

**The Nebraska Independent**  
Lincoln, Nebraska

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**FIVE DOLLARS FOR A NAME.**

The Independent offers five dollars in cash to the person furnishing the most appropriate name for the State Journal. The name that it prints at the head of its pages is such an outrageous misnomer that there is a demand for another to designate its character. Send in the name and the person who furnishes the one adopted will receive five dollars. The contest is open to all persons except those connected with The Independent. Should two persons suggest the same name the one whose letter is received at the office first will be entitled to the award if the name suggested should be the one adopted. Send in your suggestions today. Award will be made February 1, 1901.

The populists provided a treasurer for the state for four years at a cost of \$2,500 per year. The republicans will furnish one for the next two years and he will cost the state \$5,000 per year. That is the first part of the "redeeming" that will be done.

There seems to be no use to convict national bankers and send them to the penitentiary. After all the cost of a trial they are no sooner safely landed behind the bars than McKinley lets them out. Some one would do a public service by publishing a list of national bankers that McKinley has pardoned. The last one was Magill, who was convicted on numerous accounts at Chicago, but as Secretary Gage and Kohlsaat both signed the petition for pardon McKinley couldn't well do otherwise.

The contempt that The Independent has so often expressed for the writing of W. E. Curtis in the Chicago Record is also entertained by decent newspaper men all over the United States. The Washington Post calls it "cheap rigmarole," "third rate attempts at ridicule," "it evokes only contempt," "exhibition of offensive impertinence," "vulgarily malicious" and a lot of other things much in the same style that The Independent has had occasion to use whenever this journalistic scab was under discussion.

Every day or two an item appears in the dispatches something like this:

"The work of dismantling the rolling mills of the Springfield Iron company, purchased about a year ago by the Republican Iron and Steel company, and operated for a time with about 800 men, is being carried on by a large force of men. The steel shears have all been removed and the rail rolls torn up."

That sort of work is going on all over the United States, but the daily papers have no comments to make. They prefer to fill their columns with personal gossip, scandals and divorce trials.

The State Journal knowing the general incompetency of republican legislators wants "an expert in English" attached to its body of solons now making laws at the capitol, so that the acts of the legislature will not all be pronounced unconstitutional by the courts. The Independent seconds the motion. Such a mass of unintelligible incongruities as past republican legislators have placed on the statute books of this state, were never seen in all the world before. Meanwhile would it not be well to attach an "expert in English" to the State Journal staff? Perhaps some of the vulgarity and slang which burdens its editorial columns might be eliminated.

The difference in the generalship of the two contending forces of South Africa in no other particular stands out in greater contrast than in the equipment of their cavalry forces. The English are always short of horses although they have imported over 100,000—fifty thousand coming from this country—while it is said the Boers have three horses for every man. Horses in English hands soon become exhausted and disabled. The Boer generals see to it that their horses have the best of care. A Tommy Atkins, fresh from the manufacturing centers of England, knows about as much concerning a horse as he does about the Fourth of July.

**INFORMATION WANTED.**

That the national government has been run in the interests of banks, corporations and millionaires for many years is shown by the way statistics are handled and information for the instruction of the voters is manipulated. To vote intelligently the voter must have the facts submitted to him. The departments of the government which should have furnished the facts, have suppressed, distorted and manipulated them in the interest of plutocracy. As an example, the report that was made shortly after the census of 1890 was taken in regard to wages, is a sample. That report showed that wages had greatly increased. It was a government report and was always referred to as undisputed authority. There was never anything more false and misleading. The former report with which comparisons were made only included actual wage-workers, and the average wages deduced from it were correct. In this report, general superintendents and high-salaried scientists such as chemists, civil engineers and all those who had anything to do with manufacturing were included as wage workers. In one instance at least a man receiving a salary of \$50,000 a year was included as a wage-worker. When the average was struck from this list, it of course showed a very great increase in wages.

