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Brother Whitford is getting red hot over the non-payment of the populist debt. Read what he has to say in another column.

The asphalt trust still keeps a squadron of the United States navy in service in the waters of Venezuela. The lawyer who is in command is having the finest sort of a time. Who pays the bill?

There is a bill before the German reichstag to establish a government plant to manufacture armor plate. Herr Krupp better send for Sampson. Sampson saved Carnegie and the Bethlehem company. Why couldn't he save Herr Krupp?

Statistics show that the sanity of one New Yorker out of every three hundred has been passed upon by the courts or other authorities and the actual sanity of thousands of others has often been called in question. There are overwhelming republican majorities in the state of New York.

McKinley still continues to coin more silver each month than was coined under the Sherman act, which they said must be repealed or the country go into bankruptcy. Silver coinage executed at mints of the United States during February reached \$2,242,166 compared with \$4,955,166 for the two months of January and February.

Rockefeller has thrown in his fortune with the steel trust. All of his immense iron business, including mines, railroads and lake steamers, have gone into the trust. That combination will soon be a two-billion dollar trust, but you "can't do anything to suppress trusts," you know. The whole world lies helpless beneath the power of gold.

Senator Hanna says: "If any one could get a third term, President McKinley could." If the trusts shall order the election of McKinley for a third term, every mullet head in this state will get out and work for it as long as they can obtain a patch to put on their pants. If the order should be to elect him for life, they would work just as hard to accomplish it.

The gentle Japanese don't want any more returning soldiers rioting in their peaceful streets. The last two steamers which have come into their ports with United States soldiers on board, have been refused the privilege of allowing any of them to land. At first they gladly granted the privilege, but once was enough. They don't want any more of it.

The Japanese government has decided to establish its own factories for the manufacture of armor plates and ship building materials. A site has been selected, and work will begin soon. If there had been an armor plate trust over there and a Sampson in the navy to defend it, the Japanese emperor would not have been able to do that thing at all. We, in this country, can have what the trusts allow us to have and no more.

Can any one blame the Cubans for objecting to the proposition to give this country the right to regulate their finances when they reflect that the Cubans have probably been reading the papers and know of the appropriations of the last American congress? After reading such a record as that, who wouldn't object to the American congress controlling their finances? That sort of work if long continued would bankrupt even a steel trust.

McKinley announced to the world in his inaugural address that the United States was at peace. There is a law that the private soldiers and non-commissioned officers shall draw 20 per cent more pay in time of war than in time of peace. All the soldiers in the Philippines are drawing war pay. The privates get \$15.66 per month instead of \$12, as the law provides in times of peace. Was McKinley's statement just one of his common every-day official lies? Are the soldiers in the Philippines engaged in active war? That also seems to be one of the things that no pop can find out.

UNIVERSAL LYING

The censorship of the press, the editing out of everything that plutocracy deems detrimental, together with the unparalleled mendacity of the present president of the United States is producing a state of affairs that was never before seen. Long articles are published in the great dailies that are absolutely false from beginning to end, and known to be false by the responsible editors. Yet they continue to appear from day to day without any general protest from the people. As a sample take what purported to be a special dispatch from the City of Mexico, which appeared in the Chicago Record. The article was more than a column long and went into many details. It was to the effect that President Diaz was hopelessly insane; that there was likely to be a revolution in Mexico as soon as the fact became generally known and that foreigners doing business there were in a great state of excitement concerning the safety of their property. As soon as the news of this publication reached the City of Mexico, telegrams began to be sent to the United States by the score denying the truth of the article, and saying that President Diaz was in unusually good health and was out on a hunting trip.

There is not a particle of doubt that the pretended dispatch was written in the editorial rooms of the Record. The paper never received any such dispatch. It was probably done to influence the price of stock, prevent the making of some contract or in some other way to deceive and by the deception make money. The dispatch from South Africa, or what were pretended to be dispatches, concerning the certain capture of Dewet and the surrender of Botha were the means of transferring many thousands of pounds from the hands of one set of men to another in London. Those dispatches were also written in the editorial rooms of the papers printing them.

This universal lying has become so common that it no more is the occasion for remark. All the great dailies are engaged in it. The United States will soon become known as the nation of universal lying. It is well known that in many offices of great dailies there is a rule to never correct a misstatement.

