

POYNTER IN WASHINGTON.

Some Active Work for Western Small Stock Raisers—W. H. Thompson Defends Populists—Western Men in the Lead.

Washington, D. C., February 26.—(Special correspondence.) During the week just closed Nebraska has been represented at Washington by several visitors and these have taken important parts in interesting events. Governor Poynter and Mrs. Poynter were here for several days, the former attending the meeting of the Centennial committee and the latter visiting the Capitol. Mrs. Poynter and the governor were the guests of Congressman Stark, and Mrs. Robinson. Mrs. Neville and Mrs. Sutherland arranged several pleasant excursions for their entertainment. The party visited Arlington and Mount Vernon, and their visit to the capitol was the occasion of special attention on the part of the Nebraskans here. The governor by right of his position was admitted to the floor of the Senate, attended by a Nebraska citizen, and there he listened to the reading of Washington's farewell address by Senator Foraker. Incidentally he met several of the senators who were introduced to him and evidently enjoyed the close range view of the Senate in action. In company with the other visiting governors he called upon the president on Wednesday.

Some matters of great importance to western people were taken up by the western governors who were present at the Centennial committee meeting, and one of these was the move to take some formal and positive action with relation to the handling of the semi-arid lands now held by the government in the western states. There is now pending a measure which contemplates the leasing of these lands by the government to ranch men and a large majority of the settlers have expressed their preference for a plan by which it is in some other manner be handled for the benefit of the actual settler and holder of small tracts. Governor Poynter has been in the forefront of this discussion which has been going on for several years, and he last week got a meeting of the eight western governors here at which he unfolded his plan. To meet the unanimous and hearty approval of the other western governors and to carry it to completion, a meeting was called to be held at Salt Lake City in April when the details will be arranged. In the meanwhile the eight western governors signed a memorial to congress asking that action on the proposition to authorize the government to lease these lands be deferred until after the Salt Lake meeting.

In connection with this meeting of the governors on this centennial committee it was noted, with perhaps pardonable pride, by western men here that out of the sixteen governors present eight of them came from the west—the governor of Mississippi river. When the long distances which these men have to travel and the short runs that are required to bring the eastern men in is considered, it speaks well for the energy and public spirit of the western chief executives. But that is an old story. Even the eastern people are coming to recognize the truth that the public spirit, the vim and the ability to take a broad view of large subjects comes out of the west, and western ideas and western men are being given a great deal of attention just now in political and governmental circles.

Another representative westerner who was here during the past week was Nebraska's member of the democratic national committee, W. H. Thompson. In the body of which he was a part, Thompson held up the reputation of the state and the section for the qualities which have come to be associated with both state and section. The breadth of his view of the political situation and the conditions that are to be met, the fall and the soundness of his conclusions as to the course to be pursued were admitted even by eastern democrats who voted against him. Thompson contended for holding the democratic national convention on the date previously fixed by the populist committee. During the discussion Thompson in a free speech answered a remark made by an easterner, and which he interpreted to indicate that the easterner held the populists in slight esteem. Thompson went after the member and in his speech described the populists of Nebraska and defended them with such force and vigor that he carried the committee with him so completely that one after another they assured him and the committee that he was correct in his position in giving honor to this branch of the fusion forces of the country.

The incident was the subject of considerable discussion among the members of the committee and Thompson won by it both for himself and the fusion forces of Nebraska even a greater measure of the respect of the committee than had been accorded to them before. It was but another illustration of the idea heretofore referred to that the provincialism of this country is confined to the eastern part of the continent.

The progress of congressional affairs during the week has been slow but there have been some very decided moves made. One of these was the vote on Friday by which the resolution in the Quay case was taken up. There was one of those rare occurrences of a decided victory on the floor of the United States senate just preceding and during the vote on this resolution. It is not putting it too strongly to say that the grave and usually calm senators were excited. After the announcement of the vote, it was the opinion of those best informed that Quay was as good as secured the effect of this upon that stronghold of modern republicanism, Pennsylvania, is something the seers are differing widely about.

