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THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

They Give the Lie to England's Boast That She was the Friend of the United States

—Some More Dietrich Antics

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15.—Well, what do you think of this:

"The attitude of congress and the resolution of the house of representatives, passed yesterday by a large majority, leave but little hope of peace, and it is popularly believed that the warlike measures advocated have the approval of the great powers. The memorandum of the Spanish minister, delivered on Sunday, appears to me and my colleagues to remove all legitimate cause for war. If that view should be shared by the great powers the time has arrived to remove the erroneous impression which prevails that the armed intervention of the United States in Cuba commands, in the words of the message, 'the support and approval of the civilized world.' It is suggested by the foreign representatives that this might be done by a collective expression from the great powers of the hope that the United States government will give favorable consideration to the memorandum of the Spanish minister, of April 10, as offering a reasonable basis for an amicable solution, and as removing any grounds for hostile intervention which may have previously existed.

"That is the text of a message that the British ambassador, Sir Julian Pauncefote, asked that the foreign diplomats send to their respective nations. 'Truth will out,' saith the philosopher, and this statement given to the United States direct from the German government puts a different light on the much vaunted English friendship to the United States.

"The republican clubs and newspapers who have been shouting for an Anglo-American alliance for the past many years had quite a setback when the above statement was given to the press by a German official. It has been the cry of England, 'I have been your friend. I was your friend when all the other nations wanted to interfere in the Spanish war. I kept them from doing it.' But she made the boast once too often and the fact comes to us that England alone was the nation that wanted to interfere in the war in the interests of Spain. Lord Cranborne, the English secretary of state, has been boasting, the whole English legislative and ministerial departments have been boasting of their friendship to America. But the above note ought to put a quietus on that. Germany has given the lie to Great Britain and diplomatic affairs are very much clouded. But the fact remains that England was not our friend. That Germany, Russia, France and Italy were our friends in that war and that each of their representatives advised against the proposed mediation suggested by England's ambassador.

"The officials at Washington having become so friendly to Great Britain seemed disposed to ignore the charges and were at first willing to take England's word as against that of Germany. But the veracity of the German government being at stake, she will bring forward the 'official documents' and has given the lie directly to the denial of England.

"As against the statement of Germany, we have the unbroken silence of the British ambassador and the State Department, together with an evasive reply from a subordinate official of the English government. I cannot believe that the reply of this official is true, but if we are to accept it we must also accept two monstrous hypotheses:

First—That Lord Pauncefote acted without the knowledge or sanction of the English government.

Second—That the English government never had any cognizance of the meeting.

But these are too fantastical to merit consideration. Lord Pauncefote is a capable officer and would never have acted on such important work without orders of his government, nor would he have kept the knowledge from it if he had so acted.

For nearly four years Germany, with the rest of the world, has patiently submitted to England's claim that there was a hostile coalition against the United States in 1898 and but for England's selfish intervention the United States would have been assailed by the combined powers of the continent. Unless Lord Pauncefote can be compelled to speak honestly on two points there can be no doubt that Germany has spoken the truth without reservation or exaggeration.

First—Did England act for Austria alone?

Second—Is it not true, on the contrary, that England's ambassador said to the envoys present at the meeting at the British embassy that in case they joined in the collective note, and in case they provided to guarantee England against counter or hostile action in any other quarter, a British fleet would be dispatched to the Gulf of Mexico to carry out the purpose of the above note?

Of course no other than England herself can interrogate Lord Pauncefote on these subjects. And until she does so interrogate him and prove beyond a reasonable doubt that she is innocent of the charge I am willing to accept the word of Germany without fear or hesitancy.

Let us have light! Let the State Department, with its Anglo-maniac secretary, search the matter to the dregs, and if it can be proven that the charges have the faintest scent

as a "persona non grata," and let England understand that we will brook no intervention by her or any other power in any war we take up for humanity's sake.

Nothing official has been done in the matter, but on Friday the house heard an eloquent and impassioned address by Representative Wheeler of Kentucky, in which he bitterly denounced the administration for its "flunkeyism" toward England. He demanded that Secretary Hay, the man responsible for the American departure from its ideals, should be retired and spoke in no unmeasured terms of the fact that there was to be a kow-towing embassy, with padded calves and powdered wig to be sent to England to see His Imperial Majesty put a golden ring on his head. The speaker then spoke of the visit of Prince Henry and called this another step toward royalty worship. He has been quoted by some republican papers and by the Associated Press as having denounced the Germans, but this is a lie in the whole cloth. Representative Wheeler only spoke of the "toadyism" toward royalty, and said that the Germans who were in America today were here because they loved liberty and fled from just such a government as Prince Henry represents. His was not an attack on the Germans, but a plea for a retrograde movement from our present policy of toadyism. It was really a masterly effort, but the republicans choked him off and refused to let the matter be further discussed.

