

The Nebraska Independent

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THE INDEPENDENT PUB. CO.
LINCOLN, NEB.

STATE TICKET.

For Judge of the Supreme Court—
SILAS A. HOLCOMB, of Custer Co.
For Regents of the State University—
J. L. TRETTERS, of Lancaster,
EDSON RICH, of Douglas.

LANCASTER COUNTY TICKET.

Judges of the District Court—
GEO. E. HIBNER.
T. J. DOYLE.
ROBERT WHEELER,
Clerk of the District Court—
A. E. LINDELL, Lincoln.

Presidents—

WILLIAM M'LAUGHLIN, Lincoln.

Sheriff—

P. H. COOPER, Lincoln.

County Clerk—

H. C. REDDICK, Bethany.

Commissioner—

FRED SHEPHERD, Lincoln.

Supervisor of Schools—

MISS ERNESTINE LYONS, Normal.

Coroner—

DR. BENTLEY, Lincoln.

McKinley has established a provisional government in Porto Rico, but there are no provisions.

Brown University has received its reward for bouncing Andrews. Rockefeller presented it with \$1,000,00 the other day.

Now that McKinley has subsidized polygamy in the Sulu islands Mark Hanna cannot see why his subsidy bill should not go through with a whoop.

McKinley hoists the flag over a harem and then cries out "Who'll pull it down?" The mullet heads declare that that is the highest sort of patriotism.

Bud Lindsay says that his interviews with men in the south "showed a remarkable change of sentiment against democracy." That settles it. The democratic party will dissolve.

The New York Sun was first republican, then democratic, then Cleveland goldbug, then republican, and now it is a rat office. Moral—Never have any principles and never stick to them.

The redublian convention was put off to a late date. The republican manages probably reason that if they bought votes too early they might have to buy them over again before the campaign closed.

How many times is McKinley going to buy those South Sea islands? He bought them once of Spain and now he has bought a part of them again from the Sultan of Sulu by giving him a big subsidy.

There are some preachers in Lincoln who preach sixteen political sermons to one on religion and then declare that they are against 16 to 1, first, last and all the time. Where is the "parity" in that sort of doings?

The State Journal still advertises Paul Vandervoort as "a leading populist." It might as well try to make the people of this state believe that Joe Johnson is a leading populist. They would believe it just as soon.

There is a common saying among the shyster lawyers: "When your case is lost and you have nothing else that you can say, abuse the witnesses." The republican managers in this state, when they can't attack the principles of their opponents, slander the candidates.

Slaves under the jurisdiction of the United States are now permitted to buy their freedom for \$20.00. Some blundering copperheads have been asking how a slave is to get \$20.00 when his hands, his head and his feet all belong to his master. But the asking of any such question as that, only shows that the man has treason in his heart.

Wharton Barker seems to have failed to make the connection lately. Perhaps it is because Mark Hanna has staid over in Europe longer than he expected when he left. At any rate the American has failed to put in a regular appearance any more. It is published only semi-occasionally. That is a bad state of affairs for the personal organ of a presidential candidate.

McKINLEY'S FALSEHOODS.

The more carefully McKinley's speech at Pittsburg is examined the more astonished every honest man will become. There is no escape from the conclusion that he told two absolute falsehoods.

The Outlook had a stenographic report made and then sent that report to the president for correction. It was returned to the Outlook with the corrections of the president and then printed. In that report are two sentences that every man of intelligence knows are false. The first one is: "These loyal volunteers in the Philippine islands said: 'We will stay until the government can organize an army at home.' They did stay cheerfully." There are documents on file at the state house that prove that statement to be false. The First Nebraska petitioned to be allowed to come home and every officer but three signed that statement. Of course the privates just as unanimously signed it for they were the originators of it. That document never got further than the headquarters of General Hale, but there are documents on file in the adjutant general's office of this state that prove that the statement of President McKinley was false. The same was true of the volunteers from Dakota and other states. They all demanded to be sent home when the treaty of peace was signed with Spain.

The second statement is just as false. It is as follows: "A body of insurgents in no sense representing the people of the islands disputed our lawful authority." That the insurgent army and government does represent the people of the islands no man of sense doubts. It is the universal testimony of all the officers and men in the island. They say that not only the Filipinos within Aguinaldo's lines are supporting him, but that the "amigos" or supposedly friendly natives within our lines are giving him all the aid and comfort that they dare to do. That is the universal testimony of all the soldiers who have returned, the statement also of all the press correspondents and to a large extent is confirmed by the official reports of General Otis.