This Quay incident and the ceremony

of reading the Washington address on February 22 were the features in the senate for the week. The incongruities of the policies of modern republicanism and republican plans with the calm words of advice of the father of his country was so marked that every hearer commented upon it.

Congressman Sutherland and Stark have taken part in the discussions of the important questions before the house during the week and both made good impressions.

Senator Allen returned on Monday night from his trip to Nebraska where he went as a member of the populist national committee to attend the meeting.

Mark Murry and Mr. Wiltze of Pender are here looking after some matters of interest to the people of Thurston county. They have visited the members of the delegation and the officials of the department of the interior, and feel very well satisfied with the manner in which their presentation of their case has been received. D. H. BRADLEY.

Extremely Comical

The national committee of the peoples party reorganized at Lincoln, Nebraska, Monday, February 19, by electing D. Clem Deaver of Nebraska, chairman; J. A. Parker of Kentucky, secretary; P. J. Dixon of Missouri, treasurer; and Messrs. Jerome Kirby of Texas, John C. Luce of Oregon, W. L. Peek of Georgia, L. W. Smith of Maine, H. B. Fay, of Minnesota and James H. Ferris of Illinois, members of the executive committee.—Missouri World.

There is a fair specimen of the honor and varacity of the "true populists" who have organized a bolt that they will know will have but one effect, if it has any at all, and that is to pull votes away from Bryan for the benefit of Mark Hanna, the gold standard and imperialism. All those things they all know Bryan is opposed to, and that he will fight them while he has breath in his body.

See how it starts out: "The national committee of the peoples party." Who are the men it calls the populist national committee? They were in number not to exceed ten. Even the State Journal which at first and as long as there was any chance to prevent the bolt from being perfectly ridiculous, called the aggregation that assembled at the Grand hotel, "comical in the extreme," in its last Sunday's edition. Here are their names taken by an honest populist who was sent there by the Independent to report the proceedings. D. Clem Deaver, of Nebraska; L. H. Weller of Iowa; Alli Reed of Iowa; Jo Parker of Kentucky; Robert McKeenolds of Nebraska; H. H. Wheeler of Ohio; Jim Burleigh, a law student, residence not known to the reporter; C. M. Clark of Lincoln. They only claimed, and of course they claimed all that they dared, to have enough proxies with these men to make up 57 votes and there are 256 votes in the populist national committee. Only five of these ever claimed to be populists. Deaver left the party as soon as he lost the little office he held and supported the republican candidate in the last election. L. H. Weller does not belong to the regular organization in his state. Burleigh, a law student, too young to have standing in any party, but has always acted with the republicans. C. M. Clark who always acts with the socialists and has not been recognized as a populist for years if he ever was. McKeenolds is a reputed republican in good standing and if he ever claimed to be a populist, no one can be found who ever heard of it and a great many have been asked who have worked with the populist party for years. Not a single one of these men has any standing or influence in the community in which he lives. That is, the aggregation that the Missouri World calls "the national committee of the peoples party." Did a newspaper ever sink to that depth of infamy before? It is lower than the Hannacrat newspapers of Lincoln would go. Not one of them has called this gang the national committee of the peoples party.

The national committee of the peoples party is composed of three men from each state and territory in the union. Among them are men of standing and good reputation in every walk of life in the professions, in industries and in agriculture. Not one of these men called the national committee by the Missouri World, have any trade, profession or business, except one or two who may be called farmers in a small way. What sort of a trade, calling or industry does Clem Deaver follow?

No wonder when the reporter for the State Journal saw this little crowd he was forced to say, although he would like in the interest of his paper and party to have puffing them to the skies, that "it was comical in the extreme."

Were these men known for what they really are all over the United States, they could do no damage at all. When a gang of men working in the interest of Mark Hanna are so low down that the State Journal and News can't stomach them, then the Missouri World takes them up, and Wharton Barker and the mid roaders announce them as their leaders and the managers of their campaign.