Will there be a revolt against this? If there is not, our civilization will disappear. What use is it to reprove a boy in the common schools for lying if that boy knows that the president of the United States is in the habit of appearing upon the most formal and important occasions and lying like a horse thief? The boy has heard how the president time and again asserted that the state troops in the Philippines of their own motion agreed to stay and fight the Filipinos after the protocol was signed with Spain, when he knew that they and all their officers were using every means in their power to get permission to return to the United States. He knows that when the president declared in his inaugural address that this country was at peace with all men and nations, that a war was being carried on in the Philippines and the troops were being paid for war services, that is 20 per cent more than in time of peace.

What is the use to tell a boy if he makes a promise he must keep it, when the president openly advocates the violation of the most sacred promises and the boy knows it. What is the use to try to teach ethics in the common schools here in Lincoln, when prominent lawyers go about the streets saying that the United States has a right to violate a treaty and repudiate a promise whenever it sees fit? Is not the very foundation of business, family life and society itself being destroyed?

McKinley is the first president of the United States who was vile enough to appear before an audience and lie. He is the first president who would write out a lie and incorporate it in a state paper. He is the first one to advocate the repudiation of solemn promises made by the nation, and it is to his vile influence, more than to any other one thing that lying has become almost universal.

CAUGHT THE YANKEES.

The trusts are no respecters of persons. They go for the New England Yankees just as they do for the western merchants. A committee has been appointed by the Massachusetts legislature to investigate the tyrannies of the tobacco trust. Some of the victims appeared before the committee on mercantile affairs of that body to protest against the methods of the tobacco trust in preventing the sale of the goods of smaller manufacturers. Mr. E. U. Harrington of Boston said that he sold some tobacco to W. E. Sanborn of Holyoke, and after it was delivered it was returned with a note from Mr. Sanborn saying that the Continental Tobacco company had dropped him from the list of customers, and that he was forced to give up the tobacco. C. E. Austen of Lowell also had written Mr. Harrington that he could not handle his goods because of the trust.

The Independent has advocated for a long time the sending of some missionaries down into that benighted region. Those chaps have been advocat-

ing every proposition put forward by Wall street for the last thirty years. Now that the gentlemen of Wall street begin to turn down the screws, they don't know what is hurting them. They have advocated and upheld the policies that have concentrated wealth and produced trusts, the most pernicious of which has been the idea of protection. The populists told them years ago that the policies they were advocating would make the people of the whole nation hirelings working for a few trust magnates, whose orders would have to be obeyed. This sort of kindness was rewarded by the retort: "Oh! you are a wild-eyed lunatic!"

STILL A HYPOCRITE

The death of ex-President Harrison gave McKinley another chance to play the hypocrite. Notwithstanding that he had done everything in his power to humiliate and disgrace the Harrison name and family, he now comes out and calls the dead ex-president "the dearest citizen." It is well known that President Harrison was engaged in preparing a case to be brought to reinstate his son whom McKinley had practically dishonorably dismissed from the United States army. The world has never seen a sneak and hypocrite equal to this man McKinley. This last act is in perfect conformity to his whole reign. He declared that it was our plain duty to give Porto Rico free trade and then signed a bill laying heavy import duties. He talked about benevolent assimilation and then slew 30,000 Filipinos, bayonetting many of them after they were wounded and helpless. If any such creature ever lived on this earth before McKinley appeared, The Independent would like to know when he lived and what country he inhabited.

BUNCOED MORMONS

The republicans have succeeded in buncoing the Mormons just as completely as they did the democrats and Senator Morgan about his canal bill. There is no doubt that the bill that passed the Utah legislature legalizing polygamy was in strict compliance with the contract entered into with Perry Heath whereby the Mormon bishops agreed to throw Utah into the republican column. The Mormons fulfilled their part of the contract, but at the last moment they were buncoed in the approved republican style. The governor of Utah, who is a Mormon and the progeny of a plural marriage, saw that it was to the interest of the state to veto the bill. How he came to see that fact so suddenly is not explained. If he had intimidated while the bill was before the legislature that he would veto it, the bill would have been dropped. The republicans got the legislature and the senator who holds office for six years, now the Mormons have nothing to show for their part of the deal.

ALPINE IRRIGATED

Palestine was at one time in a high state of cultivation. By the Mosaic institute, after the exodus from Egypt, the lands were divided among the adult males, each receiving from 16 to 25 acres. The fields were watered from canals and conduits communicating with the brooks and streams. When, through the vicissitudes of war and rapine, these irrigation works were destroyed and life rendered insecure, agriculture declined. What was at one time a fruitful land of plenty under irrigation, today is practically a barren waste.

