Shadows of Suspicion Hover Over the Officials

RAIDING

OF THE HOSPITAL AT NORFOLK

Strong Indications that the Drug and Fuel Funds Have Been Raided-With than double the number are now em- more than \$9,700 an Appropriation of Nearly \$120,000 There'll be a Deficiency at End of Year.

NORFOLK, Neb., Sept. 17, 1900 .-Prosperous conditions are in evidence in every county of Nebraska. No one but a rank partisan would attempt to assert that such conditions are transitory or unreal. It is matter of slow growth-there is nothing artificial or uncertain about it. Within four years the farmers of Nebraska have been delivered from the bondage of debt and thousands of them boast of a surplus.

It is true that the requirements of the impending campaign have suggested the fullest exposition of facts relating to the changed conditions in every county in order that the people of one county may be apprised of the degree of prosperity in every other county, but the republican managers do not need to magnify or overstate the facts, which in most cases speak for themselves.

Emphasis may be given to one allimportant fact, to-wit: that while the farmers are producing abundant crops and receiving higher prices therefor than ever before paid, at the same time the mechanics and laboring men in cities and towns are all busy, receiving higher pay for shorter working days than ever before, and that the demand for their services exceeds the A careful inquiry into the supply. status of things reveals these conditions

1. That farmers are getting 32 and 34 cents for their corn (of which there is a large surplus), whereas four "eas ago they got but 6 and 10 ents.

2. That stock raisers and farmers are getting \$5.50 for fat steers, whereas four years ago they got \$2.75 and charge of national affairs. \$3.50. Hogs, four years ago, \$2.77; this year, \$5.09

3. That farmers are buying adjoining acres and are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars upon improvements. Residents of cities and towns are putting up new buildings and repairing hundreds of old ones. There is an air of thrift every-

3. That country merchants are selling more goods and getting larger profits and prompter pay for goods sold than ever before in the history of the state.

5. That mechanics are everywhere busy. From towns, large and small, come reports of a demand for mechanics exceeding the supply. In Omaha more men are employed at higher wages and shorter working hours than was the case in any previous year save 1897-8, when the exposition produced a temporary demand for men. Inquiry among all classes of mechanhogs were 97,000; in July, 1900, 179.ics reveals the fact that the mean average of wage scale is higher, workday hours shorter and the demand for

present time than we have had in the at Norfolk, in partnership with one for drugs. There remains in this fund last eight years. Carpenters' Union-Our scale of fact that since his appointment his ficiency at the end of the fiscal year wages in 1896 in South Omaha was 25 former business partner has figured in this fund of about \$150, in face of cents per hour for ten or twelve hours. conspicuously in the fuel transactions the fact that other funds have been For 1900 it is 35 cents per hour for of the bospital. The records in the eight hours; time and a half for over- auditor's office bear evidence, not alone should be charged to the drug fund.

time and double time for Sundays. of this, but of other matters equally In Omaha our scale in 1896 was 39 as significant. cents per hour for eight hours; time Since May 26th of last year to July

and a half for overtime and double 19th of this year the Glen Rock Coal Christoph has had it ever since Stewtime for Sundays. In 1900 it is 40 cents company has drawn from the state and Rees assumed his office. One of per hour and no other changes. More treasury for coal sold the hospital the local dealers makes boid to charge (see vouchers ployed in our trade than in 1897, al-though there are a great many car-B37397, B40267, B41849, B34280. B41849, B42785, penters idle at present. This is ow- B44351, B45054, B46313, B46976).

ing to the Trans-Mississ'ppi exposi-A significant fact in connection tion, which brought a great many car- with this is that during the summer months of this year the supply pur-Horseshoers' Union-Our scale is chased is about the same as during

the same as it was in 1896 for the cold weather. same hours. We have not as many Another significant fact is, that employed as we had in 1896, for the while Engineer Mohler of the hospital

reason that there are not as many says that between eighty and ninety horses in use. The bike has made a tons per month are consumed, the records show that the consumption has Sheet eMtal Workers' Union-In been at the rate of more than 150 cause was of our not getting it. We 1896 our scale of wages was 33½ cents, tons per month. The contract price had been quoting very low figures, yet but very few men got that amount. is about \$4 per ton and if Engineer The average wages paid were 2712 Mohler, who handles the coal, knows to Christoph. I wrote to a wholesale cents. The number of hours is the what he is talking about, the monthly same. Our scale at present is 381% cost, on the ninety-ton estimate. cents per hour. There are 25 per would only by \$360 per month, wherecent more men employed in our trade as the official records show that the monthly cost is \$760 per month, a

