

The Nebraska Independent  
Lincoln, Nebraska

PRESSE BLDG., CORNER 13TH AND N STS

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

\$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

When making remittances do not leave money with news agencies, postmasters, etc. to be forwarded by them. They frequently forget or remit a different amount than was left with them, and the subscriber fails to get proper credit.

Address all communications, and make all drafts, money orders, etc., payable to The Nebraska Independent, Lincoln, Neb.

Anonymous communications will not be noticed. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned.

The form of prayer now in universal use in all England is: "Good Lord save us from the Irish, the Dutch, and the devil."

The Independent pays twelve or fourteen hundred dollars to the Lincoln postoffice every year, and yet Madden wanted to suppress the paper on the plea of a saving to the government.

A fearful penalty has been inflicted upon Macley for denouncing Schley as "a coward, a catiff and a paltrone." He has been politely requested to resign his two-dollar-and-forty-eight-cent job.

The Philadelphia Ledger says that "Texas is now sending us strawberries at 75 cents a pint and isn't getting rich at that." We never thought that the grave, old, sound money organ would acknowledge that it didn't pay its bills.

Another honor has been conferred by the United States senate on Bartley's partner. He has been made a member of the committee on revolutionary claims. Think of the profound influence such a prominent position will give him!

The Independent has as large a staff of Washington special correspondents as the great dailies. What is better, they send what the Associated press suppresses. If you want to know what actually transpires in Washington you must read The Independent.

It seems that the custom house frauds in New York had something to do with the resignation of Secretary Gage. Every one knows that custom house valuations on which the amount of the tariff to be collected is based, is one of the very best grafts in the United States.

"A house divided against itself cannot stand." "This nation cannot endure half slave and half free." Those words were once the campaign cries of the republican party. Now they declare that it can endure half republic and half empire, but The Independent don't believe them.

Homestead, Pullman and Carnegie, Rockefeller, capital and labor, Schwab, Hanna and conciliation. The great dailies want to make us believe that Hanna and the capitalists are about to rush in the millenium. Don't take any stock in it. It is watered worse than the steel trust.

Capitalistic prosperity struck Omaha with such force last week that the mayor ordered the police to collect supplies for the starving and freezing people of that city. Nevertheless, the railroad corporations and franchise grabbers of that town are very prosperous as well as the banks.

It won't do to trust the special Washington correspondents of the great daily any more fully than the Associated press. Governor Crane did not accept the appointment as secretary of the treasury. Perhaps his sense of what was decent, when he remembered that paper contract, was the reason.

The great, dignified, learned and powerful senate of the United States in secret session, behind locked doors, with guards stationed at every possible entrance, last week confirmed D. Clem Deaver as receiver of the land office. It went through "pro forma," only one or two senators saying "Aye" and they were seen out in the bath room rinsing out their mouths shortly afterwards.

The imperialists of Lincoln are all of the opinion that a poor man ought to pay more per 1,000 gallons for water than the rich man and they have been making long arguments in defense of their position. The object is to get the waterworks out of public ownership and into private hands. This city is in the same condition of every other city that is ruled by a republican council. The citizens must watch every session of the body as a cat watches a mouse to prevent being swindled out of their property and their natural rights.

THE KING CAN DO NO WRONG

As soon as it was recognized that there would be an attempt made to depart from the principles upon which this government was founded and substitute in their place imperialism, patriotic men in the republican, democratic and populist parties raised their voices in protest, some of the most vehement of which came from men who are still calling themselves republicans. These men fully comprehended what these insidious advances meant.

The foundation of imperialism, whether in a so-called republic, an autocracy or a monarchy is the doctrine that "the king can do no wrong." The king must not be criticised. His orders must be obeyed. If he sees fit to disgrace one man and promote another, the action must be praised or at least received in silence. It matters not whether that king be called emperor or president, imperialism exacts this humble and unquestioned obedience from high and low. That is what we find in the United States today. That is the principle that has been adopted at Washington and which will be enforced by all the power of the government. If the party who dissents from the doctrine that the king can do no wrong, is of humble station and no influence, what he says will not disturb the imperial power, but if he is of high station and commanding influence the heavy hand will be laid upon him.

