and clergy. They all like the almighty dollar and a fat table to be kept up by the farmers by their hard toil. This war is a great calamity to this country. What with the sacrifice of lives and the cost will be great for us farmers to bear and what will we gain in the end. But still the bondholder cries and the minority says 'it's all right.' Well they ought to be the ones to shoulder the muskets and do the fighting and then there would be a different cry. What must be the conscience of McKinley since he won that rebel badge in Georgia last winter. Did he do it to lead the people or to make himself popular, looking for another term of office.

As a citizen and a farmer I look upon this expansion as contrary to our republican teaching. If we had stuck to the Monroe doctrine we would not have got into this muddle; and all for what? To fill the coffers of the rich. If we hold the Philippines it will be a burden to the taxpayers of this country, and we farmers will have to dig deeper into our pockets and get nothing in return. I am not a prophet, nor am I a Joshua, nor am I a great scholar, Mr. Editor, but I have a common sense which most republicans need in this year of our Lord, and they would not favor the McKinley expansion. There is no doubt doubt that the moneyed men can have all they want. We must share to their music and pay the biller too. Mr. Editor, I look back six years ago and compare the republican party and the party of today. The party under old Abe Lincoln was true to its principles and it was held in hand with the people but now it ought to be in mourning. For this party was the only fault of the Philippines as far as I have heard is that they are doing as we

have done, fighting for their liberty. Well, the republican party has gone in for a fight and an unequal one for you will soon swallow the Philippines up. Several of the larger firms in Manila have replaced their native labor with Chinamen as it is found that the latter are cheaper, so you see that they are cutting down wages already. What will they do when they have conquered the country. To the poor heathens cheap labor is worse than slavery. J. FARMER JOHN.

## A FARMER'S THOUGHTS

If the government would put a fixed price on all products of the farms, mines and factories, the bulls and bears would have to quit gambling in grain and no one would be injured who works for a living. Yes, I say set a price on labor too. I have been reading of 20,000,000 starving Russians and 2,000,000 Chinese. Surely the demand for wheat should have sent it up to two dollars per bushel but those starving people have no money. Now if we should lose our crops this year it would be our time to starve next for we have no money.

I raise wheat enough on my farm every year to feed four or five families, but at the end of the year it is all gone and I go in debt to the miller for a few sacks of flour until I can thresh. I raise hogs enough to supply as many families in pork but have to sell them so cheap that it don't pay for the corn they eat and I can't have as much pork as I want and pay expenses. An agent took dinner with me one day. We had just killed a small hog and let a neighbor have half and divided with another neighbor. The agent remarked that was the first farmer he had met with who had meat on his table and meat was so cheap too. I said that was the trouble, when hogs were cheap it took all to pay our debts and we had none for ourselves but when it was dear we could pay debts and have a living besides. The same with beef. I believe I have raised nearly 500 head of cattle since I have lived in this state but I sell a seldom that I can afford to buy as much beef as I would like. It is a luxury that few farmers can afford and I know that we are in no wise able to withstand a famine. England, with her money, could live if all the rest of the world starved for she keeps a good supply and gets it cheap. Our railroads only charge 3 1/2 cents to New York for wheat for export. Wheat at Chicago is 77¢ here the miller takes off 20¢ freight and we get 57¢ for half the distance to New York. I give a man \$15 per month. There is nearly 30 bushels of wheat per month which would bread his family for one year, but the miller takes 15 bushels for grinding. Oh! we must get back to good old Pharaoh's time when the king provided for his people. The czar of Russia, God bless him, has the right kind of judgment and is doing all he can to open up a wheat country and provide for his people if he could disarm and set his men to work. When I look at those cadets and know that my boy must work 14 hours a day to support them, I say the devil take the president.

It is a hard matter to get old foggy republicans to listen to a speech from a populist. It has long been their policy if a speaker came here to speak for women to crowd in, then begin to leave, getting up one or two at a time so as to create the most possible disturbance and thereby crowd out voters who might be influenced.

Now if I were a speaker I would play them a game. Why would it not be a good plan to have some good populist speakers go and speak as a republican so they would turn out, then tell them just the kind of a financial policy we have in favor of and give the people a chance to ask questions; have that undratted. In that way their secret scheming policy could be brought to light and an honest man would desert the r. o. p. and a lot of good could be done in that way. If it don't look fair it is fair.

