

The Nebraska Independent  
Lincoln, Nebraska

PRESSE BLDG. CORNER 13TH AND N STS

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The republicans of the Nebraska legislature are and have been notwithstanding the newspaper reports to the contrary. Twenty of them have also agreed to caucus.

The supreme court decided that Neely had to follow the indictment whether the flag follows the constitution or not. The latter question they still have under consideration.

McKinley has been buying some more islands from Spain. This time he paid \$100,000 cash down for two specks in the tropical seas inhabited by polygamists and slave-holders. Spain got the money on the same terms that she got the \$20,000,000.

Whenever a man is called a traitor in the U. S. senate it is only positive proof that he opposes the money power and is honest. To that point has the millionaire club arrived. Doubtless Senator Teller cherishes the assaults made upon him as the highest sort of compliment.

Socialists writing articles for publication in The Independent are subjected to just such rules as all others and none beside. Correspondence sent for publication must contain the name of the author (not necessarily for publication) but as a mark of good faith.

The papers are full of advertisements of "Complete life of Queen Victoria." The book agents will swarm over the land in countless numbers. Anyone who has common sense will know, without being told, how much value there will be in a history compiled, printed and published in less than ten days.

There have been more arrests lately of Cuban postal thieves. One John Sheridan who had charge of the money orders is short many thousand dollars. It was a tough lot of carpet-baggers that McKinley sent down there. Those who went from Nebraska we know about. If the rest of them were of the same kind, no wonder the cash continues to disappear.

Chancellor Andrews uttered a great truth in his Omaha address when he said: "The fact is that, to a great extent, morality can be taught. Hitherto we have hardly made any effort to fascinate it. Wide and systematic efforts in this behalf will surprise the world with their success." The teaching of morals has been practically abandoned in both the higher and lower schools for a great many years. The result is everywhere apparent.

Colonel Harrison is making a vigorous kick about being discharged from the army because his father made a speech against imperialism. He wants a court of inquiry instituted to find out the reason why. If the sons of two supreme judges can get offices he don't see why the son of an ex-president should not have one. Harrison says that Corbin seized cable dispatches addressed to him (Harrison) and refused to let them be examined.

Two or three weeks ago The Independent informed its readers about the thousands of homeless and homeless poor who were wandering in the streets of London. Last Sunday some of the slow-going dailies heard of it and actually had a few feeble comments on the subject. The "submerged tenth" that existed when General Booth of the Salvation army wrote his book about "Darkest England" has now become the "submerged fifth," and their condition more desperate than ever.

Some of the Wall street financiers got caught in a British trap in such a complete way that every one of both sides of the ocean is laughing at them. When that last British loan was offered the smart American millionaires went after it and underbid the British investors. Now they find that they will have to pay a British income tax of 5 per cent on the interest of those British bonds and it makes them feel worse than if they had eaten a peck of sauerkraut. They are not bragging so much about how they beat the British in getting that loan as they were while ago.

PROTECTING CRIME.

A young farmer writes a letter to The Independent in which he says that he reads this paper and that he read an article in it a short time ago about the way farm hands from the country were swindled by the confidence men in the cities. He says that he thought that he was prepared for that kind of business, but that The Independent failed to give an account of all the tricks that are played and because it did not do it he got into trouble in South Omaha. For the benefit of others he wants The Independent to print his experience.

He says he went to South Omaha with a friend in charge of two carloads of hogs. They were walking along the street when they met two respectable looking men in front of a place that was called a theatre. One of the men said: "If you want to see a good show go inside. It won't cost you a cent and it is really the best free show that I ever saw." Ice and his friend went in. An attendant said: "Take a seat, a performance will begin in a minute or two." The room was filled with small tables and a few people were sitting around. They sat down at one of the tables and in a minute or two, two women came and sat down at the same table. They began a conversation and presently they ordered beer. A waiter brought four bottles of beer and demanded of the men two dollars. The young man who writes says he saw that he was in for it and taking a silver dollar out of his pocket he paid for two bottles. Without drinking the beer he got up and went out. He waited outside for some time for his companion and then fearing that he might be in trouble he went back. When he got inside there was a row on. His friend had refused to pay for the other two bottles. He says that they were set upon by four ruffians, assaulted and thrown out on the street. Immediately a policeman appeared and arrested them both and they were taken to jail, locked up over night and accused the next morning of being drunk and disorderly. The policeman who arrested them did not appear and they were discharged.

This young farmer asks that his experience be published in The Independent for the benefit of other honest young men that may go to Omaha or South Omaha on business.

