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"In the beauty of the hills Christ was born across the sea, With a glory in his beam That illumined you and me. As he strove to make you holy Let us strive to make men free, Since God is marching on." Julia Ward Howe.

EDITORIAL

TWODOGS AND ONE BONE. There is a prospect which almost amounts to a certainty that the coalition between the republican and democratic members of the legislature will come to a sudden and violent termination.

There can be but one interpretation of this decision and collateral circumstances. The republican lobby, backed by the decision of the supreme court, is making a tremendous effort to win over independents enough to join with the republicans and democrats in declaring Boyd and the republican candidates for the other state offices elected.

There can be but one conclusion. Money is here for the purpose of detaching members of the legislature and other powerful influences are being brought to bear. After the republicans and democrats have joined in this criminal practice the republicans propose to give the lie to the adage that there is honor among thieves, and stick the knife into their late allies by having Majors declared governor upon proof of Boyd's ineligibility.

There is more in this than a wild guess. Will the democrats sell their birthright for a mess of pottage, and allow the purchaser to steal the pottage?

"The Fiat Delusion." We have received from our friend Rev. A. H. Blackmer, of Peoria, a clipped article under the above title, in which we find the following sentence:

"No paper promise to pay, whether issued by a man, a corporation or a government, can be worth any more to the holder than the value of what he is entitled to get in exchange for it."

The above is true, and in saying it the writer gives away his case entirely. If the promise was to pay gold it would be worth the amount of gold promised. The gold would then be worth what the government had enacted it should be legal tender for—no more, no less.

If the "promise to pay" was by law a legal tender for a certain number of dollars, it would exchange for that number of dollars, or it would liquidate debt to that amount—that is "exchange for" the obligations of its holder to that amount. Thus, under the operation of the "fiat delusion" a silver dollar worth intrinsically only 85 cents exchanges for a gold dollar worth intrinsically 100 cents. The paper promises to pay now in circulation get their value from the fact that they will exchange for their face in the obligations of their holders.

The clipping sent by Rev. Blackmer is from the Chicago Tribune, a rabid gold bug concern, whose editor is incapable of grasping the idea that all money receives its value from the power of the government issuing it, more than from the intrinsic value of the material on which it is stamped.

Three little old men sitting in a row, Said "well—well—we don't know; But we'll chance it—jus' for fun— So Sheriff McClay get your little gun."

THE CONTEST AND LEGISLATURE. The argument that the contest should be sent to the rear in the interest of needed legislation is rather fallacious. What legislation will we get with Boyd as governor.

Dark Days! Dark Deeds.

FRAUD, VIOLENCE AND REVOLUTION CLOSE THE EXPIRING HOURS OF THE OLD PARTY.

THE TWO OLD PARTIES IN EACH OTHER'S ARMS.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE VIOLATES HIS OATH OF OFFICE, AND RECEIVES HIS PAY.

THE DOOR OF THE HOUSE FORCED BY A BAILIFF OF THE SUPREME COURT.

A Partisan Court Issues the Most Important Opinion in its History in Thirty Minutes on Ex Parte Testimony.

The King is dead! Hail liberty! Hail the new! the free! the fraternal! The Independent party salutes the flag and all that is honest, true, noble and free in our great young state. Her quiet yet determined entry, her spotless reputation, her simple platform, her ignorance in political methods, and her union in noble purposes, confounds and alarms the professional politicians that have held the state in their polluted grasp for a quarter of a century.

The past week has been full of startling events. At no time since the Kansas and Nebraska anti-slavery war have they been equalled. Nor is it at all strange if we consider what elements have met for the first time in a political struggle.

On the one side there is the vigorous and the new, the strong, but the unorganized. On the other a united, schooled, disciplined, desperate political cabal in possession of a once great party, now expiring in its grasp, that with the hope of continuing its unworthy existence for a few brief hours, is locked in the corrupt embraces of its hated and hereditary enemy.

Republicanism in Nebraska could not close its unsavory career without a political tragedy! Loss of political principles, loss of the confidence of the masses, broken political pledges, corrupt corporate control, corrupt political conventions, corrupt manipulations of elections, corrupt political cabals, an organized business association, whose sole capital and business is corruption. Then Rosewater, a venal press, lower yet, in the city where vice when planted soonest ripens—then spring up that reign of terror of Nebraska politics, "The League." It has all the vices that have preceded it. Fed by its corrupt progenitor, directed by unscrupulous leaders, ignorant, yet schooled, that there are no laws but must yield to their brutal desires and ignorant prejudices, it carries the election and now it is full grown, in full bloom. Fruit of anarchy takes possession of the capital and defies and threatens any who would question it.