Not only has much of this kind of work been done, but the government has absolutely refused to collect and give out information of the most vital importance to the welfare of the people. For years there has not been anything more necessary for the voter to know than the cost of and capitalization of railroads. That item has never been included in any list given out to the census gatherers. To remedy this wrong, Congressman Sutherland introduced a resolution in the house to appoint a committee of seven members to get this information. The resolution requires them to ascertain the number of miles of railroad owned and operated by European governments, their original cost, present valuation, indebtedness, operating expenses, wages paid, profits realized and passenger and freight charges.

Second, to report to congress the number of miles of railroads in the United States and the present value and indebtedness of the said railroads, the operating expenses, wages paid to employes, interest charges, dividends earned on capital stock, passenger and freight rates charged, the discriminations, if any, made between shippers, the past agreements made and existing between the different roads, if any, and all other information relative to the cost of construction, equipment, and operation of railroads, together with a report as to the method, practicability, and cost of acquiring ownership on the part of the government of the United States of said railroads; the committee to have power to send for persons and papers, employ the necessary clerical and expert assistance, and hold sessions in any part of the United States that they deem necessary to facilitate their work.

Now that is the very sort of information that the farmers of this country have been calling for, for the last twenty years. It is necessary to the public welfare that it should be furnished, but congress has seen to it that it should not be furnished. There is no probability that this congress will act otherwise than those that have preceded it. It will never do anything that will have a tendency to give accurate information to the people concerning the over-capitalized railroads, whose stock has been watered more than 100 per cent and whose robberies are relied upon to keep the republican party in power.

**LEADS THE WORLD.**

It is amusing to see the great lights and the little lights of the republican party trailing along in the rear of The Independent. When this paper first began to teach political economy to the people, these same gentlemen were horrified at its doctrines. They called them anarchy, and sometimes were so excited as to call them anarchy and socialism in the same sentence. Now some of the most important doctrines defended by The Independent are being tentatively accepted and others are advocated with earnestness by newspapers and leaders of the republican party. Now here is John D. Long, a member of McKinley's cabinet—think of that!—who says:

"Human ingenuity may devise some entirely different system of currency, which will not be dependent upon the fluctuating value of a precious metal. Would it not be interesting if the financiers of a hundred years from now should look back upon gold and silver coin as we look back upon Indian wampum?"

That is a doctrine that The Independent has advocated for ten years—Secretary Long's words can be duplicated from a hundred different issues of this paper—but when The Independent began the discussion, John D. Long thought the holding of such opinions was evidence of idocy. Massachusetts' ex-governor and McKinley's cabinet member come trailing along ten years behind The Independent.

Stranger than all that, The Independent has pounded some sense into the

State Journal—a task that seemed to all men who ever read a column of it an utter impossibility. The readers of this paper will recall how earnestly it has fought the creation of debt, individual, county, state and national. It has told its readers that the way to abolish interest was to keep out of debt. It has recommended to the wise saying of St. Paul: "Owe no man anything." While The Independent was giving this kind of teaching the State Journal was talking about the ruin that the populists were bringing upon the state by driving capital away. It declared that the only way for the people of Nebraska to get rich was to borrow millions of money and pay interest upon it. If capitalists did not bring millions into this state and loan it out, the people would be ruined. It made one campaign upon that idea. All its candidates took up the cry and declared that if the populists won, the capitalists would refuse to loan money and starvation would stare us all in the face.

Well, at last it really seems that the State Journal has managed to comprehend one economic idea. Last Saturday it said:

"The present is a good time for the people of Nebraska to get out of debt. It is an easy time to borrow for new enterprises which may be profitable, but the conservative farmer who wants to take no chances and make his future absolutely sure will use his present income for the payment of debt if he has any. No combination of drouth and panic can get the best of the Nebraska town or farm man who is not carrying a mortgage."

