THE EMPEROR'S BREAKFAST.

Fifteen centuries ago
Emperor Nintok of Japan
Walked upon his roof at daybreak,
Watching if the tolls began
Well to gild the cedar frieze
Of his palace galleries;
Well to nail the silver plates
On his inner palace gates;
For the Qu n would have it so
Fifteen hundred years ago!

Walking on his roof, he spied
Streets and lanes and quarters teeming;
Saw a city spreading wide.
Ah! but mean and sad of seeming
Show those lowly wooded huts
Underneath the King's house gleaming;
Though each humble wicket shuts
One world out and one world in,
That so great and this so small,
Yet, to the poor hearts within,
The little world their all in all!
Just then the waiting-maids bore through
The breakfast of King Nintoku.
Quoth the Emperor—gazing round—
"Wherefore, when my meats abound,
See I not much smoke arise
From these huts beneath my eyes?
Chimneys put into the air,
Yet no chimney-reek is there
Telling that the household pot
Bubbles glad with gohan* hot.
Gild me no more galleries,
If my people pay the gold!
Let my gates unplated go,
If the silver leaves them cold!
This city of all tax I ease
For three years! We decree it so!
From all huts there shall be smoke."
Thus the Emperor Nintok spoke.

Sped three years, upon his roof
The monarch paced again. Aloof
His Empress hung, ill-pleased to see
The snows drip through her gallery,
The gates agape with cracks, and gray,
For wear and weather: "Consort, say
If so the Emperor of Japan
Should lodge, like some vile peasant man,
Whose thatch leaks for a load of straw?"
"Princess august, what recks a glass,"
Nintok replied, "in gate or wall,
When far and wide, those chimneys all
Fling their blue house-flags to the sky,
Where the gods count them! Thou and I
Take part in all the poor folk's health—
The people's weal makes princes' wealth!"

*Boiled rice.

Are You Led by the Nose?

RUSHVILLE, NEB., March 21, '92.

EDITOR ALLIANCE:—The man, the woman, or the community whose opinions, religious, political, or otherwise, are received from some boss, leader or demogogue in the manner resembling that in which newly hatched young birds receive their food, without any thought or consideration of their own, belong to that class of whom it has come to be a common saying, "They are led by the nose."

Now it is one of the most ordinary occurrences to run across men of this class, and the proof of the fact is to be seen at every election.

Men who are "led by the nose" are more likely to vote against than for their own and their family's interest. They can be seen on election day in their soiled, greased and tattered apparel standing in obsequious and attentive attitude by shiny Shylock's or bloated banker's side receiving instructions as to how they shall vote.

Although it be true they have talked and protested and warmly professed their faith in, and fealty to reform doctrines as taught by all true advocates, three hundred and sixty-four days in the year, they will on the sixty-fifth day stultify it all by consenting to let some old party boss or tool lead them by the nose to the polls, where for some weak, miserably, mean, corrupt, envious or trifling consideration they will cast a suicidal vote.

They exactly illustrate the imbecility of the fools in the fable, who were hired by their own enemies to bore holes in the bottom of the boat in which they with others were sailing.

There is a radical difference between *nose* and *knows*. A man sometimes nose a great deal and yet knows very little. And accordingly there is a great difference between a man who is led by the nose and one who is lead by the knows; and though there may be little or no difference in the dimensions of their nasal protuberances a wide diversity will be conspicious in their actions—on election day. The former will distinguish himself as a dupe in the service of the old parties, while the latter may be safely counted on to help *do-up* the old parties. The first is a man of cents, the other a man of *sense*.

Alike as to the polls, yet unlike as the poles. One may *have* a hobby, the other *is* a hobby. The "led by the nose" man is likely to be tight at election and the tighter he gets the looser he becomes, and becomes yet more the loser. But the man who goes knowsing around on election day looking after the interests of the people's party led by his knows, is commended as an example worthy to be followed in next election by those who have on such occasions formerly permitted their political enemies to lead them by the nose.

The conduct of the man who is led by the nose is frequently disgusting to the man who is led by the knows, and the man who is being habitually led by the nose is liable to suffer a great deal from an unnatural use and expansion of his nose and a corresponding contraction of his knows.

And to him who is led by the nose it is suggested that he who attempts it knows that to be constantly led by the nose always results in more or less damage to both the nose and the knows.

And no matter how deficient one may be in quantity of nose every sensible person knows that to be always led by the nose will not only increase the nose but will positively lessen the knows.