Republican history in Nebraska was complete; its career was ready to be closed. How should we expect it would end? As it did, in a tragedy. Note the acts and the actors who perform their parts.

The great legislature of the whole state in joint convention are performing their high and responsible duties under the constitution of canvassing the votes for the executive offices of the state, a duty imposed upon them also by sections 51 and 52 of the election statutes passed by republicans more than a decade ago. They are proceeding deliberately, honestly and unsuspectingly under a section of the constitution that is their charter and authority solely, and with which when acting under it no power on earth has any right to interfere, when the tragedy of the last days of the republican party is committed.

A republican secretary of state at the instance of one of the cabal, violates his oath of office and his duty to the state and withholds the evidence of republican election crimes from the speaker of the house until his employers can obtain their seats by force, and at once openly and brazenly takes his reward for his betrayal of his official trust without apparently any sense of shame for the unworthy act.

The notorious Tom Benton, whose case is pending for hearing before the joint convention on charges of gross fraud in the election, employs a noted corporation lawyer to bring a suit to obtain, before a hearing can be had upon these frauds or upon the citizenship of the Hon. James E. Boyd, the seats which they know they are not entitled to.

Why was this suit brought by him? Why could not the Hon. James E. Boyd have brought it? They were willing to disgrace the state and violate and defeat the plain provisions of the constitution.

The writ is obtained with unnecessary haste.

The court grant the writ almost without a hearing—fifteen minutes—seven and a half minutes for each of two counsel to present objections, arguments and authorities why the joint convention of this great state should not be forcibly invaded and coerced in behalf of this tool of the corporations,

who was at the bar of that court on trial at that time.

Force was ready at hand, and the joint convention of the legislature of the state of Nebraska, while in deliberative session, have their doors broken down, their officers maltreated, the dignity of the state insulted, and their speaker, who is subject to no other authority or court than their own, coerced and commanded to perform an act he has been forbidden to do by the bodies that created him, and to which he is alone amenable. He is compelled to violate the constitution and declare a citizen of Great Britain governor of the state, to canvass votes that the statutes of Nebraska for over ten years have said the legislature shall canvass, and declare results that the joint convention have suspended the declaration of. Sic Transit Republicanism.

The supreme court of Nebraska is under a cloud. We do not say it judges are conspirators. We do not say they are in collusion with the corporate power of this state and the worst political element that ever raped the ballot-box or disgraced a law-abiding community. But other men not so careful as we have said it. The simple fact is that the supreme court of this state handed down the most important opinion in its history within thirty minutes of the application for it, allowing only fifteen minutes for argument and citations, or purely ex parte testimony; and the retiring secretary of state illegally withheld the notice of contest from the speaker of the house until the writ had been served and its mandate compiled with.

The supreme court is composed of honorable men. That they are partisans there is not a shadow of doubt. Whether supreme power is safer in the hands of three old men subject to partisan influences and partisan feelings than in the hands of one hundred and thirty-three chosen representatives of the people, where it is placed by the constitution, is now for the people themselves to determine.

THE USURPATION OF MEIKELJOHN.

The acts of Meikeljohn in aspiring to be the presiding officer of the senate against the will of that body and in refusing to put the question of appeal from his decision, was a gross usurpation. Why it was first submitted to in the senate is a mystery. This usurpation was continued in the joint convention, and proved successful. The joint convention was without rules except those of general parliamentary law. The proposal to adopt rules in the senate, with rule 15 amended so as to make the speaker the presiding officer had been ruled out of order and an appeal denied, and no rules had been adopted either in the houses separately or in the joint convention. There was therefore a conflict as to who was the presiding officer. In the face of such a conflict who was to decide? There was and is no power under the constitution to decide such a conflict except the joint convention itself. But the usurping president declared the question out of order, and refused to entertain an appeal from his decision. No more tyrannical piece of bulldozing was ever known in the United States, not even in the palmiest days of the klu klux klan. The plain course of the convention and of its speaker or its members was to insist on the appeal being considered, to have decided the question of precedence as presiding officer by a vote, and then have enforced its decision, peaceably if it could, forcibly if it must. As the matter resulted usurpation triumphed, the majority was overridden and insulted, the liberties of the people outraged, and the constitution trampled in the dust.