Burkhart and Walters of Indiana did

not join the bolters until after the national committee adjourned. They sat in that committee and Burkhart pledged himself to Bryan in a rousing speech. They went back home and stood as candidates for the bolters and participated in a convention that elected delegates to a convention to be held in Cincinnati to nominate a candidate and perfect an organization to fight the populist party in whose national committee they sat. In that action they are more despicable than Clem Deaver and the Grand hotel gang.

THE DOCTRINE WE PREACH

It Was for It That Washington Lived and Lincoln Died, and to it We Pledge Our Most Sacred Honor.

The following is an extract from an article by Senator Hoar in Collier's Weekly:

One party to this discussion says that if there were any reason growing out of our constitution, our principles, the doctrines of righteousness and freedom and human rights to which we have pledged, which demanded our course in Cuba, these things equally demanded a like course in the eastern hemisphere, and that the facts and the situation require it much more clearly in Luzon than they require them in Cuba.

When we say this, there seems to be a singular difficulty in getting our imperialist friends to join issue with us. We tell them that there is a people in Luzon and that this people have achieved their independence. They reply to you, "But there are mountains of iron there." We tell them that our Declaration of Independence and our honored leaders and statesmen from President Washington to President McKinley tell us that it is a crime to subdue such a people by force of arms. And they answer you, "But there are great stores of coal in those islands." We tell them that we brought over Aguinaldo ourselves, armed him and placed him at the head of his people, well knowing that he and they were striving for independence; that they told us again and again that independence was their desire, and that we never told them in reply that we had any other purpose but to liberate them and make them free. And they reply, "Here is a nugget of gold which came from a river's bank in Luzon." We tell them that they have schools, churches, a free constitution, law, order, civilization; that they are Christians, and that it is a crime to crush a Christian people and they tell you, in reply, that the trade of China is illimitable, and if we but set our foot on Luzon we are in a position where we can get our share of it.

If the United States be bound to deal in honor with the swarthy Cuban, we are equally bound to deal in honor with the swarthy people of Luzon. The rules of honor and justice are not affected by the lines of latitude or of longitude or by the points of compass. When we say this there seems to be a singular difficulty in getting our imperialist friends either to admit or deny it. They turn uneasily from any consideration of right and wrong, and appeal not so much even to the desire for empire as to the covetousness and greed of the American people.

The questions between the republic and the empire, between liberty and slavery, between the doctrines of Washington and Lincoln, and the doctrines of George III and Napoleon Bonaparte, will be settled. They will be settled sooner or later, by the American people, and they will in the end be settled right, by presidents, through presidents, or over presidents; by congress, through congress, or over congress; by political parties, through political parties, or over political parties, the irresistible current will find its way. The doctrine for which I stand and for which I speak has triumphed so far in every conflict in war and in peace throughout our history, from the landing at Plymouth of the Pilgrims brought to across the sea, down to the resolutions when we declared war with Spain—passed by both houses of congress and signed by President McKinley. By it Washington lived, and for it Lincoln died. It was that which justified us in liberating Cuba and which justified us in sinking the fleet of Spain at Manila. Under it we had become the strongest, freest, richest nation on the face of the earth. It is written, invisible to the bodily eye, yet visible to the spiritual discernment on every fold, over every stripe, and over every star of the American flag. That man little understands, in my judgment, the temper of the American people who know their own history, who think we are sither to forget it or to desert it.

Suppressing Information

Editor Independent:—Not long ago I wrote to the U. S. treasurer for information in regard to monies, precious metals, bonds, etc. In a few days I received a pamphlet in regard to the same dated July 1, 1896. I immediately sat down and thanked the treasurer, but said I would like one of a later date for it was the present standing of the U. S. treasury I would like to know about. Not long after I received a letter, but it did not satisfy me, for I believe they had later ones than 1896. I will enclose letter received.

Now is there any way of getting their report of a later date? If you can give me the address I can write to, I will be pleased to have it. I simply thought they did not want me to know how our treasury stood. Perhaps they are having more calls for reports lately, and they may be out. One thing is sure, they have them of '96, anyhow.