Printing Press Assistants' Union- difference of \$400 per month. Our scale of wages in 1896 was \$8 Taking the highest estimate of Enfor sixty hours, or \$8 per week for tea gineer Mohler (ninety tons per hours per day. We now get \$9.50 for month), and figure the cost at \$8 per nine hours per day. In 1896 we had | ton, nearly the price of the very best thirty men employed; we now have hard coal on the market, and it would

then amount to only \$720 per month. Machinists' Union-Our scale of or still less by \$40 per month than wages in 1896 was from 25 to 30 cents the amount actually paid by the state We were working from the last fourteen months for soft and

forty to forty-eight hours per week. slack coal. Our present scale is 32 cents per hour These figures are not alone signififor nine hours per day, or fifty-four cant, but are suspicious. They indihours per week. All members of the cate quite freely that the state is beunion are employed, and our union ing defrauded. The figures of the en was never in a more flourishing con- gineer, the man whose duties are dition and we doubt if an idle masuch that he should know exactly chinist can be found in Omaha today, what the monthly consumption is stand out in bold contract with the GROWTH OF THE LIVE STOCK INbills rendered-bills the state has The disparity been required to pay.

s not easily accounted for, except on South Omaha may be taken as a fair the ground of fraud alone. illustration of the change wrought in According to Engineer Mohler, in business generally during the four should cost not to exceed \$260 per years the republican party has had month. According to the records it costs \$760 per month. This is a dis-During the seven months of 1900 ending July tinction with a most significant dif-31st the cattle receipts were 424,235, ference, one involving nearly \$5,000 as against 220,324 for a like period in per year to the taxpayers of Ne 1896, a gain of 202,964, or nearly 100 | braska.

A DRUG DEALER'S SNAP.

Suspicious as are the figures asso months of this year were 1.121,171, clated with the fuel and light fund. as against 717,976 for the first seven worse abuses apear to have been practiced in connection with the drug For the period ending July 31st. fund.

Druggist Christoph, who has had 1900, there were 597,985 head of sheep received; for the same period in 1896, somewhat of a monopoly of the patronage of the hospital, is said to be There has also been a gratifying inon very "friendly" terms with Stewcrease in prices during this time. ard Rees. The records show that it Steers, for instance, sold July 31st, has been expensive "friendship" 1896, at from \$2.75 to \$3.70; July 31st. the state. Not alone has Christoph 1900, they brought \$5.59; hogs sold had the drug fund to play on, but July 31st, 1836, at \$2.77; July 31st, he has drawn money out of the "pain" 1900, the price was \$5.09. The price and oil" fund, the "general repair" paid for sheep July 31st, 1896, ranged fund. "carpet and curtain" fund. "board and clothing" fund, "book and from \$2 to \$5.50; July 31st, 1900, the range was from \$4 to \$5.45. In the stationery" fund, and the "incidental' month of July, 1896, the receipts of fund. Steward Rees was appointed to his

000 (in round thousands), and the position about one year ago. In the price as given above but little more last year his friend Christoph has than half in 1896 of that in 1900. drawn from the state treasury

C. W. Braash, and it is a noticeable | a balance of \$387, which means a demade use of in instances where goods TURNS ON THE LIGHT.

Despite the efforts of other druggists to obtain the drug contract

that the bids of others are opened before the favorite puts in his bid, so that he knows just what to bid to get the contract. He claims that the bids are either opened at the hospital or at Lincoln.

One of the druggists who believes that this very thing is being done is A. H. Klesau. Speaking of it he said

"Being unable to secure the contract even at rock bottom figures I resolved to get it even at a loss, particularly to see if I could find out what the each time the contract was awarded drug firm in Omaha, where I do my trading, telling them of what I wanted to do and asking them if they would not help me by making a reduction in the wholesale price.

"I sent them an itemized statement of what was called for in the contract and they agreed to let me have the drugs at a reduction of 5 per cent below the regular wholsale cash price. "I then took this reduced wholesale price and I made a further reduction of 20 per cent, making a total reduction of about 25 per cent on the cash wholesale price.

"I sent in my bid at these figures and, what do you think? Christoph's bid was 60 cents lower than mine. This convinced me that there was a crooked deal somewhere, for, in the first place, on a drug bill of \$200, 60 cents is too close a difference, and, in the second place, how did it happen, after I had bid away down below the wholesale price, that Christoph should bid about 25 per cent below what the goods actually cost him at wholesale, unless my bid had been opened and he had been informed be fore the contract was awarded and before be put in his bid what my bi

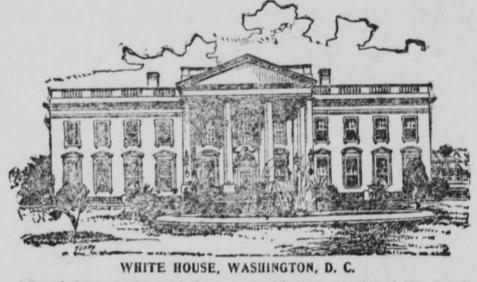
wa: "There was fraud on the face of it, that's certain.