Think of that! If after ten years The Independent has been able to drive one idea into the noddles of the State Journal writer, what may we not hope for the future? The seeming impossible has been accomplished. As it is with the secretary of the navy and with the Journal, so is it also with hundreds of others. Populism has profoundly influenced its most bitter antagonists. It has modified to a great extent the policies of this nation. The principles that were ridiculed by the world-be wise a few years ago, are being adopted as sound and fundamental. In this contest The Independent has led the whole nation.

**EVERY BODY COME.**

The chairman of the populist state central committee has issued a call for a meeting of that committee at the Grand hotel in Lincoln, January 16. The call includes an invitation for "all others who are anxious to see the reform forces continue the good work" to come also. The Independent hopes to see this broad invitation generally accepted, and that a great many of the workers who established the Alliance and have stood by the principles first enunciated by the populist party ever since, present. There will be many things of importance to talk over. There is sure to be a division in the democratic party in the near future. Cleveland, Hill, Whitney and others are actively at work in New York effecting an organization that will be repudiated by most of the democrats in the west and south. This legislature is sure to pass a bill that will prevent fusion in this state. Two parties will not be allowed upon the same ticket, both having the same candidates. Nothing in the future is more certain than that. What will the populist party do? Now is the time to talk it over. The democratic state committee will meet at the same time and place. A majority of the legal voters of this state are opposed to the rule of the republican party and to its national policies. Shall we allow a republican manipulation of the ballot to keep them in power? Many other things are to be considered. Come, and come with the intention of staying two or three days.

Transforming deserts into fertile farms, making happy rural homes for coming generations, it seems to The Independent, is a more honorable work for statesmen than organizing standing armies, or sending troops 7,000 miles across the ocean to conquer alien races inhabiting tropical islands. But our statesmen at Washington think otherwise. They could extend our domain in the arid region of the west by the proper appropriation of small sums of money, involving no shedding of blood, either of alien races or of our own young men, but they prefer to spend millions in wars of conquest, while they leave millions of acres of fertile land to lie idle in the very midst of the United States.

Every man who has ever been around congress knows that the appropriations of the river and harbor bill are looked upon by the members themselves as part of their perquisites. Millions upon millions have been appropriated "to improve the navigation of the Missouri river" when every one knew that there was no navigation on it. More than half of these appropriations are simply clean stealing. Every one knows that they are. This year the stealing is larger than ever—being \$60,000,000. President Arthur vetoed a river and harbor bill because it appropriated \$18,000,000. There is no danger of McKinley doing such a thing.

Big bargains in shoes at Webster & Rogers

**SOME SHARP THRUSTS.**

When McKinley started on his career of benevolent assimilation The Independent was accused of bitterness because it denounced him and his whole gang of cheats and deceivers as hypocrites. Now the great lights of literature come trailing along behind The Independent and adopt the same sort of language, only they put it more forcibly and pointed. That they are able to do that because they have the time to study over a sentence for an hour, or for half a day, and arrange the words so they will cut like a two-edged sword, while The Independent editor, writing two or three columns a day, has no time to make fine and forcible sentences, but must rattle off what he has to say and let it go to the printer without any revision.

The hypocrites are getting some pretty sharp thrusts these days. Mark Twain likens Christendom to a stately matron "returning bedraggled, besmirched and dishonored from pirate raids in Kiao Chau, Manchuria, South Africa and the Philippines, with her soul full of meanness, her pocket full of "boodle" and her mouth full of pious hypocriesies.

Mr. I. Zugwill, and he is one of the keenest analysts in the world, says: "The twentieth century will be America's critical century. Will she develop on the clear lines laid down by her great founders, or will she survive, like most human institutions, as a caricature and contradiction of the ideals of her creators? Will she fall back into outward feudalism, accepting second-hand ideals from the Europe she has outgrown? . . . For America to hash up again hereditary aristocracy and militarism would be a ridiculous anti-climax. Oh, if America were less conscious of her own greatness and more conscious of the greatness of her opportunity!"

