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Just as soon as a corporation acquires a monopoly it begins to develop bad habits.

Two things won out when the republicans carried the state—treachery and embezzlement—Clem Deaver and Bartley.

Britain may win by making South Africa a desert and calling it peace, but where will be the glory or the profit?

The republican party in Nebraska would be a great deal prettier without the record that it has made during the last six months.

The McKinley democrats who capture conventions are not so happy as they were a few days ago. They have heard from Indiana.

Long and Sampson found that to make "the most distinguished American historian" out of a foul-mouthed naval clerk was a thing "abooon their knight."

With the aid of blood hounds, the "redeemers" were able to capture one of the squad of prisoners who escaped from the penitentiary the other day. He got as far as Grand Island.

With universal accord, the populists of Kansas have risen in their places and said in thunder tones that the party of the people must and shall be preserved.—Kansas Commoner.

One thing the judges are great on. It is vacations. In Chicago they go off for three months and in Omaha for two. Meantime they draw their salaries with the greatest punctuality.

Mr. Bryan says that he received a telegram from Mr. Towne declaring that the interview recently published purporting to be given by him was a fake. He had given out no interview at all.

Another of the middle-of-the-road traitors has been rewarded with an office by McKinley. H. H. Hiatt of Custer county has been appointed superintendent of schools in Guam at a good fat salary.

It has been demonstrated beyond dispute that it won't do to trust a state government to a lot of rascals. The record that the republican party has made in this state during the last six months proves it.

A thief out in California stole \$250,000 in gold from a smelting company. That is less than half the amount that Bartley stole, but it will probably be sufficient to get him a pardon if he is caught and convicted.

The nine-hour day has been in force in the Hartford manufactories for the last six months. The result has been that the output is as great as when they had a ten-hour day and all the employees are satisfied and much happier.

The Omaha Bee says: "When we have a good thing, why not hold on to it?" That is exactly what The Independent says about coining \$3,000,000 of silver every month by the McKinley administration. Let us keep up.

Reporter—"What do you think of this talk about reciprocity and tariff reform in the republican ranks?"

Manufacturer—"Oh, that is one of Mark's schemes to make us dig up a few extra millions for campaign expenses."

All the critics are pointing out the deterioration in Kipling's writing since he undertook to back up the Joe Chamberlain kind of imperialism. His latest poem is pronounced unmitigated doggerel. Imperialism and poetry won't sail together.

Nearly all of the republican papers insist that Bartley didn't get the money, that his republican friends got it. Well, if that is so, why don't they trot the fellows down to the penitentiary who did get the money? Somebody got it. Who was it?

THAT OKLAHOMA LAND

The land distribution in Oklahoma has been finished. The thousands of disappointed and broken-hearted who could not get land for the reason that there was not enough for all have departed to begin the struggle for a living elsewhere. The distribution by lot was perhaps the best arrangement that could be made under the law that was passed by congress. A rush such as occurred when the last reservation was opened would undoubtedly have resulted in much bloodshed. The fault of the whole thing was in the law. It would not have required a very high order of statesmanship to have drafted a law that would have secured the object intended of giving the land to actual settlers in 160-acre lots. There was no occasion for any rush. A law could have been enacted that should have required a person to have located on the land and actually resided there for at least one year before any semblance of title could have been secured. It could have also provided that the applicant should not only be landless, but that he should not be the owner of enough stocks, bonds and other personal property to make him rich without land. The only disqualification in the law was that the applicant should not be the owner of more than 160 acres of land; if he owned a railroad or a dozen banks, that was no disqualification. The result of it was that speculators from several surrounding states rushed in, all of whom had just as good a chance to secure land as the poor fellows who had been camping on the line for many months in their wagons. Perhaps half of the land has been drawn by parties who have no intention of locating on it, but expect to sell out. Any other possible arrangement under the law could not have resulted differently. The fault was in the law.

FOUNDATION OF LIES

The leaders of this gold and glory administration may think that they can run the country and hold power forever by means of a subsidized press that is constantly filled with the most outrageous lies, but The Independent don't believe that they can. Some day a calamity of prodigious proportions, the result of these lies, will strike the country and they will all be overwhelmed in the billows of their own infamy. As instances of this constant lying there has appeared in the great dailies in obscure places a statement from ex-Senator Towne, to the effect that he never gave out any interview at all and had not spoken to a newspaper man for three months. The war department issued a reproof to Captain Schley for an interview that was printed in the papers and Captain Schley replies that he never gave an interview and never said the things that were printed as coming from him. Day after day the press continues this practice and during a campaign its mendacity is so great that no one can place any confidence at all in the stuff that fills the daily papers. This constant lying has become the policy of every department of the government and especially of the treasury department. About the first of every month it sends out a dispatch like the following, which was dated August 1:

"The United States treasury now holds the greatest hoard of gold to be found anywhere in the world. This morning when the business of the day commenced there was in the treasury vaults \$504,354,297, an increase for the month of \$10,000,000 and for the year of \$74,422,422. This immense pile of gold coin is held against the following items: Gold certificates, \$292,535,689; reserve, \$150,000,000, and general fund, or free gold, \$61,818,508. This is the highest amount of reserve on record. On July 25 last reports were received at the department here of the amounts held by foreign nations. They were as follows:

- Bank of England.....\$183,330,681
Bank of Germany..... 158,383,434
Imperial Bank of Russia.. 345,408,144
Bank of Austro-Hungary.. 190,314,126
Bank of France..... 478,258,230

"These banks hold the same relative positions to their respective governments as the treasury does to the United States government, so that the funds indicated are governmental and not private moneys. The amount now held by France in its bank is the largest in the history of that nation, so that along with the United States it is enjoying an unusually large redundancy of government reserve."

The object of publishing such a statement as that is to start every republican paper in the land to declaring that the McKinley administration has piled up in the treasury a gold surplus of \$504,354,297, when the assertion is absolutely false as a careful reading of the dispatch itself will show. There is only \$211,000,000 of gold in the treasury instead of \$504,354,297. The amount held against gold certificates is as much outside the treasury and in circulation as are the silver dollars held against silver certificates. Why does not the treasurer announce every month that there is \$500,000,000 of silver in the vaults and send out a statement that there is over a billion

dollars in the United States treasury of metallic money? There is just as much reason for including the amount held against silver certificates as there is in including what is held against gold certificates. The whole object of the statement is to deceive and lie. The amount of gold held by the United States treasury is less than that of any of the leading nations except Germany and England instead of being more. No other nation issues gold certificates and stores gold for the bankers at the cost of the government. The banks enumerated do not hold the same relation to the government as the treasury does to the United States.

If the foundations of a nation can be securely laid upon falsehood, then is the government of the United States safely established. But if the Bible is true and all liars are to have a portion in the lake of fire and brimstone, the future of this administration and the whole republican outfit is sad to contemplate.

RAINFALL AND TREES

Every intelligent man knows that every land which has been denuded of its forests has become an arid desert. Palestine and other parts of Asia, which once were covered with trees and supported dense populations, are now hot and dry. The same thing has occurred in parts of Europe. When this writer first travelled over the plains of Nebraska, all the country a hundred miles west of the Missouri was an arid desert. There were slight fringes of trees growing along the edges of the streams, but they had hardly enough leaves on them to make a decent shade. The early settlers know that crop after crop failed and at times the drouths were so severe that the people would all have starved to death if they had not received assistance from the eastern states. We still have drouths, but they are not of the sort that once made it impossible to raise corn a hundred miles west of the Missouri.

Some have laid this change of climate principally to the breaking up of the sod and allowing the water to sink into the ground. There is another thing. There are thousands more of trees out on these plains than there were then. It is the belief of all scientific men whose opinions are formed after examining the data left by generations of men who have observed and recorded facts that trees have a great influence upon climate and rainfall. Even a superficial glance at the facts known of all men should convince any one that forests have an influence on retaining and distribution of the rainfall. Timbered countries nowhere suffer from drouths as do the treeless plains.

DONT SWEAR

The Independent gives this advice to its readers on its own account as much as theirs, for it is next to impossible to refrain from profanity when reading some of the plutocratic dailies and magazines. Here is George C. Roberts, director of the mint, who spreads himself over a good many columns in the eastern dailies besides a monthly dose in the magazines. He was the head of the literary Hessian of the Mark Hanna campaign and furnished the block-headed spell-binders with their arguments which were always quoted as "authority." In those days gold had "intrinsic value," and the quantity theory was repudiated. Now he writes articles about the "quantity" of the gold output and talks about the "depreciation of gold" and the danger of its effect on prices.

He knew all these things just as well during the last two presidential campaigns as he knows them now, but at that time he denied every one of them. The moral quality of such men as George C. Roberts is enough to make a preacher swear when he contemplates it. But don't you swear. It won't do any good. Just nourish a supreme contempt for such unmitigated moral rascals, and try to enlighten the dupes whom he and men like him have deceived. Every one of these rascals knew when they were making the last campaign that they were propagating lies and were all engaged in a plot to deceive the people who had never had a chance to investigate these scientific questions.