The house was until Thursday discussing the oleomargarine bill. This bill simply provides for labeling "oleo" and providing a rate of taxation upon it—ten cents per pound on all butter-colored "oleo" and one cent per pound on all uncolored "oleo." Representative Shallenberger made a fine speech on this bill.

For the fourth time the house passed a measure—this time unanimously—providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people. The bill was reported to the senate and the committee having the matter in charge will make a favorable report upon it. This has been done before and no action has been taken by the senate.

The senate passed a bill providing for a constitutional amendment to change the date of the inauguration of the president to the latter part of April. There was little opposition. If the bill passes and is ratified by the states, an excellent opportunity will be given to show the real military arm of the government on inauguration days. We all remember that the last inauguration parade was almost entirely composed of military troops—very few civilians. The latter part of April is generally fine weather in Washington, and we may look for some magnificent parades of the military on next inauguration day. Well, if we are going into the imperial business we should have all its adjuncts.

On Friday and today the senate concerned itself with a bill providing for a permanent census bureau. The bill, as amended, was passed this afternoon and provides for a permanent bureau with a chief whose salary shall be \$7,000 per annum and for the putting of the present clerks on a permanent civil service footing.

All the fore part of the week has been taken up discussing the Philippine tariff bill. The speech of Senator Turner of Washington and the magnificent address of Senator Teller of Colorado the latter took up the bill for three days—will be counted on as good logic on this present situation. It is understood that the bill will come to a vote during the next week.

The American Anti-Trust league is again after Attorney General P. C. Knox for his refusal to fight the trusts. Senator Turner of Washington has introduced in the senate a resolution of inquiry into the department of justice and especially into the office of the attorney general. Senator Gallinger (rep., N. H.) objected strenuously to having such an investigation. The republicans seem determined that no one shall know what is going on.

Stories about Senator Dietrich continue to circulate and each of them seem to make the Brewer more and more ridiculous. A gentleman called at my office and said: "Bride, I saw your article in The Independent about Dietrich. I have a pretty amusing story to tell you about him and his actions at the banquet of our Masonic lodge. This is not a secret matter, because the waiters and others were present, so that I don't think I am violating confidence to tell it to you." (I might say in passing that my informant is a gentleman high in official life and is a very distinguished man. I have known him for many years and whatever he tells me I am sure is the truth.) The story runneth thus: Dietrich was invited to address the Mystic Shrine at the National Rifles army in this city and, as is usual with Dietrich, accepted on the condition that he should not be asked to speak. The evening came and after several had spoken and several toasts responded to, Dietrich was called upon to make a speech. Dietrich knew he couldn't run in his old speech about "Step up, gentlemen, and have something at my expense," so he replied: "I am very glad to meet you, gentlemen. You have the d—dest liar for a potentate I ever saw. He promised not to ask me to speak and here he's gone and done it. I shan't make a speech, but I'll sing." And here he started to sing "A Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight."

Well, what do you think of that for the dignity of the United States senator from Nebraska? "Let's sing." The president has returned to the city, leaving his son Theodore, Jr., on a safe road to recovery.

GOD SAVE THE KING

Visiting Royalties Makes the Subject an Appropriate One for Investigation and Study

Prince Henry is coming, the Queen Dowager of Italy is coming, the son of the Mikado is coming and it behooves us Americans to study up the question of kings and princes which has so long been neglected in this republic. We should go at it without prejudice. That being the case, the editor of The Independent began to rummage around in his library to find out what is recorded in the books about kings and royalties in general. The first thing that he ran across was Davidson's "Book of Kings." That was written by a Britisher who had lived under kings and queens all his life. A very short study of it showed that he was prejudiced against the breed and hadn't a good word to say about any of them. According to Davidson they were a hard lot. Then the editor found as far as all history goes that the first time the phrase "God Save the King" was used, according to Archbishop Usher's chronology, was 1063 years before the time of Christ and it is still in use. A little further along in this old book the editor found the following:

"And Samuel told all the words of the Lord unto the people that asked of him a king. And he said, this shall be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots. And he will appoint him captains over fifties, and will set them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers. And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants. And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. And he will take your men-servants, and your maid-servants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work. He will take the tenth of your sheep, and ye shall cry in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you, and the Lord will not hear you in that day."

