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duction, volume of money, cost of transportation, wars and famine, competition and cost of production. Artificial forces are such as "corners," trusts, combines and monopolies. Legislative forces are such as tariffs, patents and taxes of all kinds.

Above I have mentioned nearly all the forces that control domestic and export prices. In all of my articles in connection with export tables I take into consideration nothing but export prices. The decline in the export price of the barrel of flour is what caused the decline in the export price of the bushel of wheat. As every farmer knows that the export price of the bushel of wheat controls the domestic price, I have only to show just what caused the decline in the export price of the barrel of flour to show just what caused the decline in the domestic selling price of the bushel of wheat.

In order to explain the table I must find the force that caused the decline in the export price of the barrel of flour from \$7.51 in 1873, to \$3.70 in 1901. Owing to the fact that the public mind has been and is so saturated with political prejudices and that nearly every fellow has ideas and opinions different from every other fellow, I have to line up some of the old theories and arguments with the table and thereby prove conclusively that they did not cause the decline. By so doing I clear away the rubbish and lay a foundation to prove just what did cause the decline. The principal theory and argument that millions of people have put forth for the last thirty years as a cause of the decline in the price of farm products has been overproduction. In this case it would mean an overproduction of flour in the world. I will line up the overproduction theory and argument and see where we will come out. If there was overproduction of flour in the world during 1901, as compared with 1873, the consumer of flour in Mexico would buy their flour for less money during 1901 than they did during 1873. This proposition is and must be true. By examining the table we find in column No. 4, at the top, that the Mexican paid \$7.51 for his money for a barrel of flour at the seaboard in this country. At the bottom of No. 4 the reader will see that the Mexican paid \$7.75 for a barrel of flour at the seaboard. The Mexican paid 24 cents more for a barrel of flour in 1901 than he did in 1873. Where is the man with this table before him who would attempt to argue that it was overproduction of flour in the world that sent the price down from \$7.51 in 1873, to \$3.70 in 1901. It is simply disgusting to think of such a proposition with such facts before us.

The next theory and argument that millions of people have been claiming caused the decline in farm products for the last thirty years was the quantity of money. By placing this theory by the side of the table, what do we find? In 1873 there was about \$17 per capita of money in this country, and in 1901 there was about \$26 per capita. This being the case the price of the barrel of flour should have advanced in price from \$7.51 in 1873 instead of declining to \$3.70 in 1901. It is utter nonsense and folly to attempt to show that the quantity of money, either great or small, has anything to do with the fall in the export price of the barrel of flour from \$7.51 in 1873 to \$3.70 in 1901. The overproduction theory and the quantity of money theory has practically controlled during the last 30 years the prices of farm products which are not exported in such quantities as for the export price to control the domestic price, but have not in the least had anything to do in the way of controlling the export price. Now as to just what caused the decline in the export price. The Mexican bought his flour in 1873, not with his dollar as his dollar, but with the commercial value of the material in his dollar, which was worth a little more than 100 cents in 1873. In 1901 the Mexican bought the flour with the commercial value of the material in his dollar, which was worth only about 45 cents. The reader can see at once just what caused the decline in the price of the flour. The purchasing power of the Mexican dollar decline 55 cents. The condition of the Mexican was and is such, that he could not nor would not, stand that decline of 55 cents in his dollar. He forced the American farmer to sell him as much flour for his 45-cent dollar in 1901 as he purchased with his 100-cent dollar in 1873. The average Mexican earns 25 cents per day in his money. Anyone can see that he cannot pay more

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than seven or eight dollars of his money for a barrel of flour at our ports. The seven or eight dollars of the Mexican's money would net the American farmer about \$3.70 in his money.

The force that caused the decline in the export price of the barrel of flour from \$7.51 to \$3.70 was created by the force produced by the decline in the selling price of the material in the Mexican dollar from 100 cents in 1873, to 45 cents in 1901, and if the selling price of the material in the Mexican dollar continues to fall below 45 cents the American farmer must stand the fall, not the Mexican. The American farmer has got to face this problem and solve it and there is only one way to solve it. That is to place the 45-cent dollar back to where it was in 1873 to 100 cents. There is only just one way to restore this 45-cent dollar back to a 100-cent dollar and that is to place the commercial value of the ounce of silver at \$1.29, which the American farmer can do easily do if they suffer by the falling down from 100 cents to 45 cents of this dollar. No, it is the American farmers that have suffered the whole fall and will continue to suffer if the fall continues. C. G. BULLOCK.

THE ELECTIONS
All the States Stay Right Where They Were Before—The Republicans Carry Nebraska

So little attention was paid to the election that even at this writing, Thursday morning, only estimates of the vote can be given in this state. It is, however, conceded that the republicans have carried the state, electing a member of the supreme court and the lieutenant governor. The republicans produced by a much larger per cent of their vote than the fusion forces did, a thing that is very easily accounted for and which will be discussed next week. In Lancaster county the republicans seem to have elected their whole ticket, although two of their candidates got in by a scratch. In Douglas county the fusionists elected nearly their whole ticket, but the county went by a large majority for the republicans on the state ticket.