The legislative power is the supreme power of this land. The theory of the government is that the people through the majority must rule, peaceably if it can, forcibly if it must. By the event of the contest last week a minority ruled, and the majority quietly submitted to outrage under protest rather than incur the danger of being considered the aggressor in the violation of order.

The protest came when the joint convention adopted a resolution reciting that notwithstanding the declaration of the vote on the face of the returns it considered that no election had been had, and it would not recognize Mr. Boyd as governor.

FORCING THE DOORS OF THE HOUSE.

Shortly after the opening of the afternoon session on Wednesday, Sheriff McClay appeared at the door of the house armed with a writ of mandamus from the supreme court addressed to the speaker, directing him to proceed with the opening and canvassing of the returns. There was no reason in the world why the sheriff should not have been admitted. Any man at all familiar with constitutional law knows that the supreme court had no power to enforce such a writ. But owing to some misunderstanding of the situation the deputies of the sergeant at arms resisted his entrance. Mr. McClay, assisted by deputy U. S. Marshal Hastings, Constable Carder and Bud Lindsey, forced an entrance into the house, amid great excitement, breaking the glass doors in so doing, and McClay served his writ. In the face of a divided chairmanship the opposition had every advantage in the matter. The course of the speaker should have been to acknowledge service of the writ, and put it in his vest pocket for cigar paper. But president Meikeljohn brought the

fact of the writ to the attention of the house, which was an honor that should not have been accorded it. The attempt to mandamus a co-ordinate branch of the government by a writ which it could not enforce under the constitution places the supreme court of this state in a ridiculous and contemptible position. But the Independent majority, willing that acts of aggression should come from the other side, and anxious to be at one with law and order, contented itself with a protest. But the end of this it not yet.

A gross outrage may be perpetrated with dignity and manliness, and under the form of the law. Sheriff McClay had not been officially denied entrance to the house. He could have sent a communication to the desk, stating his business and asking admission. If it had then been denied him any other course would have been open.

What did he do? Proceeded at once to force the door. To deepen the insult he associated with himself in this lawless act the colored keeper of the lowest saloon and brothel in the city of Lincoln.

Is there any danger in this? Yes, great danger. Don't for a moment fail to read the signs aright. This says plainly to the people of this state, any usurping partisan tyranny can at any time find fitting instruments to carry out its edicts. King James found Jeffries and a bloody circuit. The railroad power and the Boyd-republican combine found a partisan court, Bud Lindsey, Marshall Hastings, Constable Carder and Sheriff McClay.

TROOPS CLEAR THE CORRIDORS.

During the height of the excitement Wednesday the corridors of the capitol became filled with an excited and tumultuous crowd. This mob became noisy and demonstrative, though there was nothing ugly in the demonstrations. They were simply noisy and disorderly, though perfectly good natured. All were pushing to gain access to the representatives' hall, though it would have held but a small portion of them. At this juncture Governor Thayer very properly sent a detachment of troops to relieve the pressure on the doors of the hall and preserve order. Governor Thayer has been cool and level-headed throughout the whole of this affair, and a feeling of safety has pervaded the capitol on account of his position, which would not otherwise have been felt.

THE INDEPENDENTS THE LAW AND ORDER MEN.

Thus far the independents have shown themselves the law and order party. The outrages and usurpations have come from the other side. The Boyd outfit has no argument whatever in favor of the usurpation of Meikeljohn or the interference of the supreme court with a co-ordinate branch of government, nor with the outrageous method of gaining entrance into the chamber to serve the writ. The independents and people of this state through a majority of their chosen representatives, are simply demanding that the question of the validity of the late election shall be determined fairly by a legal investigation, and that demand shall be acceded to, and they will submit to that arbitration whatever it shall be. The railroad power has long ruled this state under the forms of law. No longer able to do it by those forms, it now resorts to lawlessness and violence to maintain its power.

THE CONTEST CASES.

The Daily Call of Sunday has the following which is fair and to the point:

"The contestants are just as confident of ultimate success as they have been at any time since the notices of contest were filed, and the work of briefing the evidence is going on continuously. The mere fact that the supreme court ordered the canvass of the returns does not dampen their ardor, as the court promised that every right should be saved to them. This evidence will be furnished to the members so that they can read it and satisfy themselves of its relevancy and its value, and when they come to vote, they can vote intelligently."

The work of the past few days, while it develops the fact that the independent members lack experience in legislative work, also developed the fact that they are honest and honorable, and that all the scare about the Alliance people ruining the business interests of the state was the veriest bosh.