The Independent publishes it because the experience related is the result of the introduction into Nebraska of the police protection of crime and vice for a consideration in money which has long been the practice in Philadelphia, New York and Chicago. That place, wherever it was, that was called a theatre, was put up under a contract with the police to divide the profits. The policeman who arrested the two young farmers was the greatest villain in the outfit. He knew perfectly well that the two young men had been robbed or that an attempt had been made to rob them, and he knowingly arrested the innocent and let the guilty escape. No such place could exist in Omaha or South Omaha without the assistance of the police, and the Independent is informed that there are quite a number of them.

This police protection of crime and vice has gone on for a great many years and the people in the cities have all known it. The ministers know it, the lawyers know it, all of the citizens of the cities know it and they have made no protest. The grand juries know it, the judges know it, the state's attorneys know it and they have not protested. At last it has invaded Nebraska. Will there be any efficient protest made in this state? Innocent men, men known to be innocent by the officers are arrested every day in Nebraska and confined in loathsome prisons, foul with filth and vermin. While they are not imprisoned for long terms, as was done in the dark ages, still the innocent are imprisoned and the guilty are protected and encouraged by the officers of the law.

The practice has grown so universal in the eastern cities that public attention is being called to it. Meetings have been held lately in Chicago, Philadelphia and New York protesting against it. There is no very great hope of reform. Such protests have been made in years past. Then the matter was dropped. It is the result of the demeracy that has set in since the church apostatized and began the worship of Mammon instead of the God of truth and justice. The heads of police departments who derive an income twice their salary from such work, judges who never present such matters to grand juries, politicians who by means of the existence of such places, secure nominations and elections, are one and all received into the churches, or if they are not, they hear no denunciation of their wickedness from the pulpits except in times of sudden outbursts, and after that, things go on as usual. We have the same thing right here in Lincoln. Last week two of the Lincoln policemen were charged with addressing two respectable married women and endeavoring to entice them away to houses of prostitution. Will they be dismissed from the service of the republican par-

ty? Hardly. When the next city election comes the degenerate churches will line up and cast an almost solid vote for the same practices. There are one or two honorable ministers in the city who will protest and quite a number of laymen. But the majority will vote as they always have voted. The degeneracy will go on until society is disintegrated or a sudden upheaval occurs. Men with money, much of which comes from the spoils of robbery, will control the primaries, and then because they run on a ticket labelled "republican," the apostates will all vote for them.

The hope of this republic lies in the purer life lead by the families living on farms.

WHAT'S IN A NAME.

To show the unimportance of names it is related by Plutarch that when the ambassadors of Antiochus the Great represented to the Achaeanes how numerous the king's forces were, and to make them appear still more so, reckoned them up by all their different names. "I supped once," said Flaminius, "with a friend; and upon my complaining of the great number of dishes, and expressing my wonder how he could furnish his table with such a variety. 'Be not uneasy about that,' said my friend, 'for it is all hogs' flesh; and the difference is only in the dressing and the sauce.' In like manner, I say to you, my Achaean friend, be not astonished at the number of 'Antiochus' forces, at these pikemen, these halberdiers and cuirassiers; for they are all Syrians, only distinguished by the trifling arms they bear."

"What's in a name?" the poet asked, believing the name to be unimportant. But is it so? The people of the United States have for years been robbed by "protection to our infant industries;" they have voted for a financial system, known by the high-sounding title of "honest money," which has for its object an unjust distribution of wealth, the creation of a few millionaires and hundreds of thousands of semi-paupers. By calling it "benevolent assimilation" they have justified, to their own satisfaction, the murder of people guilty of a desire to be free and to govern themselves. In an ostensible effort to "maintain the parity" of silver, the national administration is slowly but surely doing the very things which must result in destroying the parity.

"What's in a name?" Everything, my friend. The happy selection of a cleverly constructed catch phrase will often prove more effective than the most learned arguments. Republican leaders are adepts in the art of coining successful catch phrases. Protection, reciprocity, honest money, sound money, "a dollar worth a hundred cents the world over," criminal aggression and benevolent assimilation, maintaining the parity—all these must go down in history as illustrations that names have something in them; that with the multitude, sound is for a time more successful than sense.

"What's in a name?" Much for weal or woe. If there be one thing absolutely necessary to a free expression of the will of the people, that thing is direct legislation. And why? Because it is the only feasible plan so far presented approximating a pure democracy—a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. But it has been handicapped by names. The initiative and referendum and imperative mandate. Words with a foreign sound, breathing of nihilism, anarchy, communism, socialism, and all the other isms which, rightly or wrongly, strike terror to the heart of the average conservative man—and your average man is generally conservative.

