

Nebraska Independent

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There is no enemies' country for Colonel Bryan any more, but he is the honored leader of the teeming millions. -Central City Democrat.

Will some one please inform the Independent what is the politics of the Howells Journal. H. E. Phelps is the editor. It is impossible to find out by reading its editorial columns.

Because the republican party leaders had been successful in fooling about 50,000 mullet heads year after year, they thought that they could fool the private soldiers in the First Nebraska. But that was the time they got left.

The article on economic schools printed in the Independent last week was clipped from the Wahoo Democrat. The credit which this truly conscientious editor always carefully writes at the bottom of articles clipped from other papers, got lost some where in the shuffle and hasn't turned up yet.

The president has appointed Elihu Root to succeed Alger. The dispatches say that Mr Root will give all his attention to the government of the colonies and that military affairs will be placed wholly in the hands of Meiklejohn. Now we will have the Philippines whipped. The great military genius of a Meiklejohn is to be brought to bear and Axtell is to be better than a hole pretty quick.

Brother Howard had as well decide to take his medicine and there is no use to mix any more bitterness into it. He'll have to down it. From the present appearance Holcomb will be nominated and he will have to support him or the republican candidate. We came to that conclusion, after looking over every fusion paper in the state, all of which come to this office. Every populist paper except two seem to be for Holcomb and all the democratic papers except four are of the same way of thinking. That being the case there is no use in Brother Howard making his medicine more bitter than there is any necessity for.

The people of Lincoln were somewhat surprised when on last Saturday it was announced that Judge Reese had thrown up the sponge and declared that he would not accept the republican nomination for supreme judge this fall even if it were tendered to him. In times past Judge Reese has been an active candidate for that nomination, but he has no use for it this year any more than Harrison had. The republicans have a habit of assessing their candidates pretty heavily and when there is no prospect of election, none of them are anxious to pick up the money.

Brother Howard says that pops are swallowing the democrats or words to that effect. Let us see about it. There is Fillmore county. There have been eleven appointments made from that county. Nine of them are democrats. One lone pop and one silver republican were squeezed in after a lot of hard work. The vote in the county is pop, 1450; democrat, 250; silver republican, 75. That's the way the pops are swallowing the democrats, Glines at the return from Fillmore, and wipe your weeping eyes Brother Howard.

If there is anything that the editor of this paper delights in above another, it is "parity." He learned to admire that by reading the goldbug papers. He therefore has a protest to enter against a prayer made by a minister in one of Lincoln's big churches. The minister first started out to ask that the people might not be demoralized and by the great flood of prosperity that is now engulfing this country—that they might keep their integrity, still continue to be good Christians. Then he went on and prayed about some other things and finally wound up with a petition that God might have pity on the thousands of helpless poor and those out of employment. Now we are very reverent and wanted to not religious, especially while we were in church, but we submit there was no "parity" in that prayer. One was reminded that he could not go to church, pray meeting or a class meeting in Lincoln without having politics thrust upon him, but it wasn't politics that moved that prayer. It was the want of "parity."

THE FIRST RIDICULED. Since the revolt of the Journal's Manila correspondent and the letters which Ota held up in the mails have come to hand, that lying old thing has changed its tactics and has begun to ridicule the sufferings of the First Nebraska. In its Wednesday morning edition it says editorially:

"Considering the number of battles fought and the sort of climate encountered by the First Nebraska in Luzon their losses have been remarkably light and their health remarkably good as compared with the records of our former wars and the logical deduction is that they have been handled with more than usual care and have suffered lightly in comparison with the veterans who marched through Washington in the spring of sixty-five after the end of Appomattox."

There never was a regiment during the whole civil war that did the continuous fighting that the First Nebraska did from February 4, until they were sent back to Manila. There never was a regiment that had one half the heat prostrations. There never was a regiment that was forced to fight so continuously for months that they had no time to wash or change their clothes. There never was a regiment in the whole civil war that was fought so continuously for so long a time. There never was a regiment that was kept on the firing line until the bodies of the men were covered with sores and eaten up with itch. The boys of the First Nebraska are the bravest of the brave and the State Journal need not tell the citizens of this state that they would not have washed their clothes and cleaned their bodies if they had been allowed time enough to lay down their guns and cease firing to do it. Talk about copperheads! There never was a copperhead during the whole rebellion who was vile enough to slander the Union soldiers as the State Journal slanders the First Nebraska.

