

## LINCOLN AND VICINITY.

Business booming.  
Merchants are happy.  
Prosperity has returned.

All of which is a gold bug lie.

The kids, who are running the republican party in this county, do not create much enthusiasm since they turned the old wheel horses down. Their boom died a bornin'.

C. W. Hoxie and Frank D. Eager are in Omaha attending an executive meeting of the populist state central committee. Headquarters will probably open in this city early next week.

Gov. Holcomb, Adj. Gen. Barry, with some other members of the governor's staff, left Lincoln for Chattanooga, Tenn., on Tuesday to attend the dedication of the Chickamauga battle field as a national park.

The largest wholesale drug firm west of Chicago, the H. T. Clarke Co., of this city, failed Wednesday. Liabilities \$500,000. The gold standard is sending the merchants one by one into bankruptcy. They don't like it as well as they thought they would.

At present writing the only county officer the republicans hope to elect is their candidate for county treasurer, and should the pops conclude to support Mr. Rudge, the free silver democratic nominee, they are not so sure of success in that particular.

It is the boast of the "young republicans," who manipulated the late county convention, that the old liners can go to. "We can run this machine without their aid and influence," and in consequence of this attitude on the part of the smart young men the old "patriots" will not vote with the party of appropriations this year.

The republicans are to open their county campaign on the 25th at Hildebrand's grove. Mr. Hildebrand is the rump candidate for clerk of the district court. In addition to giving the republicans free use of the grove, he has agreed to furnish them with 1,000 water melons. If "Hilde" thinks he can capture any republican votes with the use of cool shade and water melons he does not know the nature of their appetites.

The attempted penitentiary steal on the part of Russell & Co., is a fair sample of republican ring rule in this state for years. No wonder the tax burdens are more than the people can bear. The masses of the republican party are honest and for honest government, and that is what is building up the populist party. When they come to think of how our state, county and city treasurers have been robbed by dishonest republican officials, and to reflect that a gang of republican ringsters is still determined to loot the state treasury they are about ready to bolt. The republican party in Lancaster, at least, is not in it this year.

Mr. D. E. Thompson has a contract with the city for lighting its streets, with a good snug profit. He is a gentleman who does not manipulate city officials just for health. The present contract will soon expire, and it may be with a little effort the city could get better terms.

It is about time that Elmer Stevenson and his bondsmen pay up that \$18,000 due the city before it is too late. One bondsman is dead, one in the penitentiary, some are insolvent and some are still good. Among the latter is D. E. Thompson, reputed to be worth fully half a million dollars. The city cannot afford to lose \$18,000 and it is time the city council orders the city attorney to bring suit on the bond for the deficiency. Over two years and a half have passed since the loss was reported. The bondsman of ex-City Treasurer B. F. Fisher made good his shortage in this city sixteen years ago. Let there be no winking of the eye, simply because Boss Thompson is on the bond. He claims to own the council, and it remains to be seen if his claim is good. Are not the people weary of such republicanism?

All good populists will support their party papers. One very effective way to do it is to patronize its advertisers. Look over our ad columns.

At this writing no official announcement has been made that ex-State Treasurer Hill is not to be deputy district clerk in the event of Sam Low's election.

Judge Holmes gave us a pleasant call a few days since. The judge is an old school mate and boyhood friend of the writer and but for his politics is an excellent gentleman.

For Cornish's friends to accuse Judge Holmes of making a dirty campaign and consorting with the slums is like kettle calling pot black. As regarding Mr. Holmes in that respect, however, we're from Missouri; as regards Cornish, we don't have to be shown.

Col. Fred Miller is reported to be attracting wide attention at Chattanooga, in uniform, as a member of Gov. Holcomb's staff. The Col's fine form and affable manners makes him a prominent figure everywhere. That accounts in a great measure for his popularity as a candidate for sheriff.

"Long" John Trompea, the would-be republican sheriff, was in town one day this week, looking desperately disconsolate. The "kids" who are running the republican machine this year, got around him to cheer up his drooping spirits, patted him on the back, told him how they were tearing their linen for him, and after he was gone they went in and took a drink on the way they had "worked the jasper," as they call him.