THOSE WICKED BOERS

One A. Davis writes a scurrilous letter which is printed in the Beatrice Daily Express. According to this cheerful idiot all the sufferings in South Africa camps is caused by Kruger. Kitchener and Joe Chamberlain are simply philanthropists who are doing all things simply for the good of the Boers. The height of his idiocy is reached when he says of the Boers: "The looting robbers who care for nothing but that revenge be satisfied, carrying their Bibles with them, forgetting that God is not in carnal warfare and that his word says that the murderer shall inherit eternal life, and he that hateth his brother is a murderer in danger of hell fire." No doubt those wicked Boers, "with Bibles in their hands," ought to love their dear English brothers, but under the present circumstances no one but an idiot would expect them to do so.

IT CANT BE WRITTEN

The annual meeting of the Royal Historical society was held in London last week. It was the opinion of the scientists there assembled that the unprecedented output of gold would continue and become even greater during the next ten years. It is the cyanide process, by the means of which low grade ores and the old dumps can be worked at a profit that is responsible for the most of the increase. The prospects are that the output of gold for the next ten years will annually be about \$550,000,000. It was pointed out "that changes in prices caused by alterations in the value of gold must be necessarily much smaller and must take place much more slowly than those caused by alterations in market conditions or by improvements in the methods of production and transportation."

The "intrinsic value" of gold don't seem to be at all considered by the British scientists, as is evident when they calmly talk about "the alterations in the value of gold." During the last two presidential campaigns those who held to the view of these British scientists were denounced as "lunatics," "repudiators" and believers in "fifty-cent dollars." When one thinks of the villainess of the men who made an effort to deceive people who had never had the opportunity to study political economy—men who knew that they were engaged in the vilest kind of slander, and misrepresentation—we tell like writing a few sentences that would hardly do to print in a great family paper like The Independent. It can't be printed, so you will have to imagine what ought to be said of the men who engaged in that sort of work.

TURN THE RASCALS OUT

The Pennsylvania republicans continue to keep up their record of infamy. The insane asylums of that state are crowded to such an extent that patients are pressed together worse than ordinary pigs in a pen. That being the state of affairs the legislature appropriated \$500,000 for hospital relief and \$4,000,000 for the gang to expend in a new palace of political jobbery under the guise of a new capitol. The damning infamy of this republican rule in Pennsylvania is described by a Philadelphia daily in the following burning words:

"Deplorable as Pennsylvania's disgrace may be, it is only superficial and temporary. Deeper, blacker and fouler is the shame of her humanity to her indigent insane. For that there is no palliation, no excuse. It is the outward sign of moral leprosy covered by the flaunting rags of political vice. The deep damnation of it is beyond the power of words to depict. The infamy of it is unutterable."

That is what republicanism is in Pennsylvania. It is the same sort in Nebraska where its state treasurer robs the school fund and the governor pardons him, where the government of cities under republican control has become so foul that disinterested outsiders declare that they ought to be wiped off the face of the earth. The people should everywhere arise and drive the rascals out.

THE WATCHMAN REPORTS

In a letter to The Independent a farmer says: "You are a watcher on the tower for us fellows out here in the country, and while we are satisfied with the reports of the facts that you send us, we would like to know your opinion of what those facts portend. Are there any very large number left who would fight for the truth for the truth's sake, or has selfishness and immorality so overwhelmed the population that the highest ideal left is to grab all you can?"

After keeping a sharp lookout from "the watch tower" for a good many years The Independent is of the opinion that there are millions in the United States endeavoring to follow the highest ideals, whose hearts are unselfish and whose desires are to be of the most service in the elevation of the race. Such persons are generally modest, they are not found among those who seek notoriety, but sincerely wish to do that which is right and pursue those policies that will be for the moral uplifting of the race. The subsidizing of nearly the whole of the press, the degeneracy of the spiritual and political leaders, the distortion and suppression of the facts of current history, have led many of them to do

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things and support policies which they never would have done if they had known the truth.

That the population of the United States are generally inspired with high ideals was shown by the manner in which the young men of the country responded to the two calls for troops. When they thought that they were wanted to fight for liberty and humanity they rushed to the recruiting stations by the hundred thousand and made a strenuous contest as to who should suffer and die for the freedom of the oppressed in Cuba. When a call was made for a war of conquest on the Philippines, it was impossible to get enough to enlist to fill the army and the project had to be abandoned. That spoke louder for the real heart of the American people than anything that has happened in the last four decades.