While the State Journal editor was sitting in his comfortable office these men of the First were lying in trenches, charging unseen foes, falling down on the march from the heat, wading through the swamps, sleeping—what little time they got to sleep—in the mud, falling from the bullets of the enemy, burning with fevers in Nipa huts or in overcrowded hospitals, suffering excruciating agonies from wounds and all the reward that they expected was that their fellow citizens would appreciate their services. But now they find that they are ridiculed in one of the daily papers of the state and told that "their losses have been remarkably light." It is enough to make the blood boil in the veins of any man who has a drop of patriotic blood in his veins.

While all the world acknowledges the valor of the First Nebraska, while their bravery and their sufferings are written about in the literature of all civilized nations, we have here at home a paper that ridicules their sufferings and their wounds! Every honest, patriotic man in the whole state hangs his head in shame because such a foul, traitorous sheet is printed in the state. This fighting regiment, which has shed glory on every man in the state, whose name is indelible written on the records of fame, on its return, after having lost more men in battle than any other regiment in the whole army, is met with the greeting: "Your losses have been remarkably light!"

A FAIR SPECIMEN. A poor mullet head editor when he undertakes to rebash a State Journal lie usually has a hard time of it. Here is an example taken from the St. Edwards Sun: "The investigating committee are finding that the officials at Lincoln have performed many things that are a disgrace to the state of Nebraska. From vouchers on record it is shown that ex-governor Holcomb had received \$50 for house rent when the owner swears he only receives \$30 from him, he pocketing the difference."

The literary capacity of that editor is something to be admired. Some time last year one of the professors of English in the state university asked the editor of the Independent to save some of the specimens of grammar that appeared in the rural papers that he might use them in his classes. We present the above with our compliments. "Committee are," "she only receive," are fair specimens of the education of the dupes that are induced to circulate lies about Nebraska's best cities. It is hardly necessary to say that no such testimony was ever given before the three mullet heads who came to Lincoln and thought that they had the world by the tail until they had consulted those two saintly statesmen known to the world as Mark Howe and Simon.

COULDN'T FOOL THEM. The witless politicians who ran the republican end of the last legislature are finding to their sorrow that the soldiers of the First Nebraska were not the kind of men who could be fooled by their stupid little tricks. Another copy of the Manila paper, Freedom, has just been received. It contains the following communication addressed to its editor:

"We notice you take the liberty upon yourself of expressing the opinion of the First Nebraska regiment is regard to their worthy governor. You also state that his veto of the resolution, communiting thereon in the (national sense) is an issue just for-giveness. I, I say to you, Mr. Editor, that you are sadly mistaken in your opinion of the N. Nebraska boys. Not only a majority of the boys here in our own regiment, but members of other regiments heartily condemn the action of the governor. This says that the fault lies with the legislature for proposing the bill in the manner in which it did. How does it come Mr. Editor that you did not comment on the action of the legislature in voting the First Nebraska \$5,000, and as a substitute voting us their thanks? The legislature of Nebraska, the editor of Freedom or the president of the United States, cannot make the soldiers here believe that they are fighting to defend the principles of our country, or the glory of our flag. L. S. BURNHAM, 1st Neb. Vol.

The paper had the endorsement of another soldier who wrote: "Stay by it Poynter. You can rely upon the First Nebraska regiment and other volunteers staying with you. We admire your brave stand."

So it seems that the Cheap John republican politicians, when they made their calculations based upon the supposed stupidity of the private soldiers in the First regiment got very badly left. The boys in the First Nebraska are not mullet heads.

FINANCIAL IDIOCY. The republican managers seem to be working on the theory that the people of this state know no more about banking and financial affairs than they did in 1890. They altogether forget that the populist has been abroad in the land educating the people. We judge that that is their idea from the fact that the organ of the mullet heads published the following in its editorial column last Saturday:

"The aggregate deposits in the state and national banks of Nebraska according to the report of the banking board is \$50,000,000. Now some pop will be sure to pop up and say that this must be a fraudulent report as there cannot possibly be so much as fifty millions in money in this state. However, what is what the bank books say, and it indicates an average of nearly fifty dollars for every man, woman and child in Nebraska."

Now that is too silly to fool a mullet head and most anything will fool one of them if he sees it in his party paper. Fifty millions of deposits means that the bankers of this state owe the people that much money and does not mean that there is that much in the banks or in circulation. The last report of the state bank commissioner shows that in all the state banks there were only \$68,602.47 of cash. Besides this they had reserves in banks, \$2,018,571.91. But that reserve is not in this state to any great extent. The whole paragraph is simply financial idiocy.