There is an old legal phrase that declares there is no wrong without a remedy. The plutocrats have now twisted this bit of common sense around so it reads: "No remedy—no wrong." There is no remedy for trusts, therefore trusts are not wrong. This is equal to some of the economic phrases that they invented when the money question was under discussion. It will not be long until we find posted up all over the country and in the house of every mullet head, "No remedy—no wrong." There is no remedy for trusts.

The Philippine commission has found it necessary to pass a bill making it a felony with punishment of fine and imprisonment to refuse to accept an office in the civil government which the McKinley carpet-baggers are trying to set up in that country. Those "millions" of loyal Filipinos which McKinley talked about in his inaugural are very queer patriots. None of them want office. They all love the old tyrant of the White house with all their hearts, but none of them want to accept service under him.

Ed P. Smith, one of Nebraska's famous democrats, in a speech before the Omaha Commercial club said he doubted the competency of the average legislature to pass a bill that would successfully stand the test of the courts, that would afford the public much relief. He said it was a very difficult thing to do and was inclined to doubt whether anything short of government ownership of the roads would satisfactorily solve this problem. He thought the general tendency of things indicated that such would be the final outcome.

DON'T BE PERTURBED

The Bee in commenting on President Hadley's populist speech, says: "President Hadley of Yale last winter proposed that the octopus be exterminated through ostracism. He has had another revelation, and now sees the establishment of the empire and the coronation of the emperor within twenty-five years as the result of modern commercial methods. To avoid this social catastrophe he proposes the wider spread and more general application of the Christian religion. President Hadley is yet a young man and will easily live to laugh at the apprehensions that now perturb him."

THE WOOL TRUST

Whenever the republican party wants to carry three or four states where the production of wool is a large feature, the boss simply orders the wool combine which is located in Boston to raise the price of wool for a few weeks. The combine obeys and the mullet heads in those states go wild shouting for McKinley and Dingley tariffs. As soon as the election is over, down goes the price of wool. Wool comes into the market in the spring and summer months. By the time the election comes on in the fall the combine has its hands on most of it, so when it raises the price there is not very much offered. Wool has been on the decline ever since McKinley's election. But Hanna, after the campaign began, had it announced that the republicans would carry Montana, Wyoming and several other states on account of the rise in the price of wool. Now a dispatch from Cheyenne in speaking of the wool combine says:

"The whole game is in their hands and they manipulate the market at will. The producer is 'not in it' to any appreciable extent. From present indications there is no telling when and where the present slump in wool will end, especially when the market it loaded up with the new crop."

"CAN'T DO ANYTHING."

The republican leaders have arrived at that point where they openly and without shame plead the baby act. The trusts are here, they say, and nothing can now be done to suppress them. Not only the republican party can't do anything, but the whole nation can't, not even if they were all united and determined. Never was there a more silly proposition soberly put forth.

The disestablishment of the English Church has been indefinitely postponed by the course of the nonconformist churches themselves. The dissenting churches have become very much what the protestant churches in this country are, while the self-sacrificing labors in the midst of the poorest and most oppressed parts of the population of the great English cities, which has characterized the clergy of the established church, has endeared them to the hearts of the people. The nonconformist manufacturer considered it one of his divine rights to be elected to parliament and after making a suitable donation to some charitable institution, to be knighted. The actual work among the poor has been done by established church curates.

The general unsoundness of mind in the people of the eastern states, who on account of their numbers overrule the conservatism and common sense of the west, is demonstrated by the thousands of cranks who are at large in those communities. If a man from any cause becomes prominent before the people, he will not only be buried in clouds of letters from cranks, but his house will be besieged by them and life itself made a misery to him. If a woman becomes prominent because she has engaged in active charity and it becomes generally known, an ordinary mailsack will hardly hold her daily mail. The statement of Helen Gould, made to the public some time ago, is a case in point.

The steel trust continues the old practice of selling steel rails to Americans for \$28 per ton and to Japanese and other foreigners for \$21. The Dingley bill was simply the grant of power to the steel manufacturers to tax the American people \$7 a ton on steel rails. The old companies exercised that power to the limit and the new steel trust will continue the practice. Still the mullet heads believe that "the foreigner pays the tax." They will continue to believe it until Mark Hanna or some other republican boss tells them that it isn't any longer true. After such a statement they won't believe it for another day.