And it is also here remarked that even in painful scarcity of nose it is of infinitely more consequence to endeavor to enlarge the knows than to try to obtain any benefit from magnifying the nose.

But enough of this, and I now propose to quit the subject ere I [illegible] come to blows. But one inquiry before close,—beg pardon reader—Are you led by the nose? Let me not be offensive nor disturb your repose, but say dear reader, *Are* you led by the nose? My object (yes, I'll own it) is to tread on the toes, of all who submit to be led by the nose. And to hint, gracious reader, that the cause of most woes, is the too common practice of being led by the nose. When your nose is no handle, you see it fol lows, you will *think* for yourself—not be led by the nose. And then it will happen, that you'll frustrate your foes, and beat them next fall, being led by your *knows*.

L. P. CUMMINS.

The Mortgage Business Again.

Hodgeville, Neb., Mar. 26, '92.

MR. EDITOR:—Having read an article in an Omaha daily paper lately offering the reward of "A consciousness of doing great good to our noble state," to those who would seek out and announce the number of cancellations of mortgages during the past year, I thought as business was a little slack I would try and secure the prize myself.

My first search was made in a county where I had been acquainted for 19 years. There were a number of farmers living near the county seat, one of the most flourishing cities in the state, whom I knew had contracted debts twelve to fifteen years ago to procure necessary machinery to conduct their work in the most approved methods, and to purchase live stock for their [illegible] profitable breeds.

I knew that these men were all intelligent, industrious, and economical, and that they had produced immense crops, and further that they had not entered into any speculations to hazard their earning by their failures. In fact these very men were held up to my attention two years ago by a resident banker of said city to illustrate the falsity of the alliance slander, that "farming does not pay in Nebaaska."

I therefore directed my attention to that neighborhood with the assurance in my mind that if anybody had cancelled their farm mortgages these would be the men. I was not entirely disappointed. Although all these farmers had mortgaged their farms for one reason or another I found the most of their mortgages were cancelled, and those which were not I had every assurance would be cancelled very soon probably within another year.

It may be interesting to some of your readers, Mr. Editor, to give a short history of how this result was effected in a number of instances, and lest the modesty of these good men should be offended I will describe them under fictitious names.

Mr. A. came to the state from the east with wife and family of small children, and about $5,000 worth of property. He took a homestead and timber claim of 160 acres each and enough railroad land adjoining to make up 560 acres of land, all fit for the plow and fertile soil. I was well acquainted with him for he was a distant relative of the Hodge family, and I was frequently at his house. He soon put about 400 acres of his land under cultivation, and although rumor said that he trusted his field work a little too much to his hired man, he managed to raise large crops and always seemed to get as high a price for all the farm products as any of his neighbors. He passed for a fairly industrious man, in fact when I was at his place (I worked for him awhile) he and his wife seemed to be busy from 5 o'clock in the morning to 10 at night. He seemed to get along well for about 8 years and I believe was nearly out of debt, when by a continued visitation of Providence not drouth) his crops were cut off three years in succession, his hogs died with cholera, and his teams with the glanders, and it became necessary to spread on the mortgage so thick (the Omaha *Bee's* evidence of prosperity) that he despaired, as he afterwards told me himself, of ever being able to cancel it. But Providence again smiled upon his efforts and after raising immense crops for the two succeeding years he found an opportunity to sell his farm for enough to pay his debts, which he did, and so cancelled his mortgage, and I was told he had just enough left to take him to a distant home where his wife and children are trying by hard work to retrieve their fortunes, as he, poor man, has by a mental affection (brought on I persume by his business reverse) become incapacitated for active farm work.

Farmer B. came to the state about the same time as Mr. A., and about a year ago managed to sell his farm for enough to take him across the western mountains with about half as much property as he brought to the state with him. His mortgage was cancelled.

Farmer C. came to the state about 19 years ago with an under considerable property, having money left his wife by the death of a relative. He improved his place well, but his health failed from overwork and he sold his farm for enough to cancel the mortgage and have a little left, enough to eke out a living with the help of a pension which he received as a soldier in the war.

Farmer D. came to the state about the same time and a few weeks before I visited the neighborhood last, made a forced sale of his farm, to prevent foreclosure, for money to cancel his farm mortgage, but not quite enough to pay his debts.

Farmers E. and F. had heavy mortgages yet on their farms, but I was assured by their creditors that their mortgages would be cancelled—by foreclosure—within a year unless they managed to pay something more than the interest. In fact, they said hard times were coming for the farmers and money they must have, or the land.

JONAS HODGE.

A Warning Against Fusion.

Morgantown, Ky., March 21, 1892.