At the state fair it required seventy-five men to guard the peace of the grounds this week, but at the Lancaster county exhibit it required 139 men to perform this duty. The secretary of our county fair, who is a candidate for county clerk on the republican ticket, evidently had an eye to getting votes when he worked that scheme.

The republicans for years have urged the voters, in county campaigns to vote for men rather than party. Now, since they have with one accord, announced on sundry occasions that Baker is the best clerk the courts of this county ever had, to be consistent they will all support Baker.

The Journal lays the foundation for ballot box stuffing in an item in last Saturday's issue by claiming that the school population has increased 600 hundred in the last year. The scores of houses placarded for rent does not confirm that statement. If the children are here they must roost in the trees. They are not to be found in the empty houses. The colonization scheme which was worked so successfully in '94 can't be played again '95.

### "God Hates a Coward."

That G. W. Berge, the populist candidate for county judge had sent a challenge to his opponent, Mr. S. T. Cochran, to discuss the political issues of the day, was announced in the last issue of the INDEPENDENT. Mr. Cochran refuses to enter into a joint debate, giving as his excuse that he does not wish to furnish audiences for populist speakers. The egotism of the reply would make satan blush. It is as much as to say, "I, Mr. S. T. Cochran, am a very great man, widely known as wise and eloquent and whenever it is announced that I will speak a great crowd will assemble that would not otherwise come, and they have so much confidence in my wisdom that they will not desire to hear any one else. They will know that what I say is the truth. They will not want to hear any of my arguments analyzed, or any assertion I make disputed. They know that I know it all, and all that the citizens of Lancaster county want is for me to tell them what to do. They know that I have all wisdom. I am infallible."

That is the substance of the reply. But the citizens of Lincoln hardly take that view of the case. They are by no means unanimous in the belief that Mr. Cochran's

words are to be taken as the eternal truth of God. They think that if he should by chance say anything that was true, it would be unharmed by criticism. Most of the citizens think Mr. Cochran has very slight knowledge of the economic questions that will be discussed in this campaign and that he is afraid to meet Mr. Berge in debate, who as a student of political economy has well prepared himself to discuss the living issues of the day, and they generally wind up with the old quotation, "God hates a coward."

One thing is certain, whether God hates a coward or not, the citizens of Lancaster county have no respect for a man who runs away as soon as the gage of battle is thrown down. If he cannot defend his principles, or has no principles to defend, running as he is without a platform, he would get more votes by making a truthful answer.

### What are we to do.

What is the populist press to do? Not a populist paper in the state is to-day receiving a fair living support. What will become of the party if it does not support this press?

Populist publishers know the masses of the people are poor, and sympathize with them in their poverty as do no other class of men in this country. They understand the measures by which intriguers and traitors and robbers have brought about this poverty. They have come to the defense of the people with their means, brains and labor. Their self-sacrificing devotion to principle and the up-lifting of oppressed humanity has never been excelled in history. Why do the people whom they defend, or for whose right of self-government they fight, starve them to death and force them to quit the field. The members of the party must get out of this—must make up their minds to support their cause with their means, or get out of the field. This is plain, but it is true.—The Current Voice.

### The Gold Standard.

There were 250 men wanted in Minneapolis to work on the Mississippi dam and promptly 13,000 men applied for the job.—Dakota Realist.

### Cleveland's Money.

Cleveland believes in the kind of sound money which requires a million pounds of cotton or eighty-three thousand bushels of wheat to pay his annual salary of fifty thousand dollars, while the fifty thousand dollars which Grant received would buy only three hundred thousand pounds of cotton or thirty-three thousand bushels of wheat.—Silver Knight.

### A Sound Dollar.

"A dollar and it is a good dollar, good for the farmer, the mechanic, the merchant; everybody helps make it a good dollar? Because every dollar's worth of property in the United States is behind it, and the life blood of every true and loyal American citizen is behind it, and that makes it a good dollar."—Jas. G. Blaine.