Lo Fung Luh, the Chinese minister at the court of St. James, make a shot at the same crowd in the following words:

"Very heartily do I wish the Christian nations a happy new century. However, it would probably be well if their attention were drawn to the source of their spirituality, their ethics. I would remind them not to lay up treasures for themselves upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt and where thieves break through and steal. Their Lord says: "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me."

"Let Christian nations abjure the gods of conquest and war. Let them obey the commandment, 'Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.' I would admonish Christendom that it can never get from the flash and smoke of war so wise a rule of conduct as that which came to it among the thunder and lightning of Mount Sinai.

"In fine, 'Practice what you preach.'"

Many more savage thrusts of the same kind have appeared lately. The Independent is glad to see that the culture and brains of the world, regardless of the nation to which they belong, are taking the same view of the crowd of hypocrites who are running this government that it has entertained for the last four years. Of the men who are above quoted, one is an American, one a Jew and one a Chinaman. Similar sentiments could be quoted from scholars, writers and philanthropists of every nation on earth.

The great protection editors are vigorously assailing all the reciprocity treaties that have been recently made and Mark Hanna will not allow one of them to be ratified by the senate. The San Francisco Chronicle says:

"From now on the thing to do is to insist on holding the republican party to the pledge of its platform, which is not to reduce the duty on any product produced in America for the purpose of increasing the foreign market for some other product, and to rigidly hold congress to the provisions of the compact by which, after full and public discussion, the various industries of the country received, by the Dingley bill, the protection which was adjudged their due."

**A BUNCOED EDITOR.**

The editor of The Independent got buncoed and his pulse has been 150 for four days. This is the way it was done. He saw an advertisement that stated that one of the old, cultured and stately magazines of Boston had an article entitled "The Growth of Public Expenditure." He thought that there would be a good thing and straightway went and invested 35 cents in one of those magazines. When he had read the article he found that the conclusion that author arrived at was that the growth of public expenditures and increased taxation in consequence thereof, was a great public blessing. Then he got mad and was out of humor for a whole week. That 35 cents was worse than thrown away.

The rate of national taxation in this country in per capita was in 1842 only \$1.38. In 1886 it was \$4.22. In 1897 it was \$5.01. By the time we get through with creating a big army and a big navy it will be about \$10. It has been navally increased during the last three years, but the exact figures can not be obtained. The most unfair thing

about this magazine article is the attempt to compare the national debts of the great powers with that of the United States. The European debts consist largely of bonds issued for the construction of railroads and similar investments that not only pay an interest, but make returns which is paid into the government. A war debt is another thing altogether. It is money paid out that never returns interest or anything else. The attempt to show that river and harbor bills appropriating millions of money stand in the same class as debts created for the building of railroads and telegraph lines is on a par with the writing of most of these gold bugs. The only thing of that kind in the expenditure of this country is the few millions appropriated for the deficits in the post-office department.

The next time one of those eastern magazines buncoes this editor out of 35 cents will not be in the near future.

**THE ARMY BILL.**

There is no doubt that the army bill will soon become a law and perhaps it will be well to consider what it means for Nebraska. Nebraska's quota under the bill will be 1,000 men. The towns in this state will soon be placarded with the recruiting officer's beautifully engraved posters asking for recruits and a thousand of Nebraska's young men will have to go to the Philippines. The cost of maintaining a soldier in the United States has long been \$1,000 a year. In the Philippines, including transportation, it will be not less than \$1,500 per year for each man. That means that this state will have to furnish a thousand men and pay \$1,500,000 a year to maintain them while they are in the Philippines. Of those who live to come back, half of them will go upon the pension rolls and they and their widows will be a continuous charge upon the public for two generations to come. They will bring back with them the germs of Asiatic diseases and many communities will suffer great cost and many people who never went to the Philippines will be carried off to the grave. What will Nebraska get in return for all this? The whole trade of the Philippines last year, according to the official statistics, was about \$1,500,000, the amount that it will cost this state to maintain her quota of troops in those islands. How much benefit will the voters of the state get from that \$1,500,000 of trade? Figure it out for yourself.