General Miles arose from the ranks to be commander-in-chief of the American army. He has because of that fact been looked upon with contempt by the snobs and aristocrats of the navy and army. The other day he expressed the following opinion on the Schley verdict:

I am willing to take the judgment of Admiral Dewey in the matter. He has been a commander of a fleet, and as such has known the anxieties and responsibilities which rest on a man under these circumstances. He was instrumental in the destruction of one Spanish fleet, and knows and realizes the feelings that encompass an officer under such conditions.

I think Dewey has summed up the matter in a clear and concise manner, and I believe his conclusions will be endorsed by the patriotic people of the United States. I have no sympathy with the efforts which have been made to destroy the honor of an officer under such circumstances.

Now that was a violation of the fundamental principle of imperialism, to wit, that "the king can do no wrong," and summary punishment was visited upon him. The king, as embodied in the imperial authority at Washington, had seen fit to degrade Admiral Schley and honor Admiral Sampson, and its very existence and future power depended upon preserving intact the principle upon which it is based. Criticism of the imperial authority, if allowed to go unpunished, would in the end overthrow that authority and the republic would come back to the point which it occupied before free speech was suppressed. If the general of the army were allowed to express an opinion impeaching the absolute righteousness of the supreme authority, what would become of the fundamental principle of imperialism?

Punishment must be administered, and that immediately. A civilian, the secretary of war, who ranks first in the court at Washington, administers a reprimand to the highest military authority in the land. That is exactly the way things were done in the courts of France before the revolution. Imperialism must of necessity adopt the same methods at all times.

General Miles' reply to the reprimand given by the lawyer who is at present secretary of war, will be commended by the American people as unanimously as was Dewey's minority report. He said:

Headquarters of the Army, Washington, D. C., Dec. 20, 1901.—The Honorable the Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.—Sir:—Replying to your note of the 19th inst., I have the honor to state my observations, as substantially reported, had no reference to the action, pending or otherwise, of a co-ordinate branch of the service. They were merely my personal views, based upon matters set forth in various publications which had been given to the world, and concerning which I conceive there was no impropriety in expressing an opinion the same as any other citizen upon a matter of such public interest. My observations were in no sense intended as a criticism of any action taken by a co-ordinate branch of the service, and the statement that I had no sympathy with any efforts tending to disparage a distinguished and gallant officer likewise had no such reference.

In order that there may be no misunderstanding I desire to say that for several years a distinguished and gallant officer has been assailed by parties who have endeavored to write him and other high officials down, until finally he appealed against such assaults to a co-ordinate branch of the government. That co-ordinate branch of the government granted him a court of inquiry, and, as I understand it, they unanimously exonerated him from such epithets as coward, paltrone, etcetera, and their opinions were given to the public for the information of all citizens. When I said that I had

no sympathy with those who had endeavored to destroy the reputation of a high officer who, like all other officers, regards his honor more sacred than life, I had in mind and referred to those assaults made against which the admiral had appealed for protection and justification, and certainly not to a co-ordinate branch of the government. I request that this note be laid before the president, and have no objection to it being made public. Very respectfully,

NELSON A. MILES, Lieutenant General.

It is needless to say that the defense of General Miles was treated with scorn. To have done otherwise would necessitate a reversion from imperialism to the doctrines of the Declaration of Independence and the overthrown bill of rights in the constitution. It would have been to acknowledge that the king could do wrong, and that would be the end of imperialism.

Favoritism is a necessary constituent of imperialism. For that it is instituted and maintained. It is the opposite of the doctrine that all men are equal. From the inauguration of imperialism in this country, favoritism has been its chief means of promulgation. To that end the great historians like Prescott, Bancroft and others of renown were cast aside, and an employe of the navy department was delegated to write history for the students at the naval academy. In that history he denounced one of the highest officers of the navy as a "paltrone," a "coward" and a "catiff." Sampson and Crowninshield, officers of the navy, read the proofs and approved of the words used. They were never reprimanded. They have been the favorites of the authorities. But General Miles for expressing an opinion on a verdict is publicly degraded.