AN INFINITE OUTRAGE. The Independent proposes to come to the defense of McKinley because all the blame is being laid upon him when in fact others are to blame just as much as he is. What could a president do when he has such a set of advisers as those who at present speak for Nebraska. Take one example: There was a soldier in the Third Nebraska so disreputable that in a few months he was summarily court martialed five times. He was to be brought before the court for the sixth time, when under the regulations must result in his dishonorable dismissal from the service. On the eve of trial positive orders came from Washington to give him an honorable discharge. That man has now been appointed a second lieutenant in the United States volunteers. The cause of his frequent arrests and punishments are too foul to print.

Who represents the claims of Nebraska to appointments in the army? Senators Thurston and Hayward. For the infinite outrage upon the people of this state in the appointment of such a wretch to a position where the lives of American citizens will be largely in his hands, M. K. is only responsible in so far that he listens to and takes advice from the remnant of the old corruptionists who once were in power in this state.

There never was a bigger fraud on this terrestrial ball than that man Dun, or rather the clique that operates in his name. He has run up the business transactions of this country so far into billions that the greatest mathematicians who ever lived can no longer comprehend the immense aggregates of his figures. Three figures are, on their very face a fraud. No such amount of business transactions ever occurred in this or any other country. The clearing house returns do not represent business at all. One half of it is pure gambling—betting on the price of wheat—and half of the other is water in the trust stocks. So if anyone wants to know what the business of the country amounts to that passes through the clearing house, let him divide Dun's figures by the square four.

ANOTHER SAMPLE. As further proof that Morton has abandoned the egotistic and adopted the mullet head style of journalism we submit the following extract from his paper of July 20th:

"Under our present imperfect and incongruous monetary system with an enormous per capita circulation, all of which is convertible on demand with gold, the Paris exposition seems quite feasible of precipitating a panic in the United States during the year 1900!" "Enormous per capita circulation, all of which is convertible in demand with gold" is particularly the mullet head style of writing, for such a person never thinks that some one might ask where the law making silver dollars convertible with gold might be found. Nearly every page of Morton's paper gives proof positive that the disreputable editor is now a good example of mullet heads.

PERSONAL. The Omaha Bee devotes nearly a column to an article which it says I published when McKinley was here for the purpose of producing a panic. Then it tries to throw contempt upon me because, it claims, I worked for the party at \$10 a week. I only wish that I had received \$10 a week for all the work that I have done for the party. I have not only worked for much less than that but for months at a time I never received a cent. Instead of being humiliated by the fact, I sometimes brag of it to my friends. The article in question was not written when McKinley was here, but was a review of the quarterly bank statement issued about three months ago. Another bank statement has just been issued and it shows a more dangerous condition of the banks than ever before. It is probable that the mullet heads thought that I would write another review of the statement as the last attracted so much attention among bankers, not only in this state but elsewhere. Many of them have written to me about it and a meeting of bankers was held, so I was informed, in Omaha to take the review into consideration. I had not intended to write a review at all, my chief object in writing the other being to get people who were not familiar with banking to understand these statements, which to the ordinary man mean nothing.

It seems, however, that some of the republican papers are still determined to mislead the people, one of them the other day claimed that because the bank statement showed that there was \$50,000,000 of deposits there was \$50,000,000 in circulation in this state. The article that created such a furor among the bankers and which some of them are known to have clipped out, pasted in a scrap book and carried around in their pockets was as follows:

"The last report of the condition of the 498 banks, state and national, doing business in the state has caused a good many to put on their thinking caps. It appears that the banks are owing demand liabilities to the amount of \$58,950,758 and the total cash in their possession only amounts to \$5,710,880. Here is a pretty state of affairs—\$1 of money and \$10 of wind. The limit of safe banking has always been considered \$1 of money to \$4 of credit, but in these days of sound money the banks are going it six better. That statement shows the frail foundation upon which all business rests in this state. A single breath would knock the whole row of cards down. But suppose we only had a gold standard and only gold was legal tender. Where would we be then? Instead of having \$5,710,880 to pay off their indebtedness of \$58,950,758, they would have only \$2,461,770, or \$1 of money to \$26 of wind. Wind is a pretty good thing, but if too much of it is forced into any respect it is sure to burst. If only one-tenth of the banks' creditors should take a notion that they wanted their money the whole 498 would go up the flame in fifteen minutes. The time for another panic is close at hand. The bank report shows that the conditions which produce panics are already here."

A glance at the last statement of the banks shows a worse state of affairs than three months ago, but I have not the time to go into it in detail. The Bee does not attempt to deny any of the statements made in that review or make an argument to prove that the conclusions are wrong, but in accordance with the peanut politics that the republican managers have so long employed, it tries to throw contempt upon me because I sometimes work for my party principles without pay. As no republican was ever known to do such a thing, it concludes that it is utterly disreputable. I have no objection to its holding such opinions. There are several thousand other populists in the state who have worked for the party weeks and months without pay and are willing to do it again.