The people of Nebraska make use of the referendum every time they vote on a constitutional amendment. They are not afraid to vote on amendments, but thousands of them are alarmed if you but suggest that the referendum ought to be invoked in the case of all important legislation. They are afraid of the name.

"Direct legislation" is a little better. But why not call it "popular legislation" or "law making by the people?"

The Illinois legislature soon brought a recalcitrant railroad to terms. It had issued passes to all the members, but wrote on them "not good on the limited express." That made a row and the number of sand-bagging bills that were prepared frightened the superintendent so badly that he went down to Springfield and told them that while it was impossible to carry all the members and their hangers-on to Chicago on Fridays, as the train was as heavy and long as could be hauled without them, nevertheless he would fix things to suit them. So he ordered a special train to be made up for the accommodation of the legislature and the lobby and the bills for lower fares will never see the light of day. Those who do pay fares will pay the cost of hauling these deadheads. That's right. That is what the people of Illinois voted for and they ought to have it.

NOT TILL THEN

As long as money controls elections in the west it will never receive the benefits of national legislation such as is bestowed on the east. Millions upon millions are appropriated by congress every year for the benefit of eastern states, and but the smallest doles are ever allowed to the west. So extravagant have the eastern appropriations been for the last fifty years that the result of them has been to build up enormously rich and flourishing communities in the most sterile and "non-hospital" portion of the union. While this has been going on, the west has not been able to obtain even the necessary appropriations for public buildings. Western senators and congressmen who are elected by money sent in from the east make no such fights for the interest of their constituents as are made by the eastern senators who dominate the senate, or the men in the house who manipulate the legislation there. If a western congressman gets so much as the repair of a worn-out sidewalk around a public building, he comes home and brags about it during the whole campaign. This condition of affairs will continue just as long as western senators and congressmen are elected by the use of eastern money, and eastern money will be sent here in campaigns by the hundreds of thousands just as long as the mullet heads continue to vote the republican ticket regardless of all consequences. When these men become intelligent enough to refuse to vote away their birth rights for a mess of pottage, even if it is offered in a tin dinner pail, then, and not until then, will the west receive the same consideration as the east.

BORN THAT WAY

The information that the P Street idiot gives to his readers is sometimes somewhat astonishing. The other day he solemnly informed them that "The sixteen-to-winner claims that an ounce of gold is worth no more and no less than sixteen ounces of silver, but he always flies the track when the government proposes to say that it shall be when it is coined into silver dollars."

The sixteen-to-winner has always declared that the ratio was established by divine fiat, but they always object to the interposition of human law to make it good in fact rather than in theory.

There is no doubt that the idiot firmly believes all those statements to be true. He states them so unreservedly and positively, no one can doubt that he firmly believes them. He is not to blame for being an idiot. He was born that way, and it would be cruel to charge the thing with deliberate lying.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

There are some things that every voter in the three reform parties should take into consideration right now, so that he can have plenty of time to make up his mind concerning what course he will pursue in the future. In the first place the Cleveland wing of the democratic party is making great inroads on the democratic organization. Several things show that. One is the vote cast in the Massachusetts legislature where it was supposed that the organization was solid for Bryan. Instead of voting for George Fred Williams or some man of that character, all the democrats voted for Olney, who is a Cleveland democrat and was a member of Cleveland's cabinet. The Texas legislature invited Dave Hill to address it. The new democratic state committee of Illinois is said to be of the Cleveland republican kind. Word comes from other places to the same effect.

There is not much doubt that if the Cleveland democrats can get hold of the democratic organization that their promise of electing the next president has a good show of success. They will have to aid them with all the vast power of money that Mark Hanna handled with so much success in his last campaign. The whole money power under such circumstances would be on the side of democracy. The money power is very anxious to do that thing. They find that the support of the republican party costs immense amounts of money. The support of the democratic party, with a man to suit them on the ticket, would not cost them one-tenth as much. They count upon the fact that the southern states will all vote the democratic ticket, no matter who is the candidate or what principles are set forth in the party platform. They would have with a gold bug-imperialist candidate and platform the solid south without the cost of a cent. All they would have to do would be to buy two or three northern states. Supporting the republican party, they have to buy a great many northern states and it costs them very many millions. Therefore it is very much cheaper for them to buy up the control of the democratic organization. That is what they are now doing, and it begins to look as if they would succeed.

If they do succeed there will be a division in the democratic ranks.

There are hundreds of thousands of democrats in the north and some in the south who will never affiliate with a Cleveland democratic party. What will such democrats do?

The silver republicans have dropped their organization (they are all in the north) and joined the democratic party. They cannot take their voters into the democratic party if the Cleveland wing gets control of it. What will they do?

