

USE DR. BULL'S COUGH SYRUP AT once for bronchitis and grippe. It has stood the test and is positively a reliable remedy.

Bee-keeper's Supplies

You can save freight by ordering from us. A large supply always on hand, and a trial will convince you that they are cheapest and best.

Black Locust, Honey Locust and Catalpa Fence Posts.

I have for sale 20,000 Black Locust, Honey Locust and Catalpa fence posts.

ROBT. W. FURNAS, Brownville, Neb.

MANSMOUTH WHITEARTICHOKE SEED

From 10 years' experience in raising them in Nebraska I find them one of the surest crops and healthiest.

ROYAL RABBITRY, Holdrege, Neb.

BELOAN HARES

Thoroughbred and pedigreed. Good color and shape. Stock from the best blood lines.

ROYAL RABBITRY, Holdrege, Neb.

TAXPAYER'S CONVENTION.

Several conventions have been held during this winter in the state by officers whose salaries are paid by taxation.

There were the sheriffs, the county treasurers, the county commissioners, and others.

The object of every one of the conventions was to devise ways and means to increase the salaries and emoluments of those taking part.

There has never been a convention of taxpayers in this state and the Independent suggests that one should be held.

It would at least result in some sadly needed education of taxpayers and perhaps might increase their salaries by having less taxes to pay.

It is safe to say that not one taxpayer in a thousand has any idea of what the money he pays in taxes is expended for.

If one of them is asked the question, the puzzled look that comes into his face shows that it is something that never occurred to his mind before.

He is immeasurably astonished when informed that half of the taxes he pays are expended for charitable purposes.

But such is the truth. The total appropriations of the last legislature were \$2,591,373.96.

Of this \$1,128,590.45 were for charity, as follows:

Home for the friendless... \$ 22,000.00 Hospital, insane, Lincoln... 182,950.00

Hospital, insane, Hastings... 225,800.00 Hospital, insane, Norfolk... 119,250.00

Indust. school, Kearney... 85,120.13 Indus. school, Geneva... 35,790.00

Inst. deaf, Omaha... 102,550.00 Inst. feeble-minded youth... 124,102.69

Inst. blind... 56,713.39 Inst. home, Milford... 18,520.00

S. and S. home, Gr. Isl... 94,870.00 S. and S. home, Milford... 37,474.21

State penitentiary... 23,550.00 Total... \$1,128,590.45

The appropriations for purposes of government were \$1,462,783.51. It will be seen that the cost of charity to the taxpayers of the state was almost equal to the whole cost of government.

Now this is a tremendous burden to be borne by the hard working people of this state.

Worse than that, the dependent classes constantly increase in greater ratio than population increases.

The burden grows heavier and heavier every year. While the office-holders are holding conventions to increase taxation, there is another force at work tending to increase it.

To Cure Cold in one Day. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure.

Alfalfa Seed. Grown in 1900 in the heart of the alfalfa country, clean and free from Russian thistle and other foul seed.

Sweet Potatoes. Sent out to be sprouted on SHARES. No experience required.

Early Java Spring Wheat. New variety matures four to ten days earlier than other varieties and yields larger.

PRICE, \$1.09 PER BUSHEL. Cash with order. Lincoln Oats, 50c per bushel.

OPTICAL GOODS. The Western Optical and Electrical Co., located at 131 North 11th street.

There are some things about the line that divides the winter wheat area from that of the spring wheat in Nebraska that no farmer can find out and the experiment stations do not yet seem to have discovered what makes the division line so sharp.

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Oliver and his three sons and a great many Boer or Free State officials. Before the Boers left the ship they got up a testimonial and signed it, in which they thanked him for his kindness and courtesy.

Alfalfa Seed. Grown in 1900 in the heart of the alfalfa country, clean and free from Russian thistle and other foul seed.

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Current Comment

The Chinese question has not occupied as much of the attention of the public as usual for the last few days.

The papers will devote columns of space to a little fight, but to the real questions involving statesmanship and a knowledge of the facts and conditions of China, but little space is given.

However, information continues to arrive in private letters. Such letters are being printed in France, England and America in considerable numbers.

On the facts they all agree. The cruelty and looting of all the "Christian" armies has been equal to the most horrible things recorded in history.

The most costly Chinese works of art, looted taken at the capture of Peking, is being displayed in the houses of the rich in Washington and every European capital.

Members of Christian churches in Washington display these stolen goods to their friends without the least feeling of shame.

When even ministers of the gospel have stolen goods, when the thing has become so common as hardly to occasion remark, is it any wonder that The Independent feels called upon occasionally to write an article upon degeneracy in what is called the higher classes.

When even ministers of the gospel will receive stolen goods, knowing them to be stolen, display them in the most prominent places in their residence, is there any doubt of the apostasy of such men and a degeneracy among the rich such as has never been seen in modern times?