There will be some temporary benefit from this war. The taking of 1,000 men out of the state will make places for 1,000 who are now idle. The supplies that will have to go to the Philippines will have a tendency to help the markets. But it will all be like taking a good big drink of whiskey. This will all have to be settled when pay day comes. The 1,000 young men from Nebraska will have to be furnished if it takes a draft to get them.

The republicans have long been in the habit of calling every one an anarchist who does not agree to all their policies, but of late they have gone to work to produce anarchy in a very systematic way. If criminals who escape from one state to another are not to be returned for punishment for their crimes, it will not be long until we shall have anarchy in full force all over these states. Two republican governors have, for political reasons, recently refused to deliver criminals to the officers of the states where the crimes were committed, namely, Roosevelt, who refused to deliver John D. Rockefeller to the officers from Texas where he had been indicted, and Mount, who refused to honor a requisition for the man indicted for the murder of the governor of Kentucky. If these precedents are followed we shall soon have, instead of an orderly government, universal anarchy.

The American Economist, the organ of the protective tariff league, really and actually published a logical argument in its last issue. It being the first time such a thing was ever discovered in its columns, The Independent takes pleasure in reproducing it. It was as follows:

"The doctrine of protective tariff and the doctrine of the ship subsidy are parallels. He who has accepted the former as worthy of enactment into national law and sustained it as a builder up of home manufacture can find no inconsistency with his views in the subsidy bill. The idea of it is wholly protective, as the McKinley and Dingley laws were and are protective, notwithstanding the anti-craic yelping of the 'robber baron' chorus."

There is no denying the facts stated in the above clipping. If "protection" is logical, ship subsidies are logical. No one who believes in the one can consistently attack the other.

# We Make It a Point

To clear stocks as thoroughly as possible for inventory and lines left untouched by the clearing sale are sacrificed most unmercifully after it, there are a number of such lines here now—articles that must be disposed of before the first of February and its our intention to dispose of them by that time even if its necessary to go below the wholesale price.

## H. Herpolsheimer Co Lincoln, Nebraska.

the populist treasurer. Now he is going to come to the legislature and ask it to appropriate the money for insuring him against stealing. It will cost the people of this state more than twice as much to have a republican treasurer as it did for the populist who made such an excellent record. Republican state treasurers are costly articles. If the people will have them they must pay the bill.

Secretary Gage continues laying the foundation for a final assault on the greenbacks. In a recent speech he said: "The present situation is reflected in the fact that we have (in circulation among the people and as a reserve fund in the banks) \$346,000,000 of government notes—an enormous public debt payable on demand." Any sort of money is redeemable on demand, and is redeemed—gold, silver and paper—from once to fifty times a day. Greenbacks when made a full legal tender without exception are not a government debt at all. When issued on the promise to exchange them for another legal tender dollar and then paid out again, which is misnamed "redeeming" they are still not a public debt. If a congressman serves a term and the government pays him for his services \$5,000 in greenbacks, does it thereby create a public debt? The congressmen and all employes of the government as well as the army and navy were thus paid for many years. If every time such a transaction took place a public debt was created, we should now be owing a debt of about ten billions. But instead of that, according to Secretary Gage, it is only \$346,000,000. Gold bug logic is a very queer production.