Yours for success,
G. W. DOXTATER.
Panama, Neb.
(Write to Senator Allen or any of our fusion congressmen. If there are such reports they will get and send them.—Ed. Ind.)

CHAIRMAN EDMISTEN SPEAKS

A Letter that is Manly, Patriotic, Modest, and a Credit to Nebraska's Great Populist Organizer.

To the Reform forces of Nebraska:

The recent settlement of the selection of clerk of the supreme court by judges Holcomb and Sullivan ends a long and unsatisfactory contest.

It is decidedly humiliating to any one to engage in any such controversy, and especially is this true where a course is pursued against the overwhelming demands of the people.

I would be an ingrate and false to every emotion of my being did I not extend to those supporting me my sincere thanks for the expression of their confidence, and I desire to assure them that I appreciate in the highest sense their support. And to the large number of friends, located as they are in each county of the state, to them all I am under many and lasting obligations, and I desire to assure them that it will afford me great pleasure to take advantage of the first opportunity in the future to prove my high appreciation of them.

Their endorsement as committeemen, their petitions as citizens and workers were poured in upon the judges without being asked for, until both judges Holcomb and Sullivan complained that they could not answer so many requests.

My thanks are likewise extended to Senator Allen and our four congressmen who were not backward in giving their support in my behalf.

The strong letters of endorsement from nine of the thirteen judges who belong to the fusion forces in the state are of the number that gave me their support, and they have my highest consideration.

It is with pleasure that I name among the number who proved their friendship and loyalty, Governor Poynter, treasurer Messervy, auditor Cornell, land commissioner Wolfe and state superintendent Jackson. To these gentlemen I feel under a deep debt of gratitude.

I cannot overlook the long list of prominent democrats throughout the state, who manifested a strong desire that I should be appointed, and I shall always hold them in kind remembrance.

After summing up the whole matter, and considering the large list of supporters, which the judges said exceeded in number all those endorsing all the other candidates, of whom there were seven or eight, I have come to the conclusion that if it was impossible to have both—the friends and the place—that I prefer to retain my friends and continue with them in the onward march of reform. There is no place to stop.

The following was clipped from the State Journal of February 25th: "The only thing left for Mr. Harley Edmisten is to join the D. Clem Deaver party."

No. Never. I am not an adjunct to the republican party.

I am quite certain the Journal would rejoice with "Mr. Deaver's boss," Edward Rosewater, could anything of this kind be brought about; and in order to remove all doubt from the minds of the Journal and the Omaha Bee, I will define my position.

I am against the gold standard inaugurated by the republican party. I am against the trusts built up by the republican party. I am against imperialism, now being forced on the country by the republican party.

I am against large and expensive standing armies which are being fostered in this country by the republican party. I am in favor of the people of the islands of Cuba and the Philippines being given their independence in order that they may enjoy the freedom that God intended they should enjoy.

I believe that the Boers should share the same liberty—that the Transvaalers, the Free Staters and the Filipinos in their fight against subjection are parallel cases and that the republican party stands for the enslavement of all. No. God forbid! No man with the interest or his country at heart can ally himself with such a party.

I also stand for the union of all the forces of reform that are for making this government better. I believe that all patriotic citizens should stand together against one common enemy, and I desire to state that disappointments caused by those who should be my friends, or party differences, cannot shake my faith in the principles of populism. If judges Holcomb and Sullivan fail to be guided by the high principles of right, justice and honor, the party is not to be blamed for their action. I believe in that old saying: "Truth crushed to earth will rise again."

I will not permit any man in the party to display more party loyalty according to ability and means than myself.

Therefore I announce to the voters who support the cause of reform: You can count on me in the future as in the past.

Most Sincerely Yours,
J. H. EDMISTEN.