This is the first time in the history of this country that a president has spoken absolute falsehoods, revised them and had them printed. There is no escape from the position.

GARBLED DISPATCHES.

Some time ago the Independent announced that the dispatches of Otis were garbled and sent out far political effect. That statement was made on information received in a private letter written by a man who has the best opportunities of getting information of perhaps any man in Washington. The statement is now confirmed by Congressman Lantz. He says:

"The war department gave out the dispatch as follows:

"Volunteers willing to remain."

I went to the war department and asked for the original and it read:

"Volunteers unwilling to re-enlist, but willing to remain till transports arrive."

The people must remember that it is not Otis who is responsible for the conduct of the war in the Philippines. Otis is simply a soldier and must obey orders as strictly as any private in the United States army. The responsible party is President McKinley. One might as well blame the privates for shooting when ordered, as to blame Otis. The president is commander-in-chief and Otis must obey, ask to be relieved or resign.

MR. PERRY BELMONT.

The announcement of Perry Belmont that he will support Bryan is a matter of very great importance. Remember that it is Perry Belmont, not the one that publishes the Verdict. Why does he make such an announcement? He has not one thing in common with Bryan. He is a plutocrat and a banker and has nothing in common with the doctrines of the Chicago platform.

These men who are at the head of great financial institutions in New York have the best intellects in the world in their employment. They have opportunities of gathering information, learning the trend of coming events, the condition of the public mind that ordinary men know nothing about. There can be but two reasons for the course that Mr. Belmont has taken. Either he expects by this action to gain admittance for his friends to the democratic national convention and so alter the platform on the money question that Bryan would not accept the nomination or would be defeated if he did, or he sees that Bryan is sure to win and that it would be better for him and his big financial house to be with the winning crowd than on the outside. It will be well for the democratic managers to keep their eyes upon Mr. Perry Belmont.

DEGENERACY.

The Wayne Republican says: "The highest aim of the government is a mercenary one." Senator Carter says that it is the only aim. Some of our old fellows who fought along with John Brown and helped to organize the republican party, never dreamed that we should live to see it degenerate until such sentiments as that would be uttered by a republican press and a republican United States senator. When we were laying the foundation of that party we believed that the highest aim of government was to protect the weak against the strong, to

administer justice, to maintain the rights of all. There has never been a time since free government was first established among men that such sentiments as the above were publicly proclaimed. If, in the sixties a man had uttered such sentiments as that, even in the slave holding states, he would have been mobbed. Oh! for a day of Sumner, of Garrison, of Phillips, of Andrew. The very foundations of civilization are being undermined. The day when money is put above man, above righteousness, above the love of God, above everything that the good have held sacred has arrived. A standing army and the day of night is looming up in the near future. As the Massachusetts patriots say there is something more in this content than money systems or tariffs. It is: Shall civilization decay?

THE BORDEREAU.

People have heard a great deal of late about the Boderreau. That document was never printed in the American newspapers until a few days ago. Here is the famous document:

"In the absence of any news indicating your desire to see me, I nevertheless send you, sir, certain information of interest:

"1. A note of the hydraulic brake of 120 (method of operating this piece).

"2. A note on the troupes de couverture (outpost troops). (A few modifications will be made by the new plan.)

"A note on modifications in artillery formation.

"3. A note relating to Madagascar.

"5. The scheme relative to the manual of field firing (March 14, 1894).

"This last paper is extremely difficult to procure and I can have it at my disposal only for a very few days. The ministry has issued a definite number to the corps, and these corps are responsible for them; each officer is obliged to return his (copy) after the maneuvers. If, therefore you wish me to take from it whatever may interest you and hold it afterwards at my disposal, I will take it. Unless you do not want me to make a copy in extenso and address it to you. I am just leaving for the maneuvers."

This document was found in the waste basket of a German diplomat by a servant and turned over to the French government. Upon it the prosecution of Dreyfus was based. Esterhazy has declared that he wrote it and there has never been any proof offered that Dreyfus wrote it. On the other hand there is the strongest circumstantial evidence that Dreyfus did not write it. Dreyfus was an artillery officer high up in his profession and one of the best artillery officers of France testified that the document showed such ignorance of guns that it was impossible to have been written by an officer in that branch of the service. The officer who testified pointed out how it would have been impossible for an artillery officer to have shown such ignorance as is shown in the first sentence, "A note of the hydraulic brake of 120." The last sentence also shows that Dreyfus could not have written it. The note says: "I am just leaving for the maneuvers." It was proved that before that time the officers of the class to which Dreyfus belonged had been ordered not to attend the maneuvers. The last resort of the military scoundrels was to say: "Dreyfus might have been an accomplice."