EDITOR ALLIANCE:—The movement for reform, financial relief and industrial emancipation is now well on its feet and success is in plain view. We cannot be crushed by the plutocracy We have survived their taunts and misrepresentations. We have now before us the same enemy and are surrounded with the same dangers which made shipwreck of the greenback party. That enemy and that danger is fusion.

I notice in the leading papers of the day that the committee of the people's party in Kansas and the democratic committee have agreed or will agree upon a fusion ticket by which the offices are to be divided. The details are unimportant for of course the democrats have all to gain and nothing to lose, but that is of no consequence.

Fusion proves the truth of the charge constantly made by the republicans, viz: That the people's party was an adjunct or tail to the democratic kite.

Fusion also proves that we are what has been charged, anything to get an office. It has been suggested that there would be fusion in North Carolina with the republicans. If that occurs it will simply brand us as political pirates preying on all parties where there is a prospect of public plunder. I deem it useless to argue against fusion.

It consigned the greenback party to a permanent and ignominious grave. It will have the same effect on any new party.

It is to be hoped that none of our leaders will commit so great a crime against the people as to tolerate fusion.

Kansas is the bright and morning star of pending effort for reform and relief. If our leaders tolerate fusion we will everywhere be justly held responsible therefor, and our doom will be sealed and this great reform, which has been set on foot at so much cost and sacrifice will go down in darkness, and if it does go down my notion is that the doom of the industrial classes will be sealed. Never again can reformers be stimulated to make useless sacrifices.

Let no reformer tolerate fusion,

Yours, B. L. D. GUFFY.

Fluctuations of Gold.

As compared with products gold is remarkable for its tendency to fluctuate. During the rebellion, when gold had ceased to circulate as money, and treasury notes had become the standard of all commercial transactions, the prices of products of all kinds were comparatively steady, while gold was violently fluctuating all the time, clearly indicating its unstable character. The value of a loaf of bread two thousand years ago was substantially what it is now, while gold, as compared therewith, has depreciated several thousand per cent. The apparent stability in the present price of gold grows out of the fact that we have hedged it about with laws which makes any material fluctuation in its money value impossible.

Some New Ideas on the Money Question.

Lucas, Russell Co, Kansas, March 15, 1892.

EDITOR OF THE FARMERS' ALLIANCE:—I am here near the center of the state of Kansas where the "calamity howlers" have not yet returned to their first love. They still howl. The big crops of last summer have mostly gone to market and all who depended on their crops for a living are in about the fix one of our neighbor darkies says he is in. This is the way he puts it:

"I sells my wheat, feeds my corn, sells all my pigs, sells my colts, pays up my store bills an oder bills an taxes, and what has I? Nothin'. I tells you fellers dar is somein wrong."

How will we right the wrong? Work! Not work in mother earth all the time, but work in our brother's ears and with our brains. Capital is at work day and night. There is nothing so low it will not reach to for help.

A few days ago I picked a letter out of the waste basket of the grand army lodge here; it was from a U. S. congressman of Ohio, asking the lodge to pass resolutions, etc., against free coinage of silver, to instruct our congressman to vote against free coinage, etc. His argument was very strong but not convincing. Only additional proof that the gold men are at work.

I have been a farmer since sixty-five, have paid thousands of dollars for the use of money—but have quit. I have given up the borrowed money (but had to sell the farm to do it). I am now by profession a "calamity howler," and "government pauper." I can no longer follow the plow so I look back over a misspent life without being called lazy, and perhaps show others how to get out of the ruts.

The great desire is money, the greatest need of the poor is money. All understand this. All are calling for "more money." Wall Street wants more money. Some say they want less money, if so why do they not take less interest? More money all want, and the great majority need more. Then how shall we get it? From the government; no other power can furnish it; but how will the government put it in the hands of those who most need it? The national bankers surely have long ago taught us how that can be done. Blackbacks were put in the hands of national banks. They hand them to the people, how simple—how easy for all except the borrower!

I would live to see this plan carried out, excepting the twe per cent per month—change that to two per cent per annum. The sub-treasury plan is too expensive and cannot be run with equal justice to all. Postal saving banks does not seem to fill the bill. Here is my idea:

A national banking system (unconnected with any other business) to loan money at two per cent per year on any kind of good security (just as the national banks do now) from one month to one year, receive deposits, grant exchanges, etc, pay checks—why not?