A New York physician writes a private letter to the editor of The Independent in which he asserts his belief that leprosy will break out in many different places in the United States during the next five or six years. He says it takes that length of time for the disease to develop in the ordinary healthy person. There are over 30,000 lepers in the Philippine islands. Hun-

dreds of soldiers and officers have been exposed to contamination. When the army returns from the Philippines these officers and soldiers will be scattered all over the republic. He further says that there are known cases of leprosy in eleven different states of the union at the present time. All of them have developed from contact with Asiatics. He advises the burning of every article of clothing that the soldiers bring from the Philippines and the disinfection of every other article in the most thorough manner. He says even that will not make us safe. The day that McKinley went into this imperial business will be a day of sorrow for many generations yet to come.

GREATEST AND BEST

It may not be out of place for The Independent in a modest way to call attention to the fact that its subscribers receive during the year more first class literature for less money than is furnished by any other publisher in the whole United States. Recently a man who has a world-wide reputation as a scholar and writer, said: "I take the Nation, the Springfield Republican, the New York Independent and some of the illustrated weeklies, and I say that the writing in the Nebraska Independent is equal to the best of them. In fact, I take more pleasure in reading the Nebraska Independent than any of them. I cannot use my eyes too much, and my wife reads to me a great deal. On the evening that The Independent comes to my house, she usually begins at the beginning and reads the whole paper to me and I am always sorry when it is finished."

The publisher would also call attention to the fact that there is more original matter printed in The Independent than in the three-dollar weeklies. It is always up to date and intensely interesting. In quality, the best literary men, scholars and economists, unreservedly bear testimony that it is equal to the best and in amount it is more. That makes it by far the cheapest paper of its class published in the United States. It will be the aim of the publisher to keep the paper up to this high standard. It should be a weekly visitor to every Nebraska home. It already has a circulation in every state and territory as well as in those still undefined regions of the world, generally designated as "our new possessions." The gentleman above quoted also said that The Independent was different in style of writing and the choice of subjects treated from any other paper. It also differs in another respect which is equally unique. It is the cheapest as well as the best, two qualities which are seldom found together.

A LAND OF DESPOTISM

The American citizen, unless he is a court favorite, would do well to stay out of the Philippines. That is the only spot on all the earth where he is not under the protection of the constitution and the treaties made in accordance with it. But in the Philippines he is a subject of the Emperor McKinley. He cannot demand a trial by jury, free speech is suppressed, his property can be taken without compensation, he cannot bear arms, he may have soldiers quartered in his house in time of peace without his consent, his private papers may be seized, he may be convicted the second time for the same offense, he cannot demand the presence of his accusers, he cannot demand the service of counsel, excessive bail may be demanded, cruel and unusual punishments may be inflicted upon him and he has no protection from any of these things. All that he can do is to appeal to the tender mercies of the emperor, who is more than 10,000 miles away. He cannot even do that without the permission of the emperor's subalterns.

Anywhere else in the world, whether it be Russia, Austria, Turkey, Persia or Hindostan, the constitution follows him and shields him, but in the Philippines he is the abject subject of the emperor whom the republican party has set up in Washington. The constitution does not protect him there. If he dares to criticize the subalterns whom the emperor has sent there, he may be shot, imprisoned for life or deported, as was Editor Rice.

Therefore The Independent says to all American citizens who are not sure of the favor of Emperor McKinley, and they will consult their own best interests by staying away from the Philippines. Every natural right is gone the moment he lands in that land of despotism. All the newspaper correspondents left long ago.

A writer in a Chicago paper asserts most vehemently that the old original thirteen states will never allow this republic to become an empire. In answer to President Hadley he says: "Never, never, never." But this republic is already an empire. If it is not, there is no meaning in English words. The lexicographers have all given us false definitions. A country including several nations and exercising supreme control over any of them is an empire. That is what the United States is today. McKinley is emperor of the Philippines or there never was an emperor. President Hadley says that in twenty-five years we will have an emperor of the United States if the trusts are not overthrown. What is the prospect of the overthrow of the trusts as long as the republican party remains in power?

The naval estimates presented in the house of commons last week show the budget for the coming year shows an expenditure of upward of \$181,000,000 against \$150,000,000 for last year. Unless the revenue is increased the statement of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, chancellor of the exchequer, will show a deficit of nearly \$54,000,000, the largest ever estimated. The people of England are finding, as well as the people of this country, that imperialism comes high. If we will have it, we must pay the bill.

BEST FOR THE BOWELS

If you haven't a regular, healthy movement of the bowels every day, you're ill or will be. Keep your bowels open, and well open, for the sake of your health. Violent physic or pill poison, is dangerous. The smooth, cathartic, most effective way of keeping the bowels clear and clean is to take



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