The republican county conventions this year in a great number of instances omit the declaration of principles altogether. They meet and nominate the candidates for office but put forth no platform at all. That was the case in Douglas where Roosevelt ran things to suit himself. The republicans have become so hardened and they have such confidence that the mullet heads will "vote 'er straight" that they no longer take the trouble to promise not to steal. All that is necessary is to head the ticket "republican." With the great questions that are agitating the people they will have nothing to do. All that they want is the office. That is the lowest point to which a political party ever sank in all the history of the world.

Morton has taken his cereal mills into the trust. It goes in on the same old plan—doubling its capitalization, which is put at \$400,000 and taking pay in cash and preferred and common stock. The price of the product will be put up to pay interest on this excessive capitalization. The result will be that the people will only buy the same amount in dollars and cents, (for how could they buy more when they have no more to buy with than they had before), there will be an "overproduction," some of the mills will shut down, run awhile that way, fail to pay interest on their enormous capital, then a receiver and a reorganization. About that time the "hoar black pig" will begin to buck, and Morton and his melting pot will go rolling in the dust.

Treasurer Meserve still continues to take in and pay off those outstanding warrants. Monday he ordered warrants from No. 50,772 to 31,131, to be brought in. He will pay them off and the interest from date will stop. Meserve keeps doing that sort of thing every few days now.

Has this nation lost its sense of righteousness which has been its crowning glory and made it great and honorable among all the nations of the earth? Must its flag henceforth be the symbol of conquest and commercialism instead of being the symbol of liberty? Must it let the people answer at the ballot box.

In regard to Dan's reports of failures, every reader should remember that all the weaker firms failed and were wiped out in the years from '93 to '96 and it is the stronger ones that are now tumbling.

And now comes Henry Clews to the defense of the Independent in its statement regarding the bank reserves and says in the New York papers: "A word of caution seems desirable regarding the money market. We are confronted with low bank reserves just as the annual crop requirements begin to assert themselves." It will be in order now for those bankers to hold another meeting and denounce Henry Clews as well as the editor of the Independent. They ought to keep up the "parity."

For a mixture of words the socialist can really beat the gold bug. The New York socialist paper, The People says: "In Kansas the principal occupation is farming and the industrial population, the working class proper, is so small that it cuts but a small figure in Kansas elections unless the vote happens to be very close." According to this "class conscious" political party farmers are not of the industrial population nor do they belong to the working class. If one of those socialists was made to run a Kansas farm for a while he would find out whether he had to work or not.

In several elections since the populist party came into existence the voters have neglected to a large extent to vote for regents of the state university. Since the great universities of the east have begun to pass under the control of the millionaires and trust managers, many of the populist voters have seen the error of their ways. In the coming election there are two regents of the state university to be chosen. The vote for them should be as large as for the head of the ticket. Both Mr. Teeters and Mr. Rich are eminently qualified to fill the position.

Guy T. Graves the fusion candidate for judge in the Eighth judicial district ought to be elected for a good many reasons. First, he will make an excellent judge because he has the calm judicial quality of mind without which no man can be a good judge. In the next place he has been in this reform movement from the very first without wavering or shadow of turning. Last but not least he is a thoroughly honest man, a good lawyer and has the respect of all who know him. That district has been a republican district, but the candidacy of Graves will change the political complexion of the next judge of the Eighth judicial district.

For years the populist party has declared that it was the object of the republican party to retire the greenbacks and make gold the only legal tender for debt. McKinley denied these statements from his front porch and the republican leaders always said that the charges were false. Now whenever the party in its nominating conventions has dared to put out a platform at all, it demands these things. The populist declarations have been a true guide to the people ever since the party was founded. The mass of ignorance in the United States is now all within the republican party and the leaders hope by hurling it against the intelligent to establish the trusts, a big standing army, a big navy and rule like the nabobs of imperial Rome.

The bankers had a great deal to say in their late convention about "sound money" and "currency reform." By "sound money" they mean the gold standard, and by "currency reform" they mean the withdrawal or destruction of the greenbacks and the issue of all paper money by the banks with no other security behind it than "bank assets." They do not tell us what is to happen to the depositors when the bank assets are taken to redeem their promises to pay. The depositor is supposed to look out for himself. If there is not an overwhelming rebuke given to McKinley in the fall elections, congress will proceed forthwith to destroy the greenbacks and give the money trust complete control of all the paper money. They will do it sure. A vote will have as much influence upon this present congress as upon the one to be elected next fall. Get out and vote.