After reading that the editor concluded that, if the modern idea was correct as put forth in the great dailies of the land, the writer of that must have been prejudiced against kings also. After that he glanced at Riphat's History of the World and several other works of the same sort, and from what they told about the acts and doings of kings, he came to the conclusion that the whole lot of them were prejudiced against kings, dukes, lords and the whole gang. Only now and then did they have a good word to say for any of them. If what these historians said was true, he wondered why any one of the blood was allowed to set foot on American soil. So he concluded that these histories were all lies. If they were not, he could not see how any sane man could get out on the street and shout "God Save the King."

NEW ZEALANDISM

It is Not Socialism or Germanism, but Just Plain Populism

The Long Island (Kan.) Leader quotes from The Independent and item published some time ago relative to conditions in New Zealand, wherein The Independent said: "That is called 'advanced democracy.' The Independent don't care what it is called, it is the right sort of government and just what the populist party has been advocating in this country." This encouraged the Leader to say:

"We are pleased to notice the above acknowledgment from that best of populist papers. We have believed, many months, that when the editor of The Independent had fully investigated the basilar principles of socialism he would approve of that system of government. This 'advanced democracy' is pure socialism, as advocated by its friends in the United States. When we laboring people took control of the government of New Zealand, the land was all owned by a few landlords, and the balance of the people were tenants. The first thing the working people done after getting possession of the government, was to exercise the undisputed power of eminent domain, appraised and condemned these large estates, divided them up into small homes for the people and made it possible for every man who wanted land to get it, and make a home for himself. The people also own and control the railroads, telegraphs, telephones and all other public utilities.

"When the laboring people of this country have sense enough to organize a party and all vote together, they can control the country as the working people of New Zealand do their country today. Will they do it?"

"Now, ordinarily The Independent is not a stickler for names, but in this instance it must take issue with its esteemed contemporary. The system in vogue in New Zealand is not socialism, nor the socialism of Karl Marx, in that it permits the private ownership of 'small homes for the people,' the individual ownership of these homes and all they contain. Neither does the New Zealand system conform to the ideas of the followers of Henry George. The single taxers insist upon a tax on land values only,

a tax on land and a tax on land values. The present good conditions in New Zealand had their foundation in a tax on land—the very antithesis of the Georgists' plan. By making a graduated land tax it was possible to break up the large estates. It was really a tax on acreage—not on values. The New Zealanders have public ownership of public utilities—that's populism, not socialism, inasmuch as every employe of the government is paid wages and spends them to suit his own tastes. Or, if you prefer, you may say that the populists of the United States advocate New Zealandism, but don't be misled into thinking that it is socialism, for there's a vast difference.

WHEELER'S SPEECH

The Plutocratic Press of the Whole Land Unites in Denouncing it as Dangerous

Congressman Wheeler made a speech in the house of representatives which seems to have thoroughly frightened the republican leaders. The editors of the subsidized press have called into action the best writers, and they searched the English language for epithets with which to denounce it. The "funny men" in their special columns have been put to work upon it. Every department of the daily papers has been ordered to attack it, from poet to cartoonist. If they had not been badly frightened no such effort would have been put forth. There is not a word in the speech that will not be endorsed by nine-tenths of the American citizens, and the one phrase which may be said to be not in good taste cannot be tortured into anything but a compliment to Prince Henry. No greater compliment can be paid to a man in these days than to call him a "Dutchman." De Wet and Botha have made the name forever honorable. It was honorable before, but they have added imperishable glory to it. In the heat of debate Wheeler called Prince Henry a Dutchman and that is the sum of his offending. The speech is printed in full that the readers of The Independent may have a taste of the old fashioned patriotism of which the nation was once so proud. It was as follows:

"It has been the boast of America, diplomacy to the contrary notwithstanding, that we were not a state determined said 'no' we meant 'no,' and when we said 'yes' we meant 'yes.' It remained for the present and the just closed republican administration to inaugurate a system of European diplomacy, with a kid-gloved velvet-tongued gentleman, who had to travel out of his way to find a response to a plain categorical question.