In Ohio the republicans carried the state by an immense majority, the largest except in two instances that the party ever had. It is to be hoped now that McLean and his crowd of big bugs will be satisfied to retire from politics. In Cleveland, Mark Hanna's city, however, there was a great falling off in the republican vote, live questions being brought to the front by Tom Johnson.

The republicans seem to be driven out of Kentucky and the state legislature will send a democrat to the United States senate in the place of the republican now holding the seat.

In New York city the fusion forces won and Croker has resigned the leadership of Tammany.

In Pennsylvania the fusion forces put up a big fight against the Quay machine corruption, but did not win out, as they did not have the majority of the legislature. The fusion forces did in New York city. This corruption in Pennsylvania is just as vile and destructive as that in New York, but it was republican, while Croker was sailing under the democratic name.

Gorman has carried Maryland and will be returned to the United States senate, by which the republicans lose another senator, for Wellington is a republican except on the question of imperialism. However, Gorman is not a much better democrat than Wellington is a republican.

Iowa, of course, went republican; nobody seems to have put up any opposition. Since the populist party has been destroyed over there by division and the middle-of-the-road business, there seems to be no one with any fight left in them.

In Massachusetts there have been great gains made against the republicans. The democrats there fought public ownership planks and others of a similar nature.

The summing up of the whole business is: The states stay as they were at the last election and the republicans have lost two United States senators.

The other thing that will attract notice is that where the people are robbed and oppressed by a corrupt political machine, if the machine runs under the democratic name, the Associated press and all the great dailies in the United States will unite in aiding to overthrow it. If it runs under the republican name, as Quay's machine does in Philadelphia and the whole state of Pennsylvania, the people will have to fight the battle alone. They will get no aid from the Associated press and the great plutocratic dailies whatever.

enough to read the ballot. The democrats have not acted likewise with the illiterate whites, of whom there are many. But I said the issue was to a large extent "personality." On the republican side of the fence, they are boosting Sidney E. Mudd for the senate. Mudd's record would compare favorably with a blackboard—whatever is white in him won't show through. The democrats are going to support Gorman. Arthur Pue Gorman, the man who many believe knifed Bryan in both campaigns. Mark me, thousands of ballots will be split. I have talked to many good Maryland democrats who are either going to stay away from the polls, or are going to knife the democratic legislative candidates. When you ask "Why," you will be answered that "Gorman didn't do right by Bryan"—and perhaps there is some ground for thinking so. The chances, however, appear to be favorable to the democrats. These appear to be the only elections that are causing talk and the issue is somewhat personal in each case.

Word has just reached Washington that Minister Wu Ting Fang is to be ordered home and given a post of minor importance. He don't deserve it. He has done more to make China respected in this country than we have ever seen done before. However, they must think over there he has taken up too much with the party here, which has imbricated us in the "eastern question." We have a good opinion of Wu.

Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British ambassador, has just returned, bringing with him the text of a new proposed treaty, which will abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. This one undoubtedly is acceptable to our "Anglo-maniac" secretary of state as it is the design of Lord Lansdowne. America can expect little advantage. Jefferson said, "England will never be our friend, until we are her master," and any treaty to which the English cab-

net has agreed means a "quid pro quo." This is Sampson week at the Schley trial and we can expect to hear the hero of Santiago, maligned as is possible only to such an archmalice of the truth as the fat Lemly.

WILLIAM W. BRIDE
Washington, D. C.
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FORGOT HER PART.
From the London Spare Moments: A well-known countess was announced to speak at a costers' gathering in the East End recently, so the little daughter of one of the costers—a flower seller—was deputed to present the countess on her arrival with a beautiful bouquet.

The evening arrived, with an enthusiastic audience in the hall, and presently the countess was announced.

The little girl, who had been coached as to what to say, walked along the platform to where her ladyship stood, and in her confusion convulsed everyone with laughter by shouting out: "Ere yer are, mum. Only a penny a bunch—market bunch for a penny!"

The countess smiled, accepted the flowers, and the child got the penny.

DEEP SEA REASONING.
The mermaid had always contended with much warmth that Rear Admiral Sampson would come out of the controversy with flying colors, was pressed for a reason for her great confidence.

"Why don't you see, if the worst comes to the worst," said she, "Mr. Sampson can easily prove an alibi."

The deep-sea reasoning of a mermaid makes all the knowledge of the ancients look like driveling idiocy.—New York Marine Journal.