News of the Week
Otis has gotten himself into a mess and don't know how to get out. He issued an order or proclamation or something of that sort declaring that the war was over and hereafter any Filipino caught with arms in his hands would be treated as a bandit and shot. As soon as the soldiers saw the order, they began to demand their discharges under the law that allows a soldier to purchase his discharge in time of peace. These demands came pouring in on Otis as thick as snow flakes in winter. Then another difficulty arose. If the war was over, the pay of the soldiers remaining would be greatly reduced, for soldiers get much higher pay in the time of war than they do in the

time of peace. If it was peace, then those who had enough of the Philippines wanted to come home, but those who had to stay were "dead against" having their pay reduced. Finding himself in this sort of a dilemma, Otis appealed to the secretary of war. Secretary Root, although a noted lawyer, found the question too knotty for him and he appealed to the president. If there is still war going on in the Philippines, Otis has been lying about those peaceful isles. If it is peace and Otis is to be given a free hand at hanging Filipinos, then the boys want to come. No decision has so far been announced.

Congress has gotten into even a worse tangle over a tariff for Porto Rico. If Porto Rico is part of the United States, then under the constitution no tariff can be placed upon its exports to the other states and territories of the union. If it is still a foreign country, what business has congress legislating for it at all? The plan of placing a tariff on Porto Rican goods is such a flagrant violation of the constitution that ten republican congressmen flew the track. The reason they gave was not because it was a violation of and trampling of the constitution under foot, but they said that if such a bill was passed by this republican congress they could not be re-elected.

The war in South Africa is still being fought out by the little army of liberty loving Dutchmen with a courage that has never been excelled in the history of the world. Lord Bob swooped down on Kimberley with a force that out numbered the Dutchmen, ten to one, and Gen. Cronje was forced to retreat. The British swarmed around him in overwhelming numbers and he was forced into a river bed where for ten days he has fought a fight that has gained for him the admiration of the world. When Lord Bob demanded his surrender, he replied: "I have some guns, some ammunition, some men and I am still alive. Why should I surrender?" These words will become historical. They were spoken by a man fighting for liberty and his country, when surrounded by a force outnumbering him thirteen to one and while fifty cannon were pouring lydithe shells into the mile square where his little army lay.

Trapped, ringed round with fire, the target of a tornado of solid shot and bursting shell, Cronje, the lion of freedom and South Africa, fought a fight such as the world has never seen since Thermopylae. He is making the British pay the "price that will stagger humanity" of which Kruger spoke. All day long for ten days, six field batteries, a howitzer and five big naval guns have made the laager where Cronje fought, a volcano of bursting shells. But Cronje fought on. "I have," he said, "some guns, some ammunition, some men and I am still alive. Why should I surrender? Brave Cronje! You have placed your name at the top of the scroll of fame. More than that, it will be cherished by all men of all ages yet to come, who love liberty. Brave Cronje! Whether you live or die, you have done a service for liberty that the world will never forget.

According to the accounts sent out from both sides, at the beginning of the attack to relieve Kimberley Cronje had 8,000 men and Lord Bob had something over 40,000. The plan of the British campaign was with their superiority to force to capture Cronje and his army. Lord Bob did not succeed in doing it. When Gen. Cronje at last surrendered after the most gallant fight of modern times, the British got only 3,000 prisoners according to Lord Bob's own report. So this ten days of fighting such as the world has seldom seen, enabled three-fourths of the Boer army to escape. Cronje staid behind with his rear guard, fought the British for ten days with a force that did not number one against thirteen, and the main body of the Boer army got away.

If there is any glory in that for British arms, let them have it. What the British losses were, Lord Bob has so far refused to tell. The probabilities are that Cronje killed and disabled more British soldiers than he had men in his own rear guard.

ARE BROTHERS NOW

The War has United the Orange Free Staters and Transvaalers in Indis-soluble Bonds.

Editor Independent: Mr. Geo. W. Van Siclen, American treasurer of the fund for the widows and orphans of the Boers, has just received the following letter: THE HAGUE, 31st January, 1900. Mr. Geo. W. Van Siclen, New York.

Sir: I have no objection to reply to your question whether there is any truth in the rumors spread in England, pretending that the Free Staters are aban-

doning the Transvaalers and are giving up fighting or intend to do so.