They have as much at stake as most of other people. They are Nebraskans, and as such take a pride in the good name and welfare of their adopted state. No rash work may be expected. They will doubtless pass some law that to some people will look radical, but to the masses they will look just, and they will afford relief to the people who have been poorly considered in the legislation of the past.

Memorial to Congress for Relief.

A memorial to congress by the two houses of the legislature for aid for our western counties, proposed by Senator Stevens, is a move in the right direction. The amount asked for should not be less than \$500,000. The surplus in the U. S. treasury has increased \$18,000,000 in the last three months. There is no reason whatever why some of this money should not go back to the people for a beneficent purpose in such an emergency as this.

ROSEWATER VS. RICHARDS.

"Let the galled jade wince." Mr. Rosewater seems to be the "galled jade," for he comes back at Mr. Richards in the Bee of the 5th to the extent of two columns and a half. Mr. R. has a pretty tough case when he has to devote two columns and a half to its elimination. Mr. Richards made him regret his first article. This he admits. He says, "I confess I made a grave mistake in failing to carry out the good old maxim that bids us never to speak ill of the dead." Like the keeper of that Massachusetts alms house, he was trying to skin a dead man, was he?

Mr. Rosewater's last article is a little remarkable in admitting the truth of some of the claims the independents have made to justify the new movement. He says:

"In politics confidence is another name for popular support, and popular support can only be assured by an adherence to principles and an honest discharge of the obligations which the body politic assumes toward the people."

This is quite true, which proves that Mr. R. hits it once in a while. He now goes on to show that the republican party is not entitled to the confidence of the people, which is just the claim the independents made. Read this:

"In state politics the party has degenerated and lost popular confidence. The cyclone that has swept the state was nothing more nor less than a popular revolt against the disregard of the demands of the producing and industrial classes. It was a rebuke to the party for pledges unredeemed and public sentiment defied."

And this: "To review the history of the republican party from the impeachment of Butler down to the present day would take more space than it is at my disposal at this time. Suffice it to say that a deep-seated conviction has prevailed among the masses and been growing from year to year that the machinery of the party has been under the control of corporate monopolies, who have fastened upon the people men distrustful and disreputable, and repressed every effort at redress from the exactions of public carriers that has been made."

And this: "Nebraska's delegation at the last republican national convention was made up of seven railroad lawyers and three railroad politicians. And this in the face of the fact that two-thirds of the republican voters are farmers. The last republican legislature capped the climax of extravagance and jobbery by appropriations that piled the tax mountain high upon the people."

Speaking of the last republican state convention, he says the platform was all that could be desired—[of course, for he helped make it]—"but the convention was hoodooed at the outset when Church Howe was made chairman."

He calls the Richards men "the fool friends of the late candidate." But he wasn't a traitor to Richards—oh no!

But here are two paragraphs that are a dead give-away on Rosey, and show conclusively that he supported Boyd, and went traitorously into the Boyd-republican-railroad combine because Boyd was an Omaha man and because he wanted him per se quite as much as because he was right on the whiskey question.

Read this: "It is a good deal of gall for the place-hunter who wrote his [Richards'] squatter governor inaugural to lay the blame for his blunder on me and say that he preferred going down in defeat rather than take my advice."

It is equally absurd to assert that I secretly stabbed the defunct because he did not propose prohibition. Everybody knows that I gave cordial and hearty support to N. V. Harlan on the stump and through the Bee, notwithstanding the fact that he was a pronounced prohibitionist in the legislature and firm supporter of the amendment."

"When I'm in a republican district I'm a republican—when in a democratic district, I'm a democrat—but I'm for Omaha, Rosewater and the devil all the time."

A LITTLE LESS MONKEYING, PLEASE.

This paper proposes to deal justly with all men. But it does not propose to truckle to the enemy, neither does it propose to hide the treachery or undue ambition of any man who professes loyalty to the Alliance cause while trucking with the enemy. The World-Herald came out again yesterday urging Mr. Shrader's fitness for the speakership. The World-Herald is democratic. Now, if Mr. Shrader is an Alliance man, what in thunder is he monkeying around the World-Herald and the democrats for? Has he foresworn himself to help seat Boyd? If he is still a democrat, because he was elected upon a combination ticket, having unassured the Alliance nomination in an unsatisfactory manner, what claim can he expect to have upon the true blue members of the house? We have no quarrel with Mr. Shrader, even if he is so ambitious as to sacrifice principle for personal emolument; but we shall not hesitate right here to add that we are not pleased with the kind of company he keeps.