"We are destroying the integrity and the pride, and the intelligence, and the honesty of that great department of the government. I have a respect for the present occupant of the White house, I frankly avow; I think he is too honest to be palatable to the average republican partisan. A little quixotic, it is true, hasty temper, full blooded and not exactly divisible to many of our citizens, and I indulge the hope that that lingering element of Americanism will induce him at the first opportunity to boot out that man in the state department who in my judgment has brought us to this humiliating condition.

"England a friend of the United States? I would not have presented in order to be able to boast that we have the friendship of Great Britain. Never before in the history of the republic has there been a struggle for freedom on the part of any people that representatives in this chamber did not hasten to declare that we regarded with solicitude the endeavors and efforts of a people to obtain their own liberty.

"For more than four years we have witnessed Great Britain maintaining military stations inside the borders of the republics. We have seen her agents going up and down this country enlisting men and buying materials of war. And I believe I will not travel outside the record when I assert that any member upon this floor who has served here as much as four years has received letters from his constituents protesting against the enforced enlistment of American boys by the English government to do battle in South Africa.

"Less than thirty days ago I transmitted a pitiable appeal to the American consul in South Africa asking him to do something to secure the release of an American boy who had been forced to enlist in the English army to fight the Boers in South Africa. I neither it be true or false, I know not, but the letter came from the parents of this boy asking me to transmit it, telling me that they had in vain appealed to the state department to intervene in their behalf.

"We have swung farther away from democratic traditions, from republican ideas, and from republican principles in the last five years than in the previous hundred years. Things are now accepted as a matter of course that would have shocked the intelligence of our forefathers beyond endurance all growing out of this striving to lock arms with the great European powers, and become a world power, to foster this new idea of diplomacy, sitting quietly by and allowing a representative of one great power to assemble in his residence in the capital of the republic the representatives of every other great nation and make the cold blooded and deliberate demand or request that they join with him in a determination, arbitrarily and with force, to prevent the American people from accomplishing what they had determined to accomplish.

"It may be well enough to treat the

courtesy and consideration. I do declare that if the publication in the press is true, this man Pauncefote ought to be ordered to take the first ship to cross the waters. We want no such man in the republic. If he comes here to represent his government, well and good, but if he comes here to hatch conspiracies, to attempt to force his wishes and his ideas upon the American people, the sooner we are rid of him the better it will be.

"And another thing, Mr. Chairman. I am only restrained from discussion of what I regard as the most unfortunate incident by the ordinary amenities which should obtain between one gentleman and another. I allude to the fact of the opportunity seized by the chief citizen of the republic to send a member of his family across the water for the purpose of participating in the coronation of a king.

"I shall not discuss that because it of necessity involves matters I do not care to go into here. I will, in passing, say that it is a most unfortunate circumstance. It is unprecedented in our history, and is today deeply lamented on the part of every country-loving man in the republic. I am sorry that he did it. It is establishing a precedent that he ought not to recognize, and it is but one more link in the chain showing toward what end we are drifting.

"One other matter I wish to advert to. In the next few days we are to have a brother of a ruler come over to this country and take charge of a little tug ship, vessel, or yacht, whatever you please to term it, but by some people up in New York. We are appropriating thousands of dollars and the Anglo-maniacs and the European maniacs are falling over each other to get to see a little Dutchman come over and take charge of a little ship. What difference does it make whether he is a Prince Henry or not? There are thousands of citizens of this republic who please to plow as noble, as honest, as intelligent as Prince Henry or Prince anybody else.

"Why do the American people give heed to this foolish and disgraceful flunkeyism enacted by the present administration? What difference does it make to us whether he is a brother of the emperor? It is evidence of our good will, they say. What do we care about the good will of the German people? Let us treat them politely, as one honest man treats another, but why should we bow down to these people any more than to any other citizen?"

NO DISINTEGRATION

Prominent Omaha Populist Tells Why the Party Organization Should be Maintained

The political condition in Douglas county is thus tersely summed up by a prominent populist of Omaha: "You have little idea of the indifference at political appeals in this community. The only element seeming to manifest any interest are the corporations, the tax-shirkers, the saloons, the gamblers, etc. om, gen.

"The local democracy has gone squarely back on its pledges made before the election, though it owes two of its offices and the school board ticket to the support of the populist. The local democratic Jabberwock is as disgusting a malformation as ever 'Came whiffing through the tulgy wood and burbled as he came.'