The sturdy good sense of American farmers stands out in bright colors when put in contrast with the doings of farmers of most other countries. The German farmers have been bitten with the republican idea of "protection." What is called the "Agrarian party" in Germany is a combination to effect the "protection" of farmers by high tariffs. It is working ruin to the whole German nation. The exclusion of foreign food products and a consequent rise in their price will result in one of two things. Either there will be very great suffering among the mass of the people or wages will have to rise. If wages rise, and the additional cost is added to German manufactures, she will lose some of her foreign trade and some of her workers will be thrown out of work. It is to be hoped that by the end of the twentieth century the people will have learned enough of the fundamental principles of political economy, to look upon "subsidies" and "protection" as the last relics of barbarism eliminated from the government of civilized nations.

Congressman Hitt is making a gallant effort to demonstrate that he is the most accomplished economic idiot on the surface of the globe. He has recently introduced a bill in congress to immediately coin all the remainder of the seignorage now in the treasury into silver dollars and then redeem the same dollars in gold whenever presented to the treasury in amounts of five dollars and over. Why can't the silver be "redeemed" without coining and save that much expense? These gold bug idiots are never happy unless they are tinkering with the currency. What earthly good would it do to coin and issue a few million of silver dollars and then "redeem" them as fast as they were issued? Or does Mr. Hitt really mean to make a genuine attempt to establish the gold standard? If silver is made redeemable in gold how long does he think the treasury could stand the drain that would be made upon it? There are now 600,000,000 silver dollars in circulation and not half that amount of gold in the treasury. How many bonds would there have to be issued

and how much increase would there have to be made in the national debt to carry out that scheme? Some member of the house should quietly whisper to Mr. Hitt that he would better go and soak his head.

**MAYOR QUINCY'S MADNESS.**

The "madness" of Mayor Quincy which induced him to introduce many populist principles into the government of the city of Boston is now being written about by some of the mullet head republican editors down there in the terms of the highest praise. Mayor Quincy, in spite of the most bitter opposition of the same editors established public bath houses, a city printing office, a repair department doing all the city repairing, including carpentering, plumbing, mason work, steam fitting and plastering. He had the city to provide for free excursions for the poor children, for music both in summer and winter and many other things of like nature. Now one of these mullet head writers who denounced all that as "socialism" says:

"This system has worked well. The madness of Mayor Quincy had evidently a method. It seems to have made permanent a good many excellent institutions. Some good citizens say that things were done too quickly, that they cost too much money, that the mayor was always robbing Peter to pay Paul, as it were. But, after all, it seems cause for thankfulness that they were done at all."

All that is a demonstration of the remark often made in The Independent that republicans, while they can't think, can see. When a good thing is put in such shape that they can see it, they generally indorse it. Until they can actually see it, they will fight it and call it "socialism and anarchy." They all seem to be afflicted with a sort of economic and political color blindness.

**WE STICK TO IT.**

The Omaha Bee takes exceptions to the commendation given the fusion government by The Independent last week. The Bee says:

"The fusionists came into full power in Nebraska coincident with the inauguration of President McKinley and the assumption by the republicans of the control and responsibility of the national government. The country was just emerging from the depths of financial disaster and commercial depression, which in Nebraska had been made more severe by a succession of drought years and crop failures."

Now The Independent never claimed that the inauguration of the fusion state government was the cause of the economic changes which in a measure relieved the distress following the stoppage of the coinage of silver under Cleveland. It did not claim that the change in state government stopped drouths and produced good crops. It has always referred to such claims with the utmost contempt. It was the republican newspapers and not The Independent in which such idiotic nonsense appeared. "The country was just emerging from the depths of disaster" and The Independent has said that the rise in the level of prices and better times was the result of McKinley going to work and coining silver by the ton, issuing paper money and the immense output of gold, which altogether increased the amount of money in circulation and made better times.

The Independent claimed and still claims that the fusionists gave this state "a model state government for honesty, efficiency and economy." By so doing they saved the taxpayers several hundred thousand dollars which added to their prosperity. It reduced the cost of government in all the state institutions, it greatly increased the disbursements to the common schools, it handled more than \$10,000,000 of state money and accounted for every cent and that sort of government not only added to the prosperity of the state, but was in great contrast to the