I think if the poor hard working people get our cheap wheat it would not hurt our feelings so but to make millionaires out of cheap wheat to use their ill-gotten gains to oppress us or like Carnegie or Astor, go to England with it or build palaces in cities to be consumed by fire with it instead of improving the country, don't suit us at all. I see that the railroads carry wheat for export at a less figure than for home consumption, and the tariff helps them to sell all kinds of farm machinery at a much less figure than we pay for the same so they can compete with us. England controls our railroads through Pierpont Morgan so freight have to be low on grain to England while laborers east pay double and we pay double freight on all our grain.

Great is American statesmanship. How we love her flag I have thought about this ever since an old banker came to speak at our schoolhouse. He was a republican and said if silver was continued to be coined that it would become worthless as stones in the road but before he concluded he said we had to keep the nation's credit good to enable us to borrow money of Europe to develop our great western resources.

He gave anyone permission to ask questions and as no one responded I asked him if he did not think it would be a good thing to set out 3,000,000 idle men to work in the mines and get out enough gold or silver, coin it, and pay back what we had coin it, he said we could not pay it back. He said we must pay it in gold alone. I said we paid 4 per cent for the privilege of paying it in coin why not coin enough to pay it. That would be repudiation, he said.

Why would it be repudiation if we pay according to contract, as the bonds are? But the disquers who came with him blew out the lamps and the discussion concluded. E. ROYALTY.

Ashland, Neb.

## UNCENSORED LETTERS

What the Boys in the Philippines Write Home About Shooting Filipinos in Rice Swamps.

## IT IS A BURNING SHAME

The Service Required of Them Almost Breaks Their Hearts—Old Men and Women Wounded.

Enlisted for Better Purpose.

The Dakota Ruralist publishes extracts from a number of uncensored letters from soldiers of that state who are serving in the Philippines, from which the following extracts are printed:

Dick Birkhoven, of the South Dakota regiment from Malolos writes a friend in Walworth county in a letter published in the Bangor News June 1 in which he says:

"George I think it is a shame the way we are killing off these poor niggers who are fighting for a just cause. They are fighting for liberty and I don't blame them a bit for fighting."

"This trouble with the Filipinos could very easily have been avoided. They have been fighting for liberty for the past ten years and on the 13th day of last August when they helped Dewy whip the Spaniards they had no idea the Americans would grab their little islands and that they would not be allowed to float their own flag. They are just as proud of their flag as we are of ours. Their flag looks very pretty as it is red, white, and blue with three stars and the rising sun on it. They are fighting for a just cause and are not going to give up right away."

"THINK THEY ARE RIGHT." Ormon Ashon, with the South Dakota boys, writes his father at Howard, "I feel sorry for these poor devils. They think that they are right."

"ALMOST BROKE OUR HEARTS."

Private Sanderson writes the Flandrens Herald, in a letter published June 1: "The South Dakota regiment was on firing line all the time from the first fight we had until we reached Malolos, about ten battles, and we had our old Springfield's while there was a lot of regulars behind us with modern rifles. It looked kind of ridiculous and more so, because there are 15,000 Krags boxed up in Wall city, but of course we must either keep our mouths shut or else say that our government and army officials are the wisest and most just men that ever lived. But I must say a word about the country here before I close. Most of us boys carried the idea that the country around Manila was as good as any in the island and that the people in and around the city were the most intelligent and civilized of the Filipinos. Our trip, however, convinced us that everything was the opposite. The further we got away from Manila the more the country was and better cultivated, everything looking more civilized. We seldom went through a house without finding more or less reading matter which tends to prove that a good share of them can read. A great many nice gardens are surrounded with banana trees and other fruit trees. There was plenty of rice, wherever we went. I do not believe that there is a people anywhere living in a tropical climate, who are more intelligent and industrious than the Filipinos and it almost breaks our hearts that we have to fight them."

"ENLISTED FOR A BETTER PURPOSE."