The above is from a paper in Mr. Shrader's district. It does Mr. Shrader great injustice. The W. H. is playing its old game, which is to capture as many independents as possible. It seems to have had some success in this line, but Mr. Shrader is not among its victims. He has won a high place among the independents. If they are all as staunch and true as he seems to be, they will win their fight in good shape.

The Crawford Clipper has changed hands. Mr. A. J. Embody, in taking editorial control remarks: "Politically the Clipper does not change with the new management. It will still be republican, but we shall not so far forget our duty to our fellow man as to object to his right to free speech and ballot." It is refreshing to see a republican paper acknowledge that its party is opposed to free speech and an honest ballot. With this much admitted it cannot be long until the Clipper will be read out of the republican fold.

A BAD BREAK.

The passage of the senate resolution ordering papers for the use of the members was not justifiable. This has been the method of a contemptible steal for many years. It is just as proper to buy shoes or cigars for the use of members as newspapers. If the independent members want to disseminate the abuse and misrepresentation of themselves by such papers as the Bee, Journal and World-Herald over this state at public expense, let them adhere to this resolution and adopt one in the house. Not one of these papers intends to give a fair and impartial report of the proceedings. Their reports are simply statements of partisan and irresponsible correspondents, and are colored to suit the purposes of the publishers, and larded with vile lies about individuals. Any paper that would publish the low canard about Senator Stevens should be excluded from any respectable assembly.

In the house the same resolution was adopted later. There is only one thing to say: This is an abandonment of principle, and repudiation of pledges made in the campaign. The men who abandon principle in small things may do so in large ones. We will just add that when the house starts in to pass such resolutions as these, and avoids the record by not calling the ayes and noes, it is adopting the bad methods of its predecessors which have been condemned by the people.

If men are to adopt the principle that they might as well take it, because some else would if they did not, they had better not have come here. The other fellows were sufficiently expert. That excuse is the bulwark of all villainies.

We are placed in an embarrassing position. We do not like to refuse orders from members for papers. We like still less to take a pull at the nasty test Editor Gere has been sucking so long, and will not.

THE DEMO-REPUBLICAN COMBINE.

If any evidence had been needed to show the essential unity of the republican and democratic parties, the events of the past week have furnished it. In the face of the danger of a triumph of the people over the corporations—in the face of the danger that the democrats might lose the fruits of their rape of the suffrage in Omaha, they have worked into each others arms with the affection of twins. In sustaining the usurpation of Meikeljohn, in insisting that Boyd should be declared elected, in fighting to secure a journal record which was a perversion of the truth, in insisting upon a recognition of Boyd—in short, in every effort to sustain the Boyd crowd in consummating the usurpation of power in the state, the republican party is making a record which its worst enemy could not wish altered. The fact that there is no essential difference between these parties is being demonstrated every day. This fact was charged in the campaign, and vigorously denied. That denial would have but little force now. It is certainly a funny sight to see old republican soldiers who fought through the war fighting now to seat Boyd, and thus approve the vilest fraud ever perpetrated in this or any other state.

ORGANIZATION.

We regret to say that the independents are neglecting the first principles of organization, and the bad effects of it are seen every day. There should be a legislative committee composed of members of both houses. This committee should determine what bills should be considered party measures, subject to the approval of the party caucus, and should call the independent members together whenever necessary. Every member has a right to present bills. Numerous bills will be presented on the same subject, and each member will think his associates should support his bill. By sifting and selecting, and by concentrating all effort upon only one bill or one subject, the work of such a committee would be invaluable.

There is no need whatever for printing a multiplicity of bills on the same subject. A well organized legislative committee backed by a majority could save the state thousands of dollars in this matter. Its necessity is imperative, and if it has not been formed we trust it will be at once.

"THE MIRE OF POLITICS."

The World-Herald says "the Alliance party is being dragged by its leaders into the mire of politics."

Perhaps the sony who runs the W. H. will inform us how a political party will keep out of politics. As for the mire it will be there as long as dishonest straddlers like the W. H. are in it. The great friend of the Alliance turns out to be a first lieutenant of the corrupt conspiracy known as the "corporation-Boyd-Rosewater combine."

An editor convicted of outrageous lying, and lying down quietly under it, and whose correspondents are simply disseminators of malicious slanders, has much gall when he talks about "the mire of politics."

"A certain gentleman who has been highly honored by his party is making enemies just now faster than he ever made friends. Putting on Boyd's livery is not a very auspicious beginning for a successful political career."