If a call had been made for troops to aid the Filipinos to throw off the yoke of an oppressor and to set up a free government for themselves, just as many hundred thousands would have rushed to the recruiting stations as did in the case of Cuba. Americans love liberty, justice and righteousness and are always willing to defend them with their lives, but when it comes to killing innocent people "for their good," they have no heart in the work. The character of those who did enlist to fight the Filipinos is shown by the record they have made. The other day the dispatches announced that a returning transport from Manila brought two hundred and twenty-five military prisoners.

From The Independent watch tower it seems that the heart of the American people is as nearly right as it ever was, but the people are deceived by a subsidized political and religious press. Within the last four years several of the great religious denominational papers have become the most effective advocates of the McKinley policy of gold and glory, among them the Outlook and the New York Independent. They are doing much more effective work for plutocracy than any of the great political dailies. Much more of their space is given to the defense of the Mark Hanna policies, including wars of conquest, than is given to religious questions. That many of their readers resent the political course of those papers is shown by a vigorous protest that is every once in a while printed in their columns.

A denominational religious paper has a great influence over its readers and the protests that are constantly made by them shows that there are thousands of Americans whose hearts are all right. The man on The Independent watch tower thinks that he sees some signs that foretell a vigorous repudiation of the false doctrines that have been forced on the church and the people. The great moral truths that are embalmed in the scriptures and which have been the salvation of the nations in the past will reassert themselves and the false prophets and immoral teachers will be repudiated. The battle for truth must be ever fought and fought again, but "truth crushed to earth will rise again for the eternal years of God are hers."

THE BEE'S REASONING

The "reasoning" of the Bee on the money question has been a source of endless amusement to populists, but there is lots more fun in its "reasonings" on the tariff question. Read the following from its editorial columns and prepare to hold your sides:

"Can duties be removed even from articles manufactured cheaper here than in any other country without affecting labor? That is a question that needs to be very carefully considered. It is safe to assume that manufacturers very generally will say, as did the president of the steel trust before the industrial commission, that the removal of duties would inevitably result in reducing the pay of labor, and the assumption that such would be the effect cannot be regarded as unreasonable."

The pops were in town early Wednesday morning, the day the state committee met. Workmen around The Independent reported that some of them showed up at 6:30. They are accustomed to getting up early in the morning. It was good to see them and have the privilege of shaking hands with honest, sane men from the country after being surrounded with city cranks so long.

REPUBLICAN ANARCHY

The Independent was willing to wait a sufficient length of time for the "redeemers" to show whether they were fit to govern before it criticized them. They have now been in control over six months and the result is semi-anarchy in every institution in the state. The penitentiary is a disgrace to civilization. A big part of it was burned down and other fires have been started right under the nose of the guards. The prisoners have been escaping from time to time until last week when a squad of three walked off and nothing has been heard from them since.

In the other institutions corruption and mismanagement have run riot until the officers of the state house had to do something to maintain even a semblance of discipline. They held a meeting and issued an order that was printed in their organ, expelling four or five hundred people who had been living off the state, being relatives of the persons employed in the institutions. One of the state officers expressed a doubt whether they could stop the stealing by this order or not. The cheerful idiot stated it in this way:

"One member of the board suggested that a close watch would have to be kept to prevent employes from 'getting even' with the state as a result of this order. He thought it might pay to keep a sharp look out that none of the employes be permitted to carry ham sandwiches to their starving families living across the road from the storehouse of the state institution."

That is an acknowledgment that the republican party has packed the state institutions with a lot of thieves, who are running things in exactly the same way they did when they reported that it took 144 tons of coal to keep the asylum warm during the month of August. The truth about the matter is that it is the same old gang and they are running things in the same way they did when Bartley stole the school funds and Mosher ran things around the capitol. There is no wonder that this gang declares that Bartley was persecuted by the fusion administration, ought never to have been prosecuted or that they pardoned him.

SHAMELESS HYPOCRISY

The infernal hypocrisy of the republican press of this state was never equalled anywhere since the world began. The people will remember how every republican sheet in the state, in pretending to stand for good government, assailed Governor Poynter because he paroled a prisoner. Governor Poynter did it upon the report of the physician and warden who stated that the convict was suffering from consumption, could not live long and on the further condition that his mother would take him out of the country and provide for him. The numerous pardons of unrepentant criminals which have been made by the republican governor and the almost anarchy that reigns in the penitentiary where incendiary fires and escapes of convicts are of very frequent occurrence under republican rule, does not bring forth from these hypocrites a word of condemnation. It is pure hypocrisy that made them attack Governor Poynter and remain silent now, a hypocrisy so shameless that they call the present sort of government "redeeming the state."