The American people now have as the result of imperialism in the first years of its adoption a glimpse of what is still in store for them. Newspapers have been suppressed by imperial orders, a war of conquest is on hand that has already cost \$450,000,000 besides the sacrifice of over 3,000 lives and the two admirals who fought the battles and the general who commanded the army in the war to liberate Cuba, making as glorious a record as adorns the history of this republic, denounced and spurned by imperial authorities at Washington. One would think that was enough of imperialism to satisfy even the most ardent republican.

Many such scenes as that does this writer remember. In those days he often asked the village solons if they did not think that the price of corn and hogs was too low. Most of them would say that they did, but with the answer they would always declare that they didn't believe in "cheap money." When asked that if corn were 20 cents instead of 10, and hogs 4 cents instead of 2 cents, would not money then be one-half cheaper, they would reply: "It's no use to talk to a pop lunatic."

DON'T TOUCH THE TARIFF

The plate glass trust is the result of the combination of a great many concerns engaged in that business and controls 80 per cent of the entire output of plate glass for the whole country. It fixes prices, and the few independent companies with a limited output, regulate their prices by those of the big producer. They do not seek to compete with it. The sizes of glass chiefly in demand are one by five feet and two by five feet. From December, 1897, to April, 1898, glass of these sizes sold for 15 cents a square foot. In August of 1898 the price was raised to 30 cents a square foot. There it remained for a year, when it was advanced to 37 1/2 cents, being a total advance of 150 per cent. Recently the price has been lowered a little, but is still intolerably high.

Labor has benefited but little by these higher prices. According to the statement of one of the manufacturers wages had advanced 5 per cent in three years, while the average increase in price of all kinds of glass has been 60 per cent.

There are several other trusts that by the aid of the tariff are doing business in the same manner. The cost of living to the wage-worker has risen at least 20 per cent, so they find themselves at least 15 per cent behind the condition that existed before the trusts were formed. Yet these wage-workers in the eastern states will vote for the tariff magnates and dream of rights of the threat of the "pauper labor of Europe." The announcements continue to come fast from Washington that the tariff must not be touched. Every trust organ in the country, and they include all of the straight republican papers, re-echo the cry: "Don't touch the tariff."

Imperialism is a deadly poison. Under it free speech and a free press cannot exist. The patriots of England have fought for free speech for a thousand years, and inspired by their noble example Americans thought they had it established here. But both here and in England, since imperialism has crazed the people, it is no longer the heritage of the Anglo-Saxon race. The other day a member of parliament tried to make a speech in Birmingham. Joe Chamberlain, well knowing that error was sure to be vanquished in a combat with truth, set his Brummagem toughs to batter down the doors, break the windows of the hall where the address was to be given and assault the speaker. Madden's assaults on the country weeklies of this country is cut from the same piece of cloth. Imperialism does not enter into debates. It rules with the bayonet and the power of money.

FUNNY OLD TIMES

The editor of The Independent often smiles as he thinks of the times when we had "sound money," "the best money," "money of the greatest purchasing power," when ten cents of that money, it was so good and so sound, would buy a bushel of corn and two cents would buy a pound of pork on the stock scale. Then was the time when the Nebraska mullet head declared that he didn't want any "cheap money," but wanted to get more money for his corn and hogs, and the village merchants sat around the stove, no time being required to show goods, for the farmers could buy only twenty pounds of sugar for a wagon load of corn, and scolded the farmers because they didn't know how to farm. They declared the farmer left his machinery to rot in the field and did not build a shed to protect it when it would have taken half his corn crop to buy lumber enough to build a shed. To hear some of those village merchants discourse on farming after they had exhausted themselves denouncing "cheap money," was better than going to a circus. Sometimes some pop standing by would remark that if the said village merchant should go out on a farm and raise corn at ten cents a bushel after the plans laid down, it would not be five years before the said merchant would find himself in the poor house or in the penitentiary for selling mortgaged live stock or something of that sort.