In Colorado it seems that the populists have resolved to go into the democratic party. If the national organization gets into the hands of the plutocrats they will not stay there. What will they do? From some things that have appeared in the Colorado papers some of the populist leaders are beginning to think that they made a mistake.

Last, there is the populist party in the state of Nebraska with a complete organization in every county in the state. But this legislature is sure to pass a law to prevent fusion. At the next election the reform forces will all have to vote under one party name. What are you going to do about that? What name will you vote under? Will we put two tickets in the field with two sets of candidates, one called democratic and one people's party? Will we all unite under one name? What shall that name be?

These are some of the things that will press for solution in the near future. They should be taken under consideration now.

REDEEMING SILVER.

The committee on coinage, weights and measures undertook to report their bill to finally destroy silver and greenbacks without any hearing except on one side of the case. To that Congressman Sutherland made such strenuous objection that at last he got a hearing. In the discussion over the matter, he denied the statement of Mr. Hill that the minority of the committee had had an opportunity to present its views on the gold standard bill and charged that the hearing on the measure had been formal and the evidence was given by prominent gold standard advocates.

He questioned Mr. Hill on the full meaning of the bill, to which Mr. Hill replied that under its provisions the bullion and silver dollars in the treasury could be coined into the subsidiary coinage and that the bill would force the treasury to exchange gold coins for silver dollars, when presented by holders thereof. He believed we should have only gold and bank currency and silver subsidiary coin, being opposed to greenbacks, silver certificates, or any form of government paper money.

Any one who has read the bill can plainly see that the object of the measure is to destroy silver as money and retire the greenbacks. Then the silver now in circulation will be sold as bullion and all the paper money will be issued by the national banks, creating a financial nepotism such as the world never before suffered under. State banks would be a hundred times better, for state bankers would get only one rate of interest, while these national bankers will get interest on the money invested in bonds and again on the same money when issued from the banks. This bill of course makes a new issue of bonds necessary and an immense increase in the national debt. If silver dollars are sold as bullion, bonds will have to be issued to cover the difference between the value of silver dollars as standard money and the price of silver bullion. At the present time that difference would amount to about \$300,000,000, and would make at least the issue of that amount of bonds necessary. Before such a policy could be carried out it would be very much more. The throwing of 600,000,000 silver dollars on the market as bullion would depress the price of bullion to no man knows where.

On last Friday, nine days after The Independent had fully informed its readers all about the Hill and other bills introduced to redeem silver dollars and sell the silver for bullion, the three great dailies of the state printed the very first news about it. That is going better than usual. They are usually from five months to five years behind this paper in the news they furnish that is of importance to the people. Their mission seems to be to keep track of the divorce trials, kidnapping games, and scandals in high life. When it comes to real news that the people are interested in and which affects their well-being, the dailies are days, months and sometimes years behind this live weekly. The moral to this little tale is that if you want the news that affects your present well-being and future welfare you must subscribe for The Independent.

Free speech has not been entirely suppressed in the Chicago university. The proof of the fact is that a thesis discussing "The Asymptotic Evaluation of Certain Totient Sums" was not suppressed.

DEMOCRATIC EDITORS.

"Democratic editors," said a democrat whose name is familiar to every citizen in this state and many other states, "there are no democratic editors. Not one. They are simply reporters." That is getting to be the general opinion of all the thinking men in the democratic party and they are crying out against it. When they take a democratic paper they want to find something in it besides the scandals and personalities of the whole world. They expect an intelligent discussion of fundamental principles and current events. But such things are not to be found in any democratic paper these days. The editors all seem to have laid down, given up, thrown up the sponge and retired to their corners to recuperate. There lies on the editorial table three democratic dailies. One published in New York, one in Chicago and one in this state. What do they discuss in their editorial columns? The leading editorials in one are entitled: "The Superior American Woman," "A Pretty Wife Not for Looking Up," "The Patterson Verdict," "Queen Victoria's Death," "The Queen's Private Fortune" and one entitled "More Futile Fallacy," which denounces fusion and closes with these words: "Not the futile coalescence of ineffectual fragments, but repentance, regret and a return to true democratic principles will rehabilitate the party."

In this democratic paper we find four editorials about women, one a foreign woman, and one written in the interest of republican principles and policies.

In another great democratic daily there are but two editorials with these headings, "Traction Profits," and "What of the Castellanes?" This democratic editor seems to think that the fortunes of a French count are of more importance to the American people than the bonding of the people of this country in hundreds of millions of dollars to the Rockefeller national bank ring.