A lady writing to The Independent says she saw a dispatch in the papers which said some teamsters in Manila struck for higher wages and that they were arrested and confined in prison on a diet of bread and water. She wants to know how that could be done. It was very easy to do. The government of the Philippines is a despotism and anybody can be sent to prison if the authorities want to get rid of or who do not obey orders. There is no constitution and no trial by jury over there. The laws are enacted by a commission on the authority of the president of the United States and as the president is 10,000 miles away and has a good many other things to attend to, he has no time to look after the oppression of his Filipino subjects. The imprisonment of laboring men because they didn't want to work for insufficient wages is part of the imperialism that we have adopted.

Some of the tricks of the British imperial press are very much like what we are accustomed to on this side of the water. It was announced a few days ago that Kitchener had asked that 70,000 infantry now in South Africa be returned home as infantry was useless in the kind of war that he was forced to engage in. It now turns out that that 70,000 infantry were very much needed to protect India and that those troops are being sent there as fast as ships can carry them. A large Russian army—nobody knows how large for all foreigners, have been excluded from that part of the world for over a year—has assembled on the borders of northern India and John Bull is forced to strengthen his forces there, Boers or no Boers. That leaves Kruger's country in a much more hopeful condition than the Americans were the winter that Washington camped at Valley Forge

A convict by the name of Ryan was paroled. He went down to Omaha, got drunk and acted so outrageously that his own brother turned him over to the police. Now his sentence is to be commuted and he will be set free. Hurrah for the "redeemers."

A Manila dispatch says that the number of destitute and unemployed Americans and Europeans in that city is constantly on the increase. It seems that the white wage-worker in Manila is getting no more out of the Philippine war than the Nebraska farmer.

It seems to The Independent that after this long and fiercely hot spell of weather that the indigent old ladies of Lincoln need an outing worse than they did last year when we had such pleasant weather. But D. B. Thompson issues no invitation. Can anybody tell why?

The World-Herald ran a picture of Rosewater and labelled it Dan Lamont. There is about as much truth in its illustrations as in its editorial columns where it declares that Dan Lamont will be the next democratic nominee and that all the Bryanites will support him.

Our "oriental trade" of which we have heard so much is a great affair. Canada bought almost exactly four times as much of our goods as the whole oriental outfit. It did not cost us three hundred millions and five thousand lives either, as have our Philippines.

The English presented Lord Bobs with \$500,000 the other day while thousands of the families of the private soldiers who did the fighting are in a state of starvation because the soldiers have received no pay for many months. That is imperialism of the British sort.

When the labor organization resolved to fight the billion-dollar steel trust they showed that they had more courage than the whole gang of republican leaders. There is not a republican congressman in the whole outfit who dares to say a word against the steel trust.

The trusts grow more insolent every day, the Sherman anti-trust law is still on the statute books, McKinley is still president and a trust attorney has the management of the administration law office. Taking all these things into consideration, why shouldn't the trusts be insolent?

Admiral Cervera says: "I do not know Admiral Sampson. I never met him." No one doubts that the old Spanish admiral tells the truth. Everybody knows that Cervera had a noisy meeting with Schley. Where was Sampson when Cervera made the acquaintance of Schley?

It is now publicly charged in the London papers that Lord Kitchener has armed the South African savages and turned them on the Boers. No one acquainted with the English policy in the days of our own rebellion against England ever doubted that it would come to that in the end.

To march into a non-combatant community and kill men, women and children is savagery. To march into such a community, capture the inhabitants and confine them in camps where they are put to death by slow starvation is British and Spanish civilization. You can pay your money and take your choice.

When the g. o. p. fellows around these parts who carried empty dinner pails, greasy lamps and big banners in the processions reflect that all they got out of it was Clem Deaver, Mosby and Bartley's pardon, they feel like sheep stealing dogs. At least one would judge that they do from the way they talk and act.

England gives Lord Roberts an earldom and \$500,000 in cash. McKinley gives Schley a court of inquiry. Schley destroyed the whole Spanish fleet—sent every one of them to the bottom of the sea. Lord Roberts fought the Boers, having twenty men to their one, and came back to England with the war only begun.

This state republican administration seems to be a little too tough for even the dyed-in-the-wool country weeklies of the party. Not one of them has a word to say in praise of it. When a republican country weekly can't uphold a state administration which it helped to elect, the situation must be desperate indeed.

Rosewater says that Clem Deaver is a good deal better than some of the republicans, which is no doubt true. He remarks: "Just put this down: It is far better from every point of view to recognize in the distribution of federal and state patronage a mid-roader who helped carry the state for McKinley than to reward traitorous republicans who did their best to beat their own party candidates and keep Nebraska in the popocratic column."