Bishop Favier has been charged before the international government here with having taken property worth \$700,000 from the house of Lu Sen, the minister of foreign affairs, who was executed by order of the Empress Dowager because of his friendliness to the foreigners.

The family of the dead minister make the accusation, and demand the money. But the money is now in the possession of Herbert G. Squires, the first secretary of the American legation, and are about to be shipped out of the country.

Bishop Favier is now in France. The formal charge says the valuables were taken the day after the siege of Peking was raised.

Besides the military looters there were hundreds of civilians engaged in the same horrible work. A regular organization of thieves was formed.

A recent cablegram announces that the league of civilian looters of all nationalities has been disrupted by different courses, by the police and the division of the spoils, and there now seems to be a chance for honest men, including the Chinese, to get their dues.

Then it adds as a conclusion, these significant words: "If only one-tenth of the charges of murder, assault and robbery against the foreigners are substantiated, because it turns sentiment of friendship to those of bitterness and revenge."

The affairs in South Africa continue in the same old way. There is continual fighting, more or less severe. Dewet's maneuvering is still an enigma to the English.

Very often it is reported that they have him cornered and then the next day he turns up somewhere else. The Boers continue to capture stores in large amounts and prisoners in considerable numbers.

What stores they can use, they carry away, the rest they destroy and the prisoners they turn loose. There has been a good many telegrams to the effect that the British government was about ready to offer some terms of peace, but they have been as emphatically denied by others.

Thirty thousand more troops have been ordered to South Africa. The British army has been greatly depleted by sickness and exposure. Horses have become scarce again, for the imported horse does not last long.

Altogether our British cousins are having about as much trouble with their imperialism as we are. It is a sorry business for both of us.

A resolution looking toward mediation in the Boer war was unanimously adopted by the Belgian chamber of deputies. A petition asking Belgium to propose arbitration between Great Britain and the Boers was debated at some length.

After the debate the resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote. It has been hinted in some quarters that this was done at the instigation of the British government, but of the assertion there is no proof.

Hon. Samuel Maxwell, ex-congressman and ex-judge, died suddenly at his home in Fremont last Monday of heart disease. Judge Maxwell was feeling as well as usual and had just completed attending to his furnace when stricken. He was 78 years of age.

The attention of our readers is called to the many attractive advertisements in this issue. If you are in need of merchandise of any kind, farm implements, seed, grain, clothing, dry goods, anything, it will pay you to look over the advertisements in this paper carefully and buy where you can get the most for your money.

When answering advertisements always mention The Independent. Should any of our advertisers fail to comply with their advertised offers write this office and we will see that they do so and make proper amends. We do not intentionally advertise for any fraudulent concern.

Why not invite your neighbor to subscribe for The Independent? It's cheap at one dollar a year.

Artichokes Editor Independent: I wish to say that I have just sold a carload of shoots which averaged 200 pounds for \$25, which had the run of my artichoke field two months in the late fall and early winter.

I only fed them full feed corn for about six weeks. If it had not been for my artichokes I would have been forced to sell them early in the fall on account of a very short crop of corn here. I am satisfied that my artichokes were worth from \$25 to \$30 to me right where they grew as hay feed.

GEO. A. ARNOLD. Haydon, Neb.

The army bill now being a law, recruiting stations are being opened all over the United States asking for men to go to the Philippines. The daily papers make no reports of what success is attending this effort to get recruits to an army of subjugation.

There was a station opened in Lincoln

and an officer was here to enlist recruits for several days. Then he shut up shop and went away. A searching inquiry as to his success revealed the fact that his mission was a failure.

It was reported by those who were around the station that he did not get a single recruit. Another declared that two men presented themselves and were sent to Omaha for medical examination.

At any rate the thing was entirely different from what occurred when enlistments were opened for men to fight to free Cuba. This is a proposition of another kind.

In a discussion in the house the other day Congressman McClellan submitted figures to show the cost of maintaining a soldier in the United States. He is especially qualified to make an investigation along that line having given much time for years to military matters.

According to his figures, including the cost of pensions, etc., each United States soldier involves an annual expenditure of \$2,828. It has long been conceded by all the authorities that the cost of maintaining a soldier in the United States in times of peace excluding pensions was \$1,000.

When we come to add to it the transportation of men 10,000 miles and their supplies, when we think of the additional cost from a tropic climate and sickness incident to it, the constantly increasing pension roll, the war material that is used and destroyed, it will be seen that Mr. McClellan's figures are more likely to be too small than too large.

It therefore follows that with an army of 100,000 men the expenses will be \$282,800,000, excluding the navy for military expenses for every year that we keep such an army in service.