"I was over and had a chat with some Nebraska lads last night. Lots of them say they will not go another step if they are ordered to advance. They enlisted for a better purpose than to be used as murdering tools. They also agreed on the point that if every commissioned officer's pay had been only a little above the privates there would never have been a shot fired on these islands. They also thought that the war would not last very long if every American voter could only be here and see what we see. There must have been about 100,000 innocent men, women and children fleeing like a lot of scared rabbits in front of us. When I came up I saw several gray haired men and women wounded. I suppose they were unable to keep up with the rest, therefore got within range of our bullets. The Filipino homes were looted and lots of them burned. There was an order issued against it once, but I never saw it enforced."

THE WAR FOR CHRISTIANITY.

Private Charles E. Bates writes the Marshall (Iowa) Leader as follows: "There is perhaps in this world no sadder sight than a desecrated church and here the sight is before our eyes. The altars are overturned and images of the saints shattered and scattered and every particle of value stripped from the sacred edifice. As we came in a sailor was bounding John the Baptist with a hand saw, while another tried to separate the head of a cherub from a shattered figure of the saints there was nothing in the church. Even the confessionals had been stripped of their carvings. The very paving had been torn from the floor beneath and scattered for hidden treasures."

Private Charles E. Bates writes the Marshall (Iowa) Leader as follows: "There is perhaps in this world no sadder sight than a desecrated church and here the sight is before our eyes. The altars are overturned and images of the saints shattered and scattered and every particle of value stripped from the sacred edifice. As we came in a sailor was bounding John the Baptist with a hand saw, while another tried to separate the head of a cherub from a shattered figure of the saints there was nothing in the church. Even the confessionals had been stripped of their carvings. The very paving had been torn from the floor beneath and scattered for hidden treasures."

Private Charles E. Bates writes the Marshall (Iowa) Leader as follows: "There is perhaps in this world no sadder sight than a desecrated church and here the sight is before our eyes. The altars are overturned and images of the saints shattered and scattered and every particle of value stripped from the sacred edifice. As we came in a sailor was bounding John the Baptist with a hand saw, while another tried to separate the head of a cherub from a shattered figure of the saints there was nothing in the church. Even the confessionals had been stripped of their carvings. The very paving had been torn from the floor beneath and scattered for hidden treasures."

Private Charles E. Bates writes the Marshall (Iowa) Leader as follows: "There is perhaps in this world no sadder sight than a desecrated church and here the sight is before our eyes. The altars are overturned and images of the saints shattered and scattered and every particle of value stripped from the sacred edifice. As we came in a sailor was bounding John the Baptist with a hand saw, while another tried to separate the head of a cherub from a shattered figure of the saints there was nothing in the church. Even the confessionals had been stripped of their carvings. The very paving had been torn from the floor beneath and scattered for hidden treasures."

Private Charles E. Bates writes the Marshall (Iowa) Leader as follows: "There is perhaps in this world no sadder sight than a desecrated church and here the sight is before our eyes. The altars are overturned and images of the saints shattered and scattered and every particle of value stripped from the sacred edifice. As we came in a sailor was bounding John the Baptist with a hand saw, while another tried to separate the head of a cherub from a shattered figure of the saints there was nothing in the church. Even the confessionals had been stripped of their carvings. The very paving had been torn from the floor beneath and scattered for hidden treasures."

Private Charles E. Bates writes the Marshall (Iowa) Leader as follows: "There is perhaps in this world no sadder sight than a desecrated church and here the sight is before our eyes. The altars are overturned and images of the saints shattered and scattered and every particle of value stripped from the sacred edifice. As we came in a sailor was bounding John the Baptist with a hand saw, while another tried to separate the head of a cherub from a shattered figure of the saints there was nothing in the church. Even the confessionals had been stripped of their carvings. The very paving had been torn from the floor beneath and scattered for hidden treasures."

Private Charles E. Bates writes the Marshall (Iowa) Leader as follows: "There is perhaps in this world no sadder sight than a desecrated church and here the sight is before our eyes. The altars are overturned and images of the saints shattered and scattered and every particle of value stripped from the sacred edifice. As we came in a sailor was bounding John the Baptist with a hand saw, while another tried to separate the head of a cherub from a shattered figure of the saints there was nothing in the church. Even the confessionals had been stripped of their carvings. The very paving had been torn from the floor beneath and scattered for hidden treasures."