Let congress pass a law authorizing each county in the United States to elect a county bank cashier, each state a bank president, and the U. S. elect three national bank generals, all elected by popular vote. To commence with the first three N. B. G.'s appointed by the president of the U. S. from those recommended one by each state governor, one to hold office until next presidential election, one for two years longer, the other four years longer. Ever after to elect one each four years, and to be chosen from state bank presidents. State B. P.'s to hold office six years, state governor to appoint to fill vacancies until next state election.

State B. P.'s to be chosen from cashiers, cashiers to hold office for [illegible] years. N. B. C. as soon as elected to report to the S. B. P. The cashier, his bond clerk and Co. treasurer to have power to build or buy a suitable building that shall be completly fire proof at the county seat; when so obtained to draw on the U. S. treasurer not to exceed $10,000 (the county may vote to and build a better bank if so decided by the county), said order to be approved by the S. B. P.

The cashier shall be furnished safe, books, papers, etc., by the S. B. P., also all money required from time to time as he may need, the cashier to loan said money, when called for, to any citizen living in said county, not to exceed one thousand dollars to any one person, the party borrowing to furnish good and sufficient security at his own expense, if by mortgage to pay expense of recording, etc.; from one month to one years time at two per cent per annum.

Cashier to keep a blank book and record the name of any one to fail to pay when due, and when the failure to pay on time is clearly his own avoidable fault he shall forever be debarred from borrowing at any national bank.

Cashier shall receive money on deposit, and on time deposits shall pay one per cent per annum, furnish check books, issue drafts on state banks of any state, and when needed shall appoint one or more assistant cashiers.

Cashier shall receive salary $1,200 per year, assistants $900, to be paid monthly with all other expense of office, by the S. B. P.

Cashier shall make complete report each six months to the president, also a copy to the U. S. N. B. G.'s, and file a copy in his own office, shall return any surplus money, not needed, to the president.

The state bank president when elected shall with the governor and state treasurer but build a suitable fire proof building not to cost over $50,000 (except they may pay the excess) and when so obtained to draw on the U. S. treasury, said order to be approved by the board of B. G.'s.

The S. B. P. to point state bank inspectors to inspect county banks, buildings, books, etc., the same inspectors not to inspect the same bank oftener than once in four years, their reports to be kept on file in the bank.

State B. P. to appoint one cashier and as many assistant cashiers as needed. This bank supply all county banks with money, books, blanks and fixtures, of whatever kind needed, receive moneies from county banks, pay all drafts and collect the same from any national, city or city bank in the U. S. that may be drawn on it. Also furnish all city banks within the state the same as county banks.

The S. B. P. to inspect each county and city bank once each six months.

The S. B. P. shall draw on the treasury of the U. S. for all monies needed. Every order shall be approved by one of the B. G.'s.

The S. B. P. shall receive as salary $10,000, cashier $4,000, first assistant $1,000, other assistant cashiers $600. Bank inspectors shall receive $2,000 per year (or at that rate while on duty) with traveling expenses all above, to be paid each three months by the treasurer of the United States.

The treasurer of the United States to furnish the state banks all monies needed in denominations from three cents to hundred dollars in paper money, paper money to be full legal tender for all dues of whatever nature with the United States. Nor shall money ever be assessed for taxation by state, county or town, nor shall bank fixtures or notes due the United States be taxed.

The banks shall receive gold or silver money deposit the same as paper money, and pay the same out when requested until the year 1900.

All outstanding greenback and blackbacks shall be received, and when received shall be returned to the treasurer of the United States for full legal tender notes.

Cities may establish banks on the same plan as county banks, governed and organized in the same manner, except in cities of 50,000 or more inhabitants where one bank may loan from one thousand to one hundred thousand dollars or more to one person where it is clearly shown the money is to be used for manufacturing, etc., and not for speculation.

The N. B. G.'s shall inspect all state banks, approve all large loans, appoint inspectors to inspect all banks at least twice each year, create new banks as needed, have direct control of all territories, and see that we move out on the line of justice and equal rights to all. And they should receive $10,000 per year, and general inspectors $3,000 per year and transportation.

All class legislation is wrong. The poor cannot get class legislation, the rich do not need it.

Resolutions of Confidence and Endorsement.

EDITOR FARMERS' ALLIANCE:—The following resolutions were adopted by unanimous vote at the last regular meeting of Sidney, Eagle, Union Valley and Happy Hollow Alliances, Cheyenne county, Neb.