T. H. TIMBLE. WEST POINT OFFICERS. Of the three major generals in the regular army only one, Merritt, is a West Pointer, and of the brigadiers only one. It don't seem that West Point is a very good place to make generals. In the adjutant general's department the same per cent holds good. Corbin is not a West Pointer and only two of the whole six ranking above lieutenant colonel ever saw West Point. In the Judge advocate department there is not a West Pointer who holds a commission above lieutenant colonel. In the quartermaster's department, there is not an officer of the rank of general or colonel, and there are a good many of that rank, who is a West Pointer, and one has to go a long way down the list before he comes even to a lieutenant colonel who has "read M. A." after his name. Of the ten cavalry colonels, only two are West Pointers. Of the seven artillery colonels, six are West Pointers. Of the twenty-five infantry colonels only five are West Pointers. The lower ranks of the regular army are nearly all filled by graduates of West Point, while the higher are from civil life, many of them business as private. West Point don't seem to turn out generals or colonels in any great quantity.

MORTON. Morton is getting at the mullet head way of conducting a newspaper in his style. So much has been made of his egotism that he is modifying it in department of his paper and adopted the long trail mullet head style. This is the way he does it. He denied that there was any leading populist in the state who had ever made as much as \$2,500 a year and defied anyone to send him

the name of a populist who had. Quite a long list of names was sent him. Now he says he "is astonished for these same gentlemen declared all over Nebraska that under the gold standard nobody could make enough income to decently live thereon." Then he asks: "Did they tell him to their audiences when speaking in political campaigns or are they telling lies now?" Morton thinks that is "awful smart," but such logic would fail to deceive even a mullet head. Those campaigners never made any such statements and Morton knows they did not or he would quote some of their sayings to sustain his contention. "Nobody could make enough income to decently live thereon!" Who ever said it? We constantly pointed to the fact that enormous incomes were being made and that they grew constantly larger. Furthermore we demanded that these incomes should be taxed, but to that Morton was opposed. "Nobody!" J. Sterling, that will not do. The dumbest mullet head knows better than that.

One thing that has prevented any reconciliation of the Filipinos with the authorities of the United States, and which seem to them can never be settled under United States authority, is the condition of the land titles. Nearly all the land in Luzon belongs to the convents and monasteries. The treaty with Spain binds the United States to confirm and defend those titles. The Filipinos say that only independence will give them control of their own soil. If the sovereignty remains in the United States, they must all become serfs and tenant farmers forever. Rather than submit to that they propose to die fighting.

The infernal barbarity exercised by the military commander in the Coeur d'Alene district in Idaho is now explained. The property destroyed by the mob belonged to Standard Oil company and John D. Rockefeller was the man who engineered the punishment to be inflicted. Under his orders the governor and the courts abdicated and put the government of the state into the hands of a brutal military commander. The inhuman horrors inflicted upon the military prisoners can be charged to a republican governor who was a coward and a brute. It was all a legitimate outcome of a Mark Hanna-Rockefeller run government. A whole lot of these working men voted to put it in power.

Now McKinley has turned "copperhead," "traitor," and "little American." There can be no doubt about it for the evidence is all documentary and on file. When the reform forces all united in saying that the term of enlistment of the volunteers expired upon the date of the treaty of peace with Spain, every Hannibalite paper in the land proceeded to denounce us, each and all, as "copperheads" of the most awful copperhead ever seen in these United States. A few days ago McKinley issued a general order thanking the volunteers for remaining in the service "after the term of their enlistment had expired." If we were all copperheads a few months ago, then McKinley is now.

Once in a while in some government report issued at Washington there comes convincing proof of the truth of the financial theories advocated by the populists. The monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance for April has, on page 2484, these words: "Owing to the enormous depreciation of Spanish currency, the owners of cereals in Spain were able to export their goods at a great profit, on account of being paid in gold." The advantage that the free silver wheat producing countries have had over the gold standard countries, has often been pointed out by bimetalists, but this is the first time we have seen that theory sanctioned in a gold bug document.

The Coming Nation comes to hand this week with a full page ad of all the flunkin' property, real and personal, which is to be sold at public auction July 26, under the order of H. J. Bowers, Receiver. What does all this mean? We had hoped that a happy, independent co-operative colony had been established at last that would succeed for a generation at least. But it seems that we are to be utterly disappointed. Several socialist papers have been making very bitter attacks upon Ruskin of late. That we considered no devilish as denouncing our own children. There is nothing in the paper to tell us how all this came about. Is the colony permanently dissolved? What are the people who are making a good living there to do now?