Private Charles E. Bates writes the Marshall (Iowa) Leader as follows: "There is perhaps in this world no sadder sight than a desecrated church and here the sight is before our eyes. The altars are overturned and images of the saints shattered and scattered and every particle of value stripped from the sacred edifice. As we came in a sailor was bounding John the Baptist with a hand saw, while another tried to separate the head of a cherub from a shattered figure of the saints there was nothing in the church. Even the confessionals had been stripped of their carvings. The very paving had been torn from the floor beneath and scattered for hidden treasures."

AN ANTI EXPANSIONIST. Dick Mills writes from Manila in a letter published last week in the Howard Democrat:

"I hope they will let us go home when they (the regulars) get here, as they said they intended to do, but I hardly think we'll leave here for some time, as the United States seems bent on holding the islands in spite of all the kicking the natives do."

"I suppose you know by this time that I am an anti-expansionist."

MANY SIGNS. Major Howard writes, in a letter published last week in the Aberdeen News, that only 400 men fit for duty are left for the regiment. Captain Eggleby writes the Watertown Kampesha of last week that only ten men are left in company 'H' fit for duty. The correspondent of the Flandrens Herald writing from the trenches at Calumpit in a letter published last week says only 18 men are left for duty in company 'I.'

IMPOSED UPON. Private John B. May writes his brother-in-law in a letter published last week in the Chamberlain Democrat:

"Before the war started our regiment had eight hundred and fifty men. Now we have two hundred and seventy on the firing line and one company 'A,' in Manila doing guard duty. They have about fifty men there, so you see that we have only about three hundred men left on duty now. There is no doubt the volunteers are imposed upon for there are regulars here who have seen little or no fighting at all. I do not think Gen. Otis can keep the volunteers here much longer."

FORGET THEY ARE HUMAN. Private Chas. R. Wyland, company G, First Washington, writes his sister in a letter published in the Portland Oregonian:

"This war is something terrible. You see sights you can hardly believe, and a life is hardly worth a thought. I have seen a shell from our artillery strike a bunch of Filipinos, and then they would go staggering through the air, legs, arms and heads all disconnected. And such sights actually make our boys laugh and yell: 'That shot was a peach! A white man seems to forget that he is human.'"

## TO GET OUT THE VOTE.

Ayr, Neb., June 15.—I believe that the time has arrived for the people to discuss a plan whereby we can get out the vote on general election day.

We find that as a rule people will come out this year to the polls to vote, maybe next year a great many will stay at home. As long as this exists no one will be able to judge whether a majority rules. While I do not believe in a compulsory election law, I do believe there should be such a law enacted by the next legislature which I would call a voting tax, say \$3 on every person over 21 years of age on the same principle as a poll tax—that is, when the assessor comes around that it be his duty to assess every person over 21 years of age to become 21 years before the next general election \$3 voting tax, and when he goes to the polls and has cast his vote that the election board is to give him a receipt for \$3. By presenting this receipt to the tax collector or county treasurer whenever the time comes to collect thereby liquidating that debt. Those who failed to vote will have to pay the \$3 voting tax. That money is to go into the general fund of each township or ward, as it may be. Then make provision for those that are sick or have moved away, were unable to cast their vote, that they can go before any justice of the peace, county or township clerk, give oath to that effect under those circumstances, not liable for assessment, but there shall be no fee charged for same.

If such a law is enacted there will be no more hanging people to the election polls. Farmers will not stay away from the polls husking corn or doing any other kind of work. No employer can coax any employe to stay at home when he knows that he can make more by casting his vote and get a receipt for \$3. You will not hear people say, 'I have not the time to go.' You will find that we will have better laws and every person will have his duty to perform. PETER USHARE.

## STAND BY YOUR FRIENDS

The Nebraska Independent is to be commended for its outspoken, fearless, and honest advocacy of the cause of the people.

It is a power for good in the west and should be read by every friend of human freedom and honest government.

The plutocratic subsidized McKinley press is working overtime in trying to denounce, corrupt and mislead the minds of the people hence it becomes the duty of every citizen who regards his country above party to do all in his power to repel the assaults of the enemies of our country and government and this perhaps can best be done by speech and pen and a hearty support of all such papers as the Nebraska Independent.

AN OLD FARMER.

## UNION FOR VICTORY.

The Courier would like to see a complete fusion of reform forces at the approaching fall election. Call the conventions at the same time and place and proceed after the manner of the state conventions. Remember that only through complete harmony and union can the great principles for which we are contending be enacted into laws.—McCook Courier.