That addition to our already heavy taxation will be felt in a very serious way by every citizen of the United States. That is only part of the "white man's burden" that has been inflicted upon us by this mad rush toward imperialism and "world power." Glory comes high. Is it worth the money?

The wholesale arrests and imprisonments in the Philippines includes numbers of perfectly innocent people. That is not denied by the authorities themselves for the military censor allowed the following cablegram to come through: "The campaign of arrests in Manila and vicinity which began after the issuance of General MacArthur's proclamation is being pushed with extraordinary vigor. The prisons were daily becoming more crowded and an additional one is being built on Subig bay. Mistakes are made, of course, by the military officers and the detectives of the provost marshal's department, and harsh criticisms are sometimes heard on the injustice of taking in men on flimsy evidence. American civilians say it is impolitic to arrest friends, neighbors and relatives of prominent natives among whom it turns sentiments of friendship to those of bitterness and revenge."

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STALLIONS

IAMS imported more black Percherons from France in 1900 than all other importers of Nebraska. Only man in United States who imported all black stallions.

IAMS HORSE SHOW. At his barns daily are "hot propositions" to competitors. Buyers remark: "An up-to-date horse show" "most select and largest stallions ever saw" "glossy beauties" "wide as a wagon" "leg under every corner" "see that 800-lb. largest and best dropper in the United States—a ripper" "Iams saved me \$100.00 on a stallion last year and I bought that 2,000-lb 2-year-old today—a top-notch" "See that man of 20 'Tom' Stallions and they all look alike to me" "Iams pays freight and fare of his buyers and sells a \$2,000.00 Stallion at \$1,000.00. Iams has on hand

100 Black Percherons, Clydes, Shires, Coachers

Imported and home bred registered stallions and mares, 2 to 6 years old, weight 1,600 to 2,400 pounds, 95 per cent blacks. Iams has more black, ton, black Percherons; more Royal bred, government approved and stamped stallions; more Pal and Standard Exposition and State Fair winners; more stallions to suit you and big bargains than all other importers of Iowa or Nebraska.

Iams speaks French, knows breeders of La Perche. This with 20 years' experience, saves him \$500.00 on a stallion, because he has no high priced salesman or buyers, no 2 to 10 per cent share profits, and saves you the middle man's and company's organizer's profits by buying direct from Iams' barns. Don't be a clam. Write or telephone Iams and get an eye-opener.

FRANK IAMS, St. Paul, Howard Co., Nebraska, on B. & O., and Union Pacific Ry.

Queen and Presidents—Kansas Run of Story—Not Specks—Nickel Plate to Buffalo—Stanford University Teaching—It Means Something—They Will Hit Themselves—Head Off—Bad Luck—Plea for a Gardener—Hunting.

Since Victoria was crowned queen of England the United States has elected twelve presidents and four vice presidents have taken the office on the death of four presidents.

The fusion party in Kansas promised the liquor dealers a hundred saloons and got in; the republicans promised them a thousand and they got in.

The criticism of the Cincinnati Times-Star of Bryan's use of Noah Webster's definition reminds us of the man who found a dictionary and commenced to read. The next day he met a neighbor and told him he found a book and had tried to read it, but could not get the run of the story at all.

We have wished, urged and prayed in our hat that the Journal's poet would have less to say about black pigs and spotted cows. Why does he not say something about the black record of his party leaders, up at the state house and in the penitentiary? He can find chunks of penitentiary record blacker than any boar pig that ever squealed in Nebraska. Then look at the spots on his party leaders, there is the street light spot, the gas plant spot, the war office strut spot, the penitentiary stone, spot the asylum coal spot and so on; more spots than can be put on to one cow and they are not specks either.

Many people living west of Chicago will undoubtedly visit the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo, N. Y., this summer. Our last trip from Chicago to Buffalo was over the Nickel Plate road and a more enjoyable trip between the two cities we never had. Everything was smooth and quiet, no crowd or jam. It may be a second class road for amount of business, but it is a first class road for comfort. Then the charges are less. You can ride from one city to the other and return and save several dollars.

The talk about the Stanford university is still kept up. It is hard for some people to see why the person who furnishes the money should have any right to dictate how it should be spent. Let one of the teachers at the Wesleyan university manifest his belief in Calvinism and the Methodist who furnishes the money would withhold it at once and yet the same teacher would be welcomed at any Presbyterian or Baptist school. We still think the woman who furnishes all the money has some right to dictate what shall be taught. If we were furnishing the money to run a school there would be no goldbugism, tariff protectionism or imperialism taught with our money. All legal rights and protection for all and no special privileges or special protection for any would be the doctrine taught or the school would stop.

When two such men as ex-Senator Towne and ex-President Harrison deliver such speeches against McKinley's Philippine policy they mean something. Both of the