Then the merchant would get hot under the collar and declare that the said pop was a socialist and anarchist, a lunatic and a repudiator. That, he thought, was the most masterful argument that could be made. The pop farmer would say that if he could get 25 cents a bushel for his corn and five cents a pound for his hogs he could build a shed for his machinery and have money left to come and buy goods of the village merchant, but that would be making money more than one-half cheaper and as the merchant would have nothing of the kind, the result would be that he could not build a shed and neither could he buy any goods. At the end of a speech of that sort the village crowd would grow furious and declare that any man who wanted "cheap money" was a scoundrel and a villain. They, although they all wore patches on their pants, wanted no "cheap money," they wanted money that was good in Europe.

Many such scenes as that does this writer remember. In those days he often asked the village solons if they did not think that the price of corn and hogs was too low. Most of them would say that they did, but with the answer they would always declare that they didn't believe in "cheap money." When asked that if corn were 20 cents instead of 10, and hogs 4 cents instead of 2 cents, would not money then be one-half cheaper, they would reply: "It's no use to talk to a pop lunatic."

When we remember the profound look of wisdom that those village economists were wont to assume as they talked about "sound money" and the scorn which they assumed when they condescended to enlighten the man who wanted a higher price for his corn and hogs, one can only smile. But it was no laughing matter then. The farmer knew that if there was no silver to be coined and no addition to the volume of money to be made, that it meant eternal slavery and hardship for him. Higher prices for his products was his only salvation and higher prices could come only with more money in circulation. So he bore the insults of the village economist with that patience he could and endeavored in all possible ways to enlighten his dull mind.

After the republicans began to coin more silver than was ever coined before and inflate the paper money, while vast sums were added to the money in circulation by a tremendous increase in the output of gold, he would sometimes remind the village solon of that fact and say to him that the result was just what the pops had predicted. He would tell the merchant: "I have built a shed for my machinery; I have repaired everything about the farm and now I have quite a sum left with which I intend to purchase goods of you. This money to be sure is 'cheap money' and has less than half the purchasing power of the money I got when I sold corn for ten cents a bushel, nevertheless I think that you will agree with me that we are both more prosperous than when we had that 'good money' and I couldn't buy any goods and you couldn't sell any goods."

Then the old farmer smiles as he watches the village economist wriggle and twist and rub his head trying to think of something to say in reply. At last he thinks of it and replies: "We have the gold standard and that accounts for it."

The farmer must not spend all his time chuckling over his improved condition under the present reign of "cheap money." If the Overstreet bill slips through congress and silver dollars are made redeemable in gold, the farmer may again feel the pinch of a fair price for corn and hogs. The

country may revert to the "sound money" condition and instead of getting fifty cents a bushel for his corn and six cents for his hogs, he will have to take ten cents for his corn and two cents for his hogs. It will be a good business proposition for him to try to instill some common sense into these village economists for thousands of them today do not believe that the republicans have coined any silver, that the volume of money has been increased or that money is any "cheaper" than when the farmer was ragged and careworn and the merchant stood idly by his counter all day because no one came to buy goods. To say that we have the gold standard while there are in circulation 500,000,000 of silver dollars, "standard money of the United States and not redeemable in any other kind of money," satisfies all their desire for knowledge.

Those were funny old times, but we don't want any more of them. One experience with "sound money" was enough.

ENJOINING THE AIR

When this writer used to deliver lectures on political economy, and he came to question of "what is value," he always insisted that there could be no value to anything unless the quantity was limited. As an illustration he was accustomed to refer to the air. There was a thing of the utmost utility, but it had no value because the quantity was unlimited and it could not be cornered. He would say that men on the plains of India would give nothing in exchange for air, but when a small number were confined in the black hole of Calcutta, where the quantity of air was limited, they would have paid almost any price a cubic foot for air, the limitation of the quantity making it valuable. One time he received a letter and the writer thereof said he knew of another illustration where by limiting the quantity of air men were made to pay exorbitant rents. In a certain building containing many flats, some of the rooms were supplied with air by a blower. If the tenant did not pay his rent on the day it was due, he had to vacate in a hurry, as the air would be shut off. During all this discussion no one ever dreamed that any corporation would ever become so powerful as to deny the use of air to any human being. But the corporations and trusts have been making mighty strides since that time and now one of them lays claim to all the air that floats over the Atlantic ocean. Of course it was no trouble for this corporation to find a judge ready to issue an injunction preventing anybody, save this corporation, from using that air. Wonder if Lincoln had this class of judges in mind when he talked about "the sappers and miners" engaged in the attempt to overthrow liberty?