In the other democratic paper the editorials are entitled: "Secretary Utt's Report," "A Widespread Ailment," "The Hour of the Queen's Death," and "Governor Lafa."

No wonder that this old democrat was wrathful and declared that there were no democratic editors—nothing but reporters.

NORMAL SCHOOLS.

That there is a necessity for an extension of normal school facilities in this state no one will question. Three bills have been introduced in the legislature bearing on this question. One is to increase the facilities for the school at Peru, another for the building of a school at Central City and a third for the purchase of the Western Normal situated in the suburbs of Lincoln. This last bill is especially meritorious. There is there an immense modern building, constructed especially for school purposes, a private institution completed just as the hard times came on in 1893. It has been abandoned and it and the commodious grounds can be purchased for less than 50 cents on the dollar of the cost.

A school located there would have exceeding great advantages over any place in the state. The students would come under the educational influence of the great university, whose libraries, laboratories and museums would be available for their use. They would have an opportunity to come in contact with the distinguished men connected with the university and those who come here to deliver special lectures and addresses, such as at commencement time and during the winter months. These privileges would be an advantage not to be secured elsewhere. The building offered is a noble structure and all ready for occupation. It is connected with the city by street car tracks. All things considered, the purchase of the building, which is modern and complete, would result in the saving of many thousands of dollars to the taxpayers of the state over any proposition to build a new building at the increased price of structural material now prevailing.

Two ladies came personally to The Independent and one has written a letter complaining of the vulgarity exhibited by the Nebraska legislature. On one occasion, she wrote, "It was perfectly shameful. Some ladies who were so seated that they could get away without attracting attention left the hall. Others sat it out, but will not be seen there again." The editor of The Independent paid the house a visit the other day, and while there was no vulgarity, there was about as much dignity about its proceedings as one would expect in a convention of high school girls assembled to discuss what sort of gowns they should wear on graduation day. When one man would make a remark, all the rest would giggle. A fusion legislature always has some decency and dignity about it. Many ladies always attended the sessions and there was never anything said or done that would offend them. Now that Nebraska is "redeemed" it is different.

Patronize our advertisers.

In all the pomp, pageants and gorgeous splendors in which the British are indulging on account of the death of the queen, there are some things that are so silly that even brutalized working men of the East End cannot fail to be disgusted with them. The queen's funeral is to be the occasion of the largest naval and military display ever seen in the kingdom. The body of the dead queen is to be hauled through the streets on an artillery caisson. The other day his most gracious imperial majesty, Edward VII., was pleased to bestow upon his nephew, the Emperor of Germany, the title of field marshal in the British army. Then Lord Salisbury, prime minister, and Lord Roberts, commander-in-chief of the British army, wrote notes to his most gracious and august imperial majesty, the Emperor of Germany, informing him of that fact. The flattery and obsequiousness of these notes are simply disgusting.

The complete surrender of the republican party to the Standard Oil crowd was publicly announced when Attorney General Sheets of the state of Ohio walked into the supreme court of that state the other day and asked the court to finally dismiss all the cases brought by Former Attorney General Monnett against the Standard Oil company. The request was granted and the last vestige of Monnett's prosecutions were wiped off the docket. Sheets is now making himself popular with the preachers by appearing to be very active in the suppression of prize-fighting. Soon he will be lauded to the skies by every religious journal in the state. It is by little schemes like that that the trusts and plutocrats are able to rob the people of millions while the men who aid them in doing it are held up as shining examples of purity and uprightness.

The following is President McKinley's telegram of condolence upon the death of the Queen:

"His majesty, the King, Osborne, Isle of Wight: I have received with profound sorrow the lamentable tidings of the death of her majesty, the queen. Allow me, sir, to offer my sincere sympathy and that of the American people in your personal bereavement, and in the loss Great Britain has suffered in the death of its venerable and illustrious sovereign, whose noble life and beneficent influence have promoted the peace and won the affections of the world.

"WILLIAM M'KINLEY." The phrase, "promoted peace," does not seem exactly apropos coming from a man engaged in the creation of a great standing army and waging war upon a helpless people in the far off islands of the sea.

The Independent wishes to warn its readers against the probability of being swindled by canvassers for Mr. Bryan's paper. Mr. Bryan employs no canvassers or agents of any sort. Any man making such a claim is a fraud. If you want The Commoner send the money to the Nebraska Independent Publishing Co. You will not only get Mr. Bryan's paper, but you will get three months' subscription to the Nebraska Independent free. The price of The Commoner is one dollar. The Commoner will be sent to all subscribers for one year and The Independent for three months for this one dollar when ordered through this office.

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