"It has not sufficient manhood to resist a propensity, sufficient intelligence to pursue a policy, nor sufficient morality to support a principle. It contains that business element called 'The Push' which betrayed Populism as a candidate for mayor of this city on a platform of municipal ownership, which defeated Bryan two years ago by a secret deal, after his election had been otherwise won, and which traded off several hundred votes on the state ticket in this county for republican votes on the county ticket last fall. It is the presence of this element in the democratic party that makes ridiculous the claim of that party to be a 'reform party.' When confronted by 'The Push' the reformer does not know whether to throw up his hands or his breakfast. And yet there are some shallow-pated populists who are advocating the turning over of the party en masse to the democracy. Not on your life!"

From New York City

Editor Independent: I enclose money order for \$3 for which please send me five Liberty Postals. I have five subscribers for you here and I am on the alert to secure for you any reader that I can. I consider your paper the best thing of the kind that I have ever encountered. It not only discusses the public questions that it discusses (except the single tax), but it is written in such a terse, idiomatic, epigrammatic and fetching style that it is a pleasure to read it. I look for it every Monday morning with eagerness created by the absolute certainty that it will instruct and entertain. Such a paper should be better known in the east, where there are thousands of Bryan democrats who would delight to read it and where there are thousands of misguided citizens whose erroneous ideas are drawn from the lying editorials of the great trust subsidized papers, and who would be enlightened by reading the Nebraska Independent. The Commoner points out the wrong. The Independent 'eats it up.' I feel intensely on the question of imperialism and I admire so much your valiant fight for the maintenance of Liberty I cannot forbear giving my enthusiasm full swing. It is to papers of the

LIBERTY BUILDING POSTALS

Proposition Announced Only Three Weeks and Sales Already Made in Every Part of the United States

TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED SOLD TO STATE COMMITTEE

Letters Received From Everywhere Endorsing the Undertaking as Worthy the Support of all Interested in Good Government

The sale of Liberty Building Postals continues in a most encouraging manner. The state committee of the people's party has purchased 2,500 cards and will distribute them among the county and precinct committeemen in this state, asking their co-operation and aid in selling them. This will result in adding to the list of thousands of new subscribers to our list. The committee proposes to sell the cards they have purchased at \$1.00 each, thus netting 40 cents profit on each card, to be turned over to the treasurer of the committee, to be used in defraying campaign expenses. Each committeeman will find it easy to sell five cards for \$5.00, and when he has done so \$2.00 of the amount goes to the campaign fund.

Both the readers of The Independent and party officials understand the political advantage to be derived from increasing the circulation of this paper. Our readers acting as our agents and precinct committeemen acting in the same capacity should sell the cards at some price to those who become subscribers. In other words, the subscribers must pay something for the card in order to become a bona fide subscriber. We do not care to have any trouble with this imperialistic administration and while we deny the justice or right of any third class assistant to make a ruling that a man shall not be permitted to buy a newspaper and send it to his friend in the same way that he is permitted to buy a sack of flour for him—yet, in view of the fact that the said third class assistant is in office and has the power of the government and the army behind him to enforce his imperialistic decrees, we do not care to clash with him at this time. Our remedy is in overthrowing this administration, and the explanation of its term and supplanting it with honest men from the ranks of the plain people. We are opposed to imperialism in every form, but believe in opposing it by lawful methods. We are not ready to give up the ship and suffer banishment to Canada. The rule denying Mr. Wilshire's magazine admission to the mails was outrageously unjust. The Independent does not believe in doctrines and teachings, but it will defend him in the right of free speech and a free press as guaranteed to every citizen by the constitution of the United States in this language: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances." (Of course the constitution says: "Congress" shall not be permitted to do so—perhaps the constitution is weak in that it did not specifically state that a third-class assistant in the postoffice department should not be permitted to do so.)

But seriously, if a man who can by his decrees compel great publications to move their plants to Canada to secure freedom of the press how long will it be before clerks in other departments may be issuing orders that will deprive the American people of the right of free speech, or the right of petition, or the right to worship God according to the dictates of their consciences? They are rights that our ancestors forced from King John at the point of the sword at Runnymede; that our forefathers pledged their "lives and sacred honor" to preserve and that American patriots defended with their lives against the encroachments of King George III. It is the richest heritage that Americans hold and it should be their eternal vigilance to transmit it unimpaired to their posterity. Get subscribers for The Independent, but get them honestly, requiring every man to contribute something from his own means in payment thereof.

From everywhere come words of encouragement. We cannot give room to the publication of more than we do, but all are appreciated none the less, and every assistant has our thanks.