FIFTY CENT WHEAT

The Decline in Price Fell Upon the American Farmer and Not on the Mexicans

Editor Independent: I have written two long articles in your columns, one for the purpose of explaining just what caused the decline in the export price of the barrel of flour to Mexico from \$9.46 in 1873 to \$4.10 in 1901, and the other article for the purpose of explaining just what caused the decline in the export price of the bushel of corn to Mexico from 95 cents in 1873, to 37 cents in 1897 and 51 cents in 1901. As nearly all of your readers are especially interested in the price of wheat and flour this short article is written for the one purpose of explaining just what caused the decline in the export price of the barrel of flour to Mexico from \$7.51 in 1873 to \$3.70 in 1901. Below I give a short table showing our exports of flour to Mexico for some of the years from 1873 to the fiscal year of 1901:

No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5.
1873	1874	1875	1876	1877
14,715	19,967	13,165	31,191	24,662
\$7.51	6.25	6.63	5.39	5.39
\$7.51	7.34	8.90	8.30	12.00
1878	1879	1880	1881	1882
52,065	46,819	29,894	45,507	2,70
3.24	3.56	2.70	7.75	16.22
6.84	6.85	7.74	16.20	

Explanation of table: No. 1, years; No. 2, barrels of flour exported; No. 3, price received by the American farmer at the seaboard; No. 4, price paid by the Mexican in his money at the seaboard in this country; No. 5, price that the Mexican would have paid if the American farmer had received what he should have received.

If the reader will make a study of column No. 5 he will see that under no circumstance could the Mexican pay enough in his money so that our farmers could get as much as they should have. The table that I have used in all of my articles are taken from official reports of the United States treasury department and are true and correct. As these tables are live object lessons, the reader should study them closely.

The real thing that the American farmer wants to know is just what caused the fall in the export price of the barrel of flour as shown in the table from \$7.51 in 1873 to \$3.70 in 1901. Then they want to know if the price is likely to fall any more. Then as \$3.70 per barrel is not more than half as much as the American farmer should be getting for his flour at the seaboard in this country, they want to know how to raise the price to a point where it will return to them a fair remuneration for their labor. The above price of \$3.70 for flour will not make the price of wheat in Nebraska more than 50 cents per bushel.

The reader must not think that there is any mystery about the rise and fall of prices. All changes in prices are produced by some force. I class the forces in a general way under three heads. Natural forces, artificial forces and forces produced by legislation. Natural forces are such as overpro-

CANALS AND CONSOLIDATION

The Interest of the General Public in the Omaha and Fremont Canal Proposition and in the

COALITION OF ELECTRIC INTERESTS

Is No Longer at a White Heat, and the People of Eastern Nebraska Can Think of Something Else.

The above headlines state practically all that is known to the public at present concerning the grand scheme for a power canal coupled with a gigantic electric consolidation at Omaha. The two ideas are not dead. They will probably materialize in due season. Meantime the people are busy with their own affairs and everybody is conveniently engaged in the more or less profitable duties of his ordinary vocation.

TIME IS MONEY NOW.

These days of general prosperity make a man's time more than usually valuable. He spares as little as possible for the public good. It should not be forgotten, however, that in these times when profits are sure and accumulations are possible, men should be making provision for old age and for financial disaster. If the people of Nebraska will keep their surplus in the state for ten years, a panic cannot paralyze her industries and she will not be driven to bankruptcy because eastern money lenders are refusing to renew mortgages or to advance funds for legitimate business purposes.

\$1,500,000 A FRIGHTFUL LEAK.

It takes no great business head to see that a leak representing \$1,500,000 per annum must sap the life blood of the commerce of any community. This is the enormous price annually paid alien life insurance companies by the policy holders of Nebraska whose beneficiaries receive back only about \$300,000 per annum. For the purpose of stopping this disastrous drain upon the resources of our state, and with the intention of building up in Nebraska a great financial fiduciary enterprise

WHERE WAS McLEAN?

The Fight in Maryland a Personal One—Fusion in the East Endorsed by Republicans

Editor Independent: Just upon the eve of the election in many states, Washington is somewhat dull. It is naturally a very cosmopolitan city, and the thousands of government clerks of all parties are keeping "mum" as to the prospects in each state. Perhaps the election about which most interest hinges, is the fight in New York city between the Tammanyites and the fusion forces. Justice Jerome's break has put Platt in a pretty queer light—Platt has said deposits in his "drunk or crazy" yet he will support him with all vigor. There are quite a number of Washingtonians in this fight on both sides of the question. Henry B. Martin, national secretary of the American anti-trust league, is there in the interests of Low, fighting Shepard, whom he claims is the attorney of the Standard Oil Co. From the point of vantage, the fight appears to be a hard one with the chances favoring the fusion nominee. Strange thing that fusion is an "insane" idea when honest democrats and "pops" fuse; but in the interests of reform, when republicans fuse it is to secure good rendered necessary.

Next, perhaps, we are led into the arena of Ohio politics, where the fight appears also to be close. The subject that seems to be discussed mostly in connection with this fight is the absence of John R. McLean. "Where is

Up Against it

When the simple tiller of the soil realizes that he must pay the price fixed by the plow trust for a plow and can obtain only the price fixed by the grain trust for his grain he may begin to think. The simple tiller of the soil is now up against just such a proposition. He should be able to understand it without the aid of a diagram.—Chicago Standard Opinion.

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