A great many people enquire: "Who is this man Ota over in the Philippines killing sugars by the thousand? We never heard of him before. Who is he any how?" He entered the regular army July 26, 1895 as a lieutenant colonel. That shows that he had a pretty big pull at that time. Previous to that he had served as Lt. Col. in the 14th N. Y. volunteers, so it will be seen that he went into the regular army with the same rank that he had in the volunteer service which is an unheard of thing. He was made colonel in 1896 and a brigadier general in 1898, and made in the volunteer service since May 4, 1898, as major general. If he has ever done any valiant service in the army, the people have failed to hear of it.

ECONOMICS AND TRUSTS. That republican lawyer writes another letter to the editor of the Independent. He seems to be satisfied about the "mullet head" term for he does not say anything on that subject, but wants to know "what economic law is violated in the general establishment of trusts." The law violated is the law of equitable distribution of wealth and its concentration in the hands of the few. Take the match trust for an example. There were thousands of persons employed in the production and distribution of matches. The value of these matches were distributed among all the workers including the traveling salesmen. The trust is formed. Match factories everywhere are closed. Salesmen are discharged and the number of persons employed in the production of matches reduced one half. The result is that the millions of dollars received for matches, instead of being distributed among the many are distributed among a few, and the others cease to be either wealth producers or purchasers of the products of other wealth producers. In fact, the most of the dollars received for the matches go into the hands of a very few—the capitalists who formed the trust.

Not only does the immediate employee of the trust suffer from this, but thousands of others. Hotels where the traveling salesmen stopped and their employees, the barbers, the bootblacks, the bus and carriage drivers, the retail grocers and their employees, where these others purchased their supplies and thousands of others who cannot be enumerated. The share that they had in this match production is now absorbed by the few trust magnates.

The evil does not end here by any means. These trust magnates having received more of these dollars than is necessary for their support even in extravagant luxury, these same dollars go into the banks as loanable funds. Now money to loan is not money in circulation. The owners of it do not seek to invest in productive works. Some man of enterprise must step in and pay them tribute before that can be done. The consequence of all this, is that the money piles up by the million in the banks and that results in a positive contraction of the money in circulation and a further fall in prices. A fall in prices is an equivalent to an increase in taxes, in freight charges, in interest and all debts.

It is for these reasons that all the great authorities upon which the common law is based unreservedly denounce monopolies of all kinds and the great judges have outlawed them as being dangerous to civilization and against good public policy.

DEMOCRATS AT CHICAGO. The Mark Hannibalites are making great use of the head line liar and will likely keep him fully employed from this time on until the end of the presidential campaign. He did some of his slickest tricks in connection with the meeting of the democratic national committee in Chicago last week. The head lines in all the gold bug papers told an entirely different story from what was found in the body of the reports. The democratic quarrel in Chicago, out of which Dick Croker and others hoped for so much, has got down to a quarrel between two factions as to which is the most loyal supporter of Bryan and the Chicago platform. If Dick Croker, Mark Hanna and McKinley can make anything out of that, they are welcome to it.

The whole crowd at Chicago were for Bryan and the gold democrats did not put in an appearance, or if they did, so on one found it out. Mark seems to have given up hope of making a division in the democratic party and henceforth his whole attention will be given to the populists. The State Journal was talking about the wisdom of the nomination of Wharton Barker two years ahead of time. Since the democrats set down on the bosses they are having the same high old time when they get together that usually prevails at a populist meeting, where every man has his say. That's all right. It shows that the boss has lost his hold. When the boss had a good grip on things, everything always went one way without any disturbance at all.

The republican party in this state is serving as a catch basin for the offal of populism. An examination of the basin up to the present time would disclose that there had lodged in it, Sam Eider, Bill Deck, Lichty, Mart Howe, and Blomou. If the republicans don't soon clean it out as epidemic of the bubonic plague is likely to break out in their camp.

It is announced that McKinley will come to Nebraska to open the republican campaign with a reception to the First Nebraska. It will be a hot opening if some of the boys do what they declare they will do the first time they lay eyes upon McKinley or Meiklejohn. The boys of the First have a good many things to say about the republican campaign in the Philippines and they would like to say it to McKinley's face.

Lucius Stebbins swears that he was not a business man on all the floods to witness that he was not—and then went out to Kearney and laced with Lichty and Meiklejohn. We submit that there is no "parity" in such notions as that.