The story of this famous injunction is as follows: Marconi set up a station on the shore of one of the British North American colonies and attempted to send messages through the air without the use of a wire from England to America. The company owning the cable monopoly immediately applied and secured an injunction against this daring scientist, commanding him to stop all that sort of telegraphing as the right to send telegraphic messages between England and America belonged exclusively to this corporation.

The plutocratic masters whom we have been serving for these many years, own the earth and all that is in it, the sea and the shores thereof, and now they have an injunction to prevent the use of the air.

Santos Dumont and the air ship men would better get in with the judges before they spend any more money building air ships. The first thing that they will know when they get their ships ready to navigate the air, some already established trust or corporation, who has seen to it that the right kind of men have been put on the bench, will step up with an injunction and all their labor and money will go for nothing. Government by injunction does not apply only to the earth and everything on its surface, but to the air also.

The only potent foe of the corporations and trusts so far has been the inventor. As soon as a trust gets a clench on a thing, the inventor gets to work and produces something better. After a long series of law suits, the trust gets it at last. Government under judge-made laws and by injunction is more far-reaching than any of the inventors ever dreamed of. All that they can do is to worry the trusts for a while, and then the judge with the injunction comes along and the inventor has to quit. It is said that Marconi is going back to England to meditate on judges and injunctions. If he will invent something that will kill that breed of judges and forever annihilate injunctions, he and the rest of us may have a chance in life. But with the injunction forever looming up before us, the prospect is discouraging. Ministers have been enjoined from speaking to each other, citizens from walking along the public highways, laborers from uniting to better the conditions of life, and now at last they have got one on the air.

The next day after the great industrial catyielism appears some of these injunction judges will curse the day that they were born, for there will be no more office-holding for them.

HAYDEN'S FURNITURE SALE.



ARE YOU THINKING OF CHRISTMAS?

We have had you in mind for a long time and beingt aware what at this season of the year you would want to remember some of your friends we have filled three floors 66x120, with those articles most appropriate for gifts.

We want to get acquainted with you, and feel if you come in, or send for our New Furniture Catalogue, you will never regret it

Because We Can Save You Money on Furniture.

This handsome Cobble Seat Rocker is one of the new styles. The back is neatly carved and all the spindles are turned. The whole rocker is well made and neatly finished, PRICE \$1.95. New desk, new book cases, new sideboards, new china cabinets, new tables, new India seats, new Jardiniere stands. All for Christmas.

HAYDEN BROS., WHOLESALE SUPPLY HOUSE, OMAHA, NEB.

Write for Catalogue.

A republican in commenting in a letter to The Independent on some of the articles that have appeared in this paper in opposition to imperialism, says: "The Philippine islands have been annexed and the supreme court has made its decision. Now what are we going to do about it?" The Independent replies to him that "we will not live in an empire and he shall not."

One of the results of imperialism which will cause suffering for a hundred generations to come will be leprosy. No country in which it got a foothold has ever been able to eradicate it. Two thousand years ago there were lepers in Palestine and they are there yet. It lies dormant in the system for years and then breaks out. A recent medical mission declares that there are 10,000 lepers in the Philippine islands and our soldiers come constantly in contact with them.

In New York city there are 7,000 children who cannot go to school for there are not enough school houses, and there, in that city, is the greatest concentration of wealth that was ever known in all history. That is the result of the gospel of commercialism and greed. The poorest county in the sand hills of Nebraska provides school houses enough for all the children. That is the result of a life of true manhood where the gathering of gold is not thought to be the highest ideal to which men can attain.