The probabilities are that Holcomb will get practically the unanimous vote of Washington county. There is one of the old sort of county boards up there and they have undertaken to refund and legalize \$100,000 of fraudulent bonds. A suit was brought to stop it and Judge Baker, the judge who sent Bartley to the penitentiary for twenty years and whom the republican state convention sent down upon very hard immediately afterwards, has decided that the bonds are fraudulent. An appeal has been taken to the supreme court. The people up there know very well what becomes of a case in a republican supreme court when bondholders are on one side and the people on the other. When that case comes up in the supreme court they want judges who will do exact justice in such cases. The probabilities therefore are that the people of Washington county will be solid for Holcomb.

A GOLD STANDARD DOCUMENT.

Mr. John Robinson of Smyrna, Ark., sends to the editor of the Independent a pamphlet issued by a gold bug currency committee containing 20 propositions in which it says that Mr. Bryan has not answered and asks the editor to make reply to them. It seems strange that any man can believe that a publication like this, which is made up of assumptions and positive falsehoods could influence the political action of any voter. The first question is a sample of all.

1. When in the history of this country has silver occupied "its ancient place by the side of gold?" Has there ever been a time when the two metals circulated upon equal terms as full legal tender money, with the mints open to free and unlimited coinage of both? If so, when was it?

That question assumes as true a statement that every man knows to be utterly false. Silver and gold always circulated "upon equal terms as full legal tender money" whenever they circulated at all up to 1873. Sometimes neither one of them was in circulation. "When was it?" It was from the beginning of civilization until the fiat of government destroyed the legal tender function of one of them. If Mexico uses silver for money and the United States uses gold as full legal tender money, together they help make up the amount of money in circulation just as much as if both nations coined both silver and gold. But if both nations use only gold and demonetize silver, then is the amount of money greatly reduced. Four-fifths of the population of the world today use silver and about one fifth use gold in the exchange of commodities. Silver, in spite of all the machinations of the bondholding and money lending element, still circulates. If the writer of this pamphlet knows of a time when silver did not circulate, when was it?

The next question—in fact half a dozen of questions—is numbered 2, and is as follows:

2. You say that the restoration of that condition will, in your judgment, "restore the parity between money and property." Will you kindly explain what you mean by this? What is the "parity between money and property?" Do you mean that the restoration will put up prices, undo the cheapening effects of improved machinery, transportation, etc., and increase the cost of living to all classes of the community? If so, will you kindly explain how this increase in the cost of all commodities is likely to promote "a return of general prosperity?" Will the working man whose wages are stationary, or nearly so, be made more prosperous by having to pay more for his flour, meat, groceries, chickens, eggs, fruit, vegetables, clothing, household utensils, rent and all the rest of it? Will even the farmer be better off with a double price for his produce, in the wholly improbable contingency that Europe will consent to pay it, if he must pay double for everything he has to buy?

The relief that resulted from the rise in farm products, caused by the famine in India and crop failure in Argentina, is a demonstration that any one but an idiot can understand, of the fact that a rise in the price of all farm products will benefit every kind of business, because in just as much as they rise, it lessens to the farmer the cost of transportation. The burden of interest and taxation. When corn is ten cents a bushel and it costs ten cents to take a bushel to Chicago, the farmer has to give the railroads one-half of his crop to take the other half to market. But if corn is 20c a bushel and the freight ten he has a whole lot left over after he has paid his freight and fed his stock which he can sell and buy goods which starts up every other line of business. If he has \$100 of taxes to pay with corn at ten cents a bushel, it will take 1,000 bushels to pay them. But if corn is twenty cents, it will only take 500 bushels and he can sell the other 500 bushels and buy goods. "Will the farmer be better off?" No one but a pudding headed gold bug would ask such a silly question. Then mark the guile of the statement: "Will the working man whose wages are stationary, or nearly so." No doubt this writer, now that they have beaten the wage workers down to a wage that means simply enough to exist upon, would like to make wages stationary, if he could. But if wages are stationary, what becomes of the claims that are constantly made by the same class of writers that since McKinley's inauguration wages have been constantly on the rise?

The statement, that "wages are stationary, or nearly so" is a new one. It is put forth as an indisputable fact, and it means that the wage workers must remain in the condition which they now are forever, and "be content with the station to which it has pleased God to call them."