These rumors are altogether false. On the contrary, the Jameson raid had already brought the two republics together as it had shown the designs of the present British administration as regards the two South African republics. And now this war is making one nation of the two states and brothers of the burghers, who before were treating each other as cousins.

The Free State has done its very utmost to avert war, by its inward policy, by its policy toward Great Britain now and in the past, and its policy with regard to our sister republic. We have not made war nor even taken up a spiteful attitude after the Basutos had been armed against us in spite of the treaties, nor after the British took their country when we at last after fourteen years of struggle against their never ceasing raids, had subdued them; no more after the appropriation by England of our diamond fields, nor when arbitration of the rightful ownership was refused by England; nor on account of any of our bitter grievances against England so clearly explained by our chief justice, de Villiers, in the Nineteenth Century of March, 1897. For we desired peace. We desired to co-operate with the English for the benefit of South Africa.

But it has all proved of no avail. Independence had been forced upon us when the Basutos proved too powerful for the British colonial government who first had made them strong, and now that we have made out of the wilderness a flourishing, civilized, progressive state, our independence is at stake. For our republican treaties are only being considered of any value, as far as they give rights to England, and a new institution of international law is being invented, that of paramountcy which applied to Europe would make Russia paramount to Great Britain.

The policy of the present British administration has exasperated my people, the most peaceful in the world. There was and is no choice; my people have to fight or die. For our independence is dearer to us than life.

How could we separate from our Transvaal brothers now that all our men, women and children, both states together have not more souls than a small British town, who are now forced to war by the largest empire the world has ever seen?

We could not separate and we do not want to. We would not continue His visible protection of our just cause. The Transvaal people are our brothers and kinsmen, not only figuratively speaking but also in reality. And we have availed ourselves of the experience of past months and put right whatever was in imperfect shape in the beginning of the war.

This war is doing just the reverse of what the English intended it to attain; instead of crushing the Afrianders, it is building up out of two states one federated Transvaal Free State or Orange Republic, strong by its unity and strong by the common suffering so terrible and so unreserved.

I am, Sir, Yours Faithfully, the Envoy Extraordinary of the Orange Free State, Dr. HENDRICK MULLER.

DEFENDING TRUSTS

The Trusts Have Organized a Bureau and are Loading the Mails With Printed Matter.

The lives of editors are nearly worried out of them these days by the mass of printed matter that is sent to them by the Mark Hanna bureau and a dozen other bureaus advocating high tariffs trusts and every other abominable scheme which the ingenuity of man can invent for fleecing the people and making this republic an empire, dominated by standing armies and a monied aristocracy. The last one to appear in this editorial room was the following, accompanied by about ten columns of arguments signed by Rockefeller and chaps of that sort. This bureau calls itself the "United States Export Association." We are perfectly willing for the readers of this paper to read the confidential note that is sent to the editor, and here it is:

To the Editor: This association is organized to widen the markets for American products. Its members represent the leading houses in 98 principal lines of industry situated in 34 states. Our experience has shown that the organization of industry in this country is necessary to compete successfully with other countries for the world's trade. We therefore deprecate indiscriminate attacks upon the organizations of industry known as "Trusts" which have been inspired by the rivalries of sensational journalism and political parties. We believe, as stated by Rev. Lyman Abbott, that what we need is light, not heat up on this question; that any real evils which exist will be remedied by the courts with a little time under existing laws, or if these are not sufficient additional reasonable legislation will be enacted.

We seek by the dissemination of FACTS to counteract error, and would ask your consideration of the enclosures, which tell their own story, and are printed only on one side of the paper for convenient "press" use. Should you publish any part of these, or make editorial comment thereon, we will be pleased to receive a marked copy of your paper. Respectfully Yours,
U. S. EXPORT ASSOCIATION,
F. B. THURBER, President.

It will be seen that the trusts have absolute confidence in courts as now constituted, and they have very good reasons to be. This sort of thing shows what kind of a fight lies before us.

The Independent in clubs of five from now until January 1, 1901 (nearly a year) for 50 cents each. Invite your neighbor to subscribe.

ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES

An Organization Proposed Composed of the Officers and Soldiers who Served in the China Seas.

Irving Hale, president; Lt. Col. Henry Lippincott, U. S. A., 1st. vice pres; Edgar H. Luce, 2d vice pres; Col. William H. Grove, U. S. V., 3d vice pres; Benjamin F. Stapleton, recording secretary; Harry W. McCauley, corresponding secretary; Charles B. Lewis, treasurer.

The president of the association writes as follows about the first reunion. "Our circular of December 1st, 1899, suggesting the organization of the society of the Army of the Philippines and a reunion in Denver during the coming summer, having met with such favorable response and hearty assurance of co-operation from practically all of the returned organizations of the Eighth Army Corps, it has been definitely decided to hold this reunion beginning August 13th, 1900, the anniversary of the fall of Manila, and a cordial invitation is hereby extended to all who have served in the Army of the Philippines to be present on that occasion.

"Reduced (probably half) rates are expected on the railroads to Colorado and return. Cheap and enjoyable excursions will be arranged through the most interesting portions of the state. The fine summer climate and magnificent scenery of Colorado will make this meeting a delightful excursion, while the consolidation into a permanent society of those who took part in the memorable campaign in the Orient, the discussion of its important events and the renewal of the ties of friendship formed in military service will tend to render the reunion an occasion of great personal and historical interest."

Any man who served in the Philippines can get all information and a copy of the constitution and by laws by writing to the president at Denver. That city is very centrally located for the assembling of those who served in that war for nearly all the troops came from these western states. The headquarters are in the capitol building at Denver.

A "Naive" Argument

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat in commenting on an article that appeared in the Independent says:

"A populist paper in Nebraska calls attention to the reduction of interest on state securities in that quarter, and the coincident advance in the premium on them. It speaks of the time when Nebraska's state warrants 'bearing 7 per cent' were selling at a discount ranging from 3 to 5 per cent," and declares that "the interest rate has been reduced from 7 to 5 per cent, and again from 5 to 4 per cent, these warrants now command a liberal premium in the open market, and anxious investors are never wanting." It adds naively that "this is not such a bad showing, considering that we have only a farmer and the head of a state government." The farmer governor is the populist whom the demopop aggregation elected in 1898, William J. Poynter, and who will probably be succeeded by a republican chosen in 1900.

The reduction in interest rates and the increase in premiums on state securities which the Nebraska pop paper refers to is not confined to any one state. The same thing can be found in all the western states. Missouri, Kansas, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and all the other western states have it, whether their governors be republicans democrats or populists. The reason why it is not true over a large extent of the east as it is in the west is because the interest in the east in recent years has never been so high as it has been in the west, and, therefore, the chance for a reduction in the rate has not been so great."

Now that is a "naive" argument sure enough. When the republicans ran these western states and bodded without let or hindrance, created enormous state, county and municipal debts, with constantly increasing taxation, capital wanted some kind of insurance that it would ever be paid back. That insurance was collected in the form of increased interest. When the bodders were overthrown and honest administrations took their places, of course interest rates come down. During all these years of high interest rates, gilt edged securities like government bonds were selling on the market at about the same rate of interest as now. The reason that interest rates fell in the west, according to this gold bug, was because they had a greater chance to fall, all of which is very true, but it is a very "naive" argument.

Cecil Rhode's Secret

The French press declares that the reason why such an effort has been made to relieve Kimberley is because Cecil Rhodes is the possessor of terrible, guilty secrets compromising the Prince of Wales.

McKinley Denounced

The most vigorous denunciation of McKinley and his policies that ever fell from human lips are the following words of Abraham Lincoln:

"Those arguments that are made, that the inferior are to be treated with as much allowance as they are capable of enjoying; that as much is to be done for them as their condition will allow—what are these arguments? They are the arguments that kings have made for enslaving people in all ages of the world. You will find that all arguments for kingscraft were of this class; they always bestrode the necks of the people—no because they wanted to do it, but because the people were better off for being ridden."