A distinguished citizen of Washington, D. C., was in The Independent office not long ago. He said that some half dozen men of that city, one of whom took The Independent, met every Sunday evening at an appointed place where one of the number read the paper clear through from beginning to the end while the others listened. When the business office heard of that remark, the manager observed that such practices might be very complimentary to the editor, but it was death on receipts.

The argument most persistently urged in favor of a ship subsidy is that American seamen must be paid higher wages than foreign ship owners can get seamen for. If that is the case, congress might make an appropriation to equalize wages and pay the money direct to the seaman employed. If some one should suggest that to Hanna and Frye, what do you suppose they would say? If such an alteration in their bill were made how much time and money would they spend to get it through congress?

One of the latest reports cabled from the Philippines says: "An unorganized, but tenacious resistance to the Americans is still being offered by the insurgents." When Otis went to cable every other day that "the war is over" and that the hope of electing Bryan was the only thing that prevented the Filipinos from becoming loyal American subjects, The Independent expressed doubts about the truth of those assertions, for which it was denounced by the republicans as a traitor. As perverse as it may seem, The Independent still entertains doubts about "the war being over."

When the imperialists headed the ship of state toward that stormy and tempestuous seas where so many republicans have been wrecked, they said it was for the money that there was in it—that trade followed the flag. But it seems that trade refuses to follow the flag unless there are profits to be gathered in. That is what The Independent said at the time when the chart and compass were thrown overboard, the commander put in chains and the pirate crew took charge. The official statistics show that there is

no money in it. Now the imperialists say that they have run the ship fast on the rocks, and they can't get her off, so she must stay there.

There seems to be a grave discrepancy between the official reports of Generals Otis, MacArthur and Chaffee. The two former were in the habit of declaring that a very large majority of the Filipinos were pacified and reconciled to the military government imposed upon them by the United States and that the only opposition left were a few "ladrones." Chaffee says that "the whole people" are united in their opposition. Would it not be well to abolish the censorship in the islands and let the newspaper correspondents who have been expelled return? If they were permitted to write what they saw and heard without military supervision w might get at the truth.

The administration decided some time ago that "the war was over" in the Philippines, and that decision has got things tangled up. A board of officers has been in session in Washington for sometime to decide who among the officers that have served in the Philippines should have the honor of "brevets" conferred upon them for distinguished services. The board reported the names and then it was discovered that no brevets could be conferred under the law except in time of war. As the administration had declared that there was no war going on, the board of distinguished military men packed their grips and went back to their regiments. Congress is to be called upon to amend the law.

It is announced that the recent speeches of Gage, Eckles and Stiekney, in which they have told of the beauties of issuing notes on bank assets safe to be put together and published in book form, edited and revised by a committee of distinguished bankers. When that book is printed it ought to have the following preface: "This book is carefully expurgated of all reason, and anything that looks like logic, by a committee of irresponsible monetary idiots and is a cyclopedia of balderdash, ferocious fancies and inconsequential vagaries than which nothing could be more absurd. It will be freely distributed by bankers and form part of the republican literature during the next campaign."

Senator Hoar wants a larger number of Congressional Records printed so that every public library and all the great papers can have a copy. The suggestion is a good one, but it would be still more for the interests of the people if the great dailies could be induced to give accurate reports of what is really said and done in congress instead of the garbled accounts and one-sided things that they do print. A few years ago, important speeches delivered in congress were printed in the papers. Now the summary of some reporter with a few gips and jibes is all that ever sees the light of day. In England important speeches in parliament are printed in all the papers. The censorship established a few years ago in this country changed all that. That accounts for the enormous number of mullet heads in the country who do not even know that the republicans have been coining silver or that the amount of money in circulation has been increased, but who are very certain that "we have the gold standard." There is not likely to be any change until the Associated press and telegraph monopoly is overthrown.

The Commoner, \$1.35 (Mr. Bryan's Paper) 1 yr. The Independent, \$1.35 1 year. Send your order to either paper at Lincoln, Neb.