W. BOYNTON,
Sec. Cheyenne Co. Alliance.

Whereas, For many years the laboring classes have striven against the oppression of monopoly and capitalistic rule, and,

Whereas, For the past years the alliance has petitioned the state and national legislature in vain for relief from the oppression of trusts and combines, and,

Whereas, In the past few years under able leadership the masses have in a measure risen from the mire of corporation rule, therefore be it

Resolved, That we have confidence in the leaders of the reform movement, and

Resolved, That we earnestly urge all members of our order, and all the laboring class to work together to elevate the standard of honest reform as advocated by the independent party, and,

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon our records and a copy sent to the *People's Poniard*, FARMERS' ALLIANCE, and Nebraska *Independent* for publication.

The Outlook.

For the People's party in Ohio is quite flattering. We believe that our vote in Ohio is double what it was last November. Much inquiry is being made by our friends about the future work of the state committee. Many organizations are springing up and much work is being done in a quiet way. Ohio has been so long cursed with whisky besotted politicians that the work of placing the platform before the people will be one of immense magnitude, but notwithstanding this difficulty we believe that there is enough material in the ranks in Ohio to make this campaign a remarkable one for good. Viewing the work as we do, we feel that it means a thorough bracing of the backbone, a tightening of the belt and the grasping of the situation with a determined effort to win. There is every promise that the wise action of the St. Louis conference will bring into prominence the independent movement and swing into line five or more states for the People's ticket.

Already Chairman Clarkson of the national Republican committee has given up the state of Nebraska to the People's party.

Minnesota is in earnest for reform and debatable ground. Kansas will come into line without question. Georgia is beginning to show signs of throwing off the party shackles and Texas is well in advance. We have nothing to fear if we avoid all fusions and keep in the middle of the highway. Ohio should lend her aid to make these states independent, both by speakers and money, and at the same time keep her own borders full and in condition to poll a large vote. —Plow and Hammer.

Capital and Greed.

It is true that all men, perhaps, would consume more if they had it. If capital, under individual control, naturally sought to diffuse itself; if the employer sought to pay as large wages as possible, reserving a livelihood, or even moderate wealth, for himself; if, in short, competition were not destructive, but constructive, then all would be well. I might write you a chapter of ifs and suppositions, under which the world would become a paradise, but none of these things are so.

Capital is not diffusive, nor does it seek to pay high wages. Worst of all, capital does not seek to employ all the available labor, but to do its work with the least possible number of hands. It is now striving all over our land to drive out the "middle men" and increase for its own benefit, (not ours be assured), the destructive competition of labor. If it were not for a sort of system of rotation in employment, brought about by the common accidents of life, millions of human beings would either starve, seek governmental aid, or subsist on individual charity every year.—Topeka Advocate.

Increase of Rural Renters.

Poor men are being crowded out of Illinois. The independent farmer is every year finding his pathway narrower, his hill more steep, his load more heavy. The renter and the hired man are taking the place of a free population. Thirty families last week left a single neighborhood in McLean county because since 1888 land values have increased 40 per cent all about them. Increased taxation follows this rise in valuation, and farming—which yields only a modest profit at best—will not keep pace with the added burden. Those whose farms are unincumbered can do better with their capital in newer states. An inquiry develops that the buyers are investors, not farmers. Home after home has fallen into the hands of capitalists who require a cash rental too hopelessly high to admit of a margin of profit to the husbandman, and on terms so severe that surrender means loss. Cass county, Livingston, Logan and McLean are alike affected. It is estimated that 3,000 persons will this year leave Central Illinois for the cheaper lands of the West. They are men who can ill be spared. Reports may make the state seem richer, but the man who stands on the land that he owns is worth more than a world of money.—Chicago Herald, Democrat.

A New Farmers' Flouring Mill.

Madrid, Neb., March 20, '92.

EDITOR FARMERS' ALLIANCE:—The farmers of eastern Perkins county have organized a stock company and secured enough stock to build and operate a non-union flouring mill at this place. The title of the company is The Farmer's Milling Association of Madrid, Neb. The capital stock is $10,000, $6,000 of which has been subscribed and the project is an assured success and the mill will be built at once. The capacity of the mill will be 40 bbls. per day, roller process.

The farmers have made this county what it is, and they propose to have some of the profits of their labor after this. The crop of wheat here last year was an enormous one and with their own mill and elevator the farmer, will next year realize nearer the true value of their wheat by being able to grind and make their own flour, thus saving freight to Chicago and return. X. X.

Cedar County Alliance Call of Special Meeting.

The next meeting of the Cedar County Alliance will be held of Hartington, Neb., on Saturday April 2, 1895.

This meeting will be one of special importance to the Alliance. A full attendance is desired.

M. J. DENDINGER. Sec'y.

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