### Shows up the Frauds.

"Populist Hand Book for Nebraska," by J. A. Edgerton, is about the best thing we have seen. It shows up the political frauds of that state in such a concise form that no one who reads it could conscientiously vote the republican ticket. Can't some one do a like service for the people of Iowa? There is no doubt lots of material on which to base it.—Farmers Tribune.

### How We Die.

The attendance at a recent populist meeting, of two days' duration, in this state, Missouri, was from three to seven thousand. In 1892 Gen. Weaver received 180 votes in the county (Chariton) in which these meetings were held.—Missouri World.

### Maxwell All Right.

Malicious people are trying to spread the report that Judge Maxwell, who has been nominated by the pops, is too old to be sent back to the supreme court. While we are politically opposed to the judge, we must denounce stories of this kind as being fakes. Nobody who has seen the judge on his bench will believe anything to the effect that age has weakened him.—Walt Mason in State Journal.

### VOT

Are a committee of one to circulate this paper. It should be in the home of every populist.

Twenty-five cents till January 1, 1895.

## HIS MALADY FEIGNED.

California Courts Have No Sympathy for Reporters Who Sham Insanity.

A sad blow at "journalistic enterprise" has been dealt by an unfeeling judge in California. An ambitious young reporter on the Los Angeles Herald, who had wearied of ordinary assignments, conceived the idea of winning fame by getting up a sensation. So he feigned insanity, was brought before the court for examination, was pronounced a subject for the asylum, and was sent to the state institution at Highlands. After staying long enough to get material for a good "story," he wanted to get out, but in order to secure his release, was obliged to tell the whole story of his deceit. The judge who had committed him cited him to appear to answer the charge of contempt of court, and sentenced him to pay a fine of \$200 or serve 100 days in jail. The judge accepted the plea that no disrespect for him personally had been intended, but explained that contempt of court was not an offense against the person of the judge, but against the government, because it is an unlawful interference with the orderly administration of justice by the tribunals created for that purpose. In this case the reporter, by deceit, had caused the machinery of justice to be set in motion, involving considerable public expense, and when brought before the court acted in a disorderly and insolent manner to induce the court to make an improper and illegal order. The judge proceeded to express these views upon the plea that a journalistic criminal ought to be treated more leniently than one not in "the profession." "Possibly from the standpoint of a reporter, such conduct may seem right and proper. It is possible even that in some quarters an attempt to deceive a court of justice, and by deceit to procure an improper and illegal order—an order involving the expenditure of considerable public money, and resulting in the sending of a sane man to an insane asylum—may be looked upon as legitimate journalistic enterprise. I hardly think, however, that, upon sober second thought, any citizen would so regard it. One who embarks upon such an enterprise—an enterprise which involves a violation of law, an enterprise which involves the commission of a public offense—must abide the consequence."

## QUEER MONEY.

The Circulating Medium That a Traveler Found in Mexico.

Here is an amusing account of a traveler who went many years ago to Mexico, and found the natives using a strange kind of currency. Says he: "In one of the small towns I bought some limes, and gave the girl one dollar in payment. By way of change, she returned to me forty-nine pieces of soap the size of a small biscuit. I looked at her in astonishment, and she returned my look with equal surprise, when a police officer, who had witnessed the incident, hastened to inform me that for small sums soap was legal tender in many parts of the country. "I examined my change, and found that each cake was stamped with the name of a town and of a manufacture authorized by the government. The cakes of soap were worth three farthings each. Afterwards, in my travel, I frequently received similar change. Many of the cakes showed signs of having been in the wash-tub; but that I discovered was not at all uncommon. Provided the stamp were not obliterated, the soap did not lose any value as currency. Occasionally a man would borrow a cake of a friend, wash his hands, and return it with thanks. I made use of my pieces more than once in my bath, and subsequently spent them."—Harper's Round Table.

## He Stood Higher.

Mrs. Bellefield (to her daughter)—Mr. Dukane is over head and heels in love with you, dear.  
Miss Bellefield—So is Mr. Gaswell, mamma.  
Mrs. Bellefield—But you must remember that Mr. Dukane is six feet tall, while Mr. Gaswell is only about five feet seven in height.

## HELP!

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