In regard to the closing sentence, "If he must pay double for everything that he has to buy," it is the old falacy which has been reiterated constantly for the last fifty years by the plutocratic writers of all nations. It is a sufficient answer to say that the average producer produces a little more than four times as much as he buys. That is, he sells four times as much as he buys. That being the case the price of all things is doubled, the producer will be about 75 per cent better off than he is now. If the producers did not produce a great deal more than they consumed, what would the lawyers, doctors, preachers, politicians, bankers and money lenders live on? Where would they get their bread and butter and the clothes they wear? They certainly do not produce any of these

things themselves. They are not producers at all.

The third question is about the "coinage of the constitution" and has no economic bearing whatever. There is no such thing as a commercial ratio and never was. A ratio between silver and gold is the fiat of law fixing it. The orders in council of the Indian government—which are simply legal flats—now fixes the price of silver. At least that and the demand for coinage by the various governments, for silver still circulates everywhere all over the civilized world. Under free coinage, by any great commercial nation trading with other nations to any great extent, what these chaps call the "commercial ration" is the mint price.

His next question is: "Will not free coinage 16 to 1 reduce the value of the dollar unit by about one-half?" No, it would not, not by a long shot. What ever possessed the man to ask such a question is beyond comprehension. It would take a large issue of paper money besides to do that. To reduce the value of money one-half, the amount of money in circulation would have to be doubled and business held down to the present amount. All the silver in the world aside from what now is consumed in the arts is coined and goes into the circulation of the various nations. Where is there any such amount to come from, which if it were coined would double the amount of money in circulation? There is no uncoined silver bullion on hand anywhere in the world. If this chap knows where there is any except what is on the way "to" market, will he please to tell us?

He next asks: "Will it (the free coinage of silver) not be in fact a repudiation of all our debts, public and private?"

Well let us see about that. Is the keeping of a contract repudiation? Every bond issued by the United States, including those issued by Cleveland and McKinley has printed on its face these words:

"This bond is issued in accordance with conditions of an act of congress entitled 'An act to authorize the refunding of the national debt,' approved July 14, 1870 amended by an act approved January 20, 1891 and is redeemable at the treasury of the United States IN COIN OF THE STANDARD VALUE OF THE UNITED STATES ON SAID JULY 14, 1870."

The claim of this writer that the bonds should, notwithstanding the words of this written contract, now be paid in gold, was a little too much for old John Sherman to stomach in 1868, (although since that time he has degenerated until he can swallow anything except imperialism) for in that year he wrote a letter to Mr. Mann of Brooklyn in which he said: "If the bondholder can legally demand only the kind of money he paid, then he is a repudiator and extortioner to demand more valuable than he gave."

The next thing that the writer wants to know is: "Is there not danger that it will cause the return to us of all American securities held abroad—government, railroad and industrial stocks and bonds, thus precipitating a panic of giant proportions, with long years of depression to follow?"

That is the same old scare cry that the republicans raised when Silas A. Holcomb was nominated for governor by the populists. Holcomb was elected and instead, of the dire results being realized, a season of improvement immediately resulted in all lines of business. So marked was this, the business men who opposed him seized the first opportunity to apologize and as far as they could make amends.

Foreign investors are not the idiots that this writer would have us believe. If they undertook to flood our market with securities what would happen? Just what would happen whenever a market is flooded with anything. Down would go the price. Would these foreign investors be keen to sell their bonds for half what they paid for them and take their pay in silver at that? Suppose they did. What would they do with their money when they got it? They have come to America to invest their money because they could not invest it at home. Would they pile it away in bank vaults knowing that it would all the time become less valuable. If the value of money is to be reduced one-half as this writer asserts, would they not rather have their wealth in property, which this writer assumes would double in price, than to have it in money, which he assumes would be reduced one-half in its value? That whole scare cry has no foundation in common sense.

His seventh question is as follows:

7. Will not your election upon the Chicago platform cause the calling in, between November and March, of all collectible debts, all loans, all mortgages, that have expired? And will not this produce such a distress as this country has never known, practically in the west and south, where capital and credit are most needed and depend upon confidence as their basis?

That is simply a repetition except the assertion that business in the west and south is based on "confidence." The wealth of the west and south is based on something much more substantial than this intangible thing that he calls "confidence." It is based upon its productive soil, its mines, its manufactures and above all upon an enterprising, intelligent, inventive and hard working population. Let the crops fail for a couple of years, let the soil become unproductive and he would see how much wealth he could get out of "confidence."