Maryland in the Line

You can send me five of the "Liberty Building Postals" and I will do what I can to sell them, although I am not exactly a populist. I am the next thing to it—a Bryan democrat.

I believe the principles of the people's party are needed to save the nation from the results of republican misrule, as they are in more than true democracy. Your paper has been a source of great instruction to me, and I like your plain way of talking right out. I have been sending my copy, when through with it, to my friends in other states, and from what I have heard, that they have read it with profit and pleasure. In the east, as you are no doubt aware, the densest ignorance prevails on the most economic subjects, and populism and the devil are closely associated in the public mind, due in great part to the misrepresentations of the capitalistic press. There are more true Americans in the

summer, when I visited Texas, California, Colorado, and your state of Nebraska. THOMAS O. CLARK, Baltimore, Md.

Past Ninety Years and Patriotic Being a subscriber to your very valuable paper, I fully indorse its teachings of the plain people's cause. Though I am an old man, past ninety, I cannot refrain from subscribing \$3 for one of your blocks of five "Liberty Building" postal cards. If I cannot easily sell them, I purpose to give them away for the enlightenment of some misguided people. Enclosed find money order for \$3 for five postals. SALES BROWNELL, Salem, Ore.

A Home for The Independent I am pleased to see The Independent trying to get a home of its own, and I will, for one, accept your offer. If you will send me the five postal cards I will sell them and send you the money as soon as I have disposed of them. D. E. BURKEY, Giltner, Neb.

A Friend of Mr. Bryan Judging from my knowledge of papers, I think The Independent and Commoner are the best published. I have not changed my mind as regards W. J. Bryan. He is still my candidate as he is also of the one hundred and fifty-six other democrats of this town. I would be very glad to do anything I can to increase the circulation of The Independent, particularly in this locality, as it is a republican stronghold.

If you wish to send a block of cards, I will do the best I can with them. Oregon, Mo. A. L. CASKEY.

Publishers Should be Independent Send me a block of "Liberty Building" postals and I will do the best I can to sell them as I believe it is to the interest of all the people that our publishers should be independent of corporations of any and all description. THOS. W. GRANBERRY, Long Pine, Neb.

Wants a Block—Of Course Yes, of course, send me a block of "Liberty Building" cards. I haven't the money to pay for them now, and if I can't sell them I will pay for them myself if it takes the hair off the people (the great common people) must strain every nerve to keep the torch of liberty burning in these days of imperialism, militarism, fraud and corruption. B. N. CLEAVLAND, Fremont, Neb.

Truth and Honesty Needed Please send to my address five "Liberty Building" postal cards. I will try my best to help you. Your paper is my kind. Truth and honesty is what we must have or the government is gone forever. MRS. ELLEN RICE, South Dayton, N. D.

Getting a Club in Florida I have read your paper for several weeks with great pleasure, in fact I look upon it as one of the best papers published.

I am trying to get up a little club here for you, but how I am going to come out I cannot tell. We are suffering here with an acute attack of "McKinley prosperity," besides seeing our orange trees frozen to the ground five times in the last six years, the last time only three weeks ago. De Land, Fla. A. W. STEAGALL.

What we need most is a home. At present we are located in a building which we rent. In the midst of a campaign or other inconvenient time we might be compelled to move. To that extent we are at the mercy of landlords. What we desire to do is to buy a little spot of mother earth from which we can fearlessly champion the cause of good government and defend the plain people from the aggressions of organized greed, and from which we cannot be driven by the order of some plutocrat. We want to construct "Liberty Building," dedicated to the defense of the liberties of the plain people. In time of peace we wish to prepare for war.

We need a building 30x142 feet, two stories high, of the most economical construction. We will use it without plastering, heat it with ordinary heating stoves and be thoroughly happy and at home to and for all our friends and patrons. We will get along without the luxury of steam heat or hot air furnace.

The plan adopted to accomplish the undertaking is to sell "Liberty Building Postals" in blocks of five for \$3.00. Each postal is good for a year's subscription to The Independent to be sent to any address in the United States or Canada. What we ask of our friends and patrons is their co-operation in disposing of 2,000 blocks of 5, 10,000 cards. We have made the price low to make it easy for them to dispose of the cards. When you ask your neighbor to buy one of these cards you are not asking him to contribute or donate anything. You are in reality offering to sell him a year's subscription to The Independent at 40 cents less than he could buy the subscription direct. We can afford to make this low rate for these cards in blocks