"I don't mean to say by this that the state is getting its drugs at a bargain. On the contrary, I think if you look up the list of goods purchased as 'extras' you will discover that on the whole the state is paying top prices." There are somewhat startling rumors affoat, too, relative to deals in connection with the clothing contract. It is currently reported that favoritism is practiced in connection with this end of the business, and that certain persons have reaped handsome rewards at the expense of the state by reason of it. The last legislature ppropriated \$40,000 for board and clothing, but even this large amount between diversion, perversion and extravagance, will be completely wiped out before the next appropriation will e available. Most of the special unds are overdrawn, and there is every indication that the general deciency in the funds of the institution

will run up well into the thousands. LOOSE BUSINESS METHODS.

PRESIDENT TYLER'S DAUGHTER,

A Venerable Lady of Noble Lineage Speaks a Timely Word.



"One of the most aristocratic faces seen in Washington is that of Mrs. Semple, daughter of President Tyler. She has passed her Soth year and yet retains an exceed-ingly youthful complexion. Personally she is charming, and impresses one as stepping out of the European courts," so says the National Magazine, under the heading "Social Bidelights at the Capital."

The following is a letter from this interesting lady, written from the Louise Home, Washington D. C., to the Peruna Medicine Co., of Columbus, Ohio, concerning their great catarrh tonic, Peruna. Mrs. Semple writes:

Gentlemen-"Your Peruna is a most valuable remedy. Many of my friends have used it with the most flattering results and I can commend it to all who need a strengthening tonic. It is indeed a remarkable medicine." Sincerely, Letetia Tyler Semple.

Peruna is a specific to counteract the depressing effects of hot weather. A free book entitled "Summer Catarrh" sent by the Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, Ohio.

If you have not tried Magnetic Starch try it now. You will then use no other.

In the regular army of the United States there are 25 per cent of foreigaers.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces in fammation, allays pain, cures wind coite. 25c a bottle

The Princess of Monaco is said to be the first Hebrew to sit on an European throne.

\$24.00 PER WEEK

To men with rigs to introduce our Poultry Compound among farmers. Address with stamp, Acme Mfg. Co., Kansas City, Mo.

Probably the only sovereign who has been up in a balloon is Queen Christina of Spain.

Magnetic Starch is the very best laundry starch in the world.

Professor Gotch says the electric

FITS Permanent's Cured. No fits or nervourness after first day's use of Dr. Kinne's Great Nerve Restorm, Send for FREE \$2.00 trial bottle and treatise. DB. R. H. KINN, Ltd., \$21 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa-

When an actress is wedded to her art she is generally divorced from some few husbands.

Hall's Catarrh Cure Is taken internally. Price, 75c.

When it comes to skyscrapers Chicago tells some pretty tall stories.

Mark Twaln Coming Home

Mark Twain, who will soon return to his home in Hartford, Conn., thus answers a friend who asked him if he did not enjoy traveling: "No. I don't. I do it for the sake of my family. If I had my way I'd settle down

in one spot and never move. In fact, I can't understand how any writer can be persuaded to move of his own accord. Old Bunyan was in luck when they threw him into prison. If I had been in his place they'd never have got me out."

Be loving and you will never want for love.

People who have long faces are apt to have short understandings.

Salisbury's Talented Daughter.

Lady Gwendolen Cecil, the unmarried daughter who now presides over the household of Lord Salisbury, the fish of the Nile have a "battery" power equal to 200 volts. British premier, is esteemed as one of the foremost of English mathematicians. A singularly gifted family are the Cecils. The marquiz himself is a most accomplished electrician and chemist, and besides has worked for an income as subeditor. Lord Cecil, one of his sons, is counted among the best read political writers and workers in the islands.

Kaiser Honors a Chicago Man.

Dr. J. H. Breasted, professor of Egyptology in the University of Chicago, has been appointed by the emperor of Germany to superintend the blicatio

men very active. No man who wants work need be idle.

6. That the jobbers and wholesale merchants and manufacturers of Nebraska are selling more goods at larger profits than was true of their trade in the year 1896; that of fifty firms reporting, the increased volume of business ranged from 20 ot 950 per cent and that in no case was a decrease of business reported.

7. That fifty jobbing houses, farm implement houses, manufacturers, wholesale houses, etc., report a large increase in the number of men employed, in wages paid and the average increase in the number of traveling men covering Nebraska territory is nearly 50 per cent.

The paramount question is: What would any of these classes gain by a change of government at Washington?

Do you want a change!

WHAT THE MECHANICS SAY.

In Omaha the change in regard to wages paid, hours of employment and number of persons engaged is so gratifying that the classes affected will gladly do what they can to support the political party which has made possible this remarkable improvement in conditions. The following reports were obtained from officials of the various local unions:

Printing Pressmen's Union-Our scale of wages in 1896 was \$16 to \$18 per week for ten hours per day. In 1900 our scale is the same per dien. for nine hours per day. In 1896 20 per cent of our members were idle all the time and 40 per cent of those employed were making but half time. In 1900 all members are employed and all are making full time. In short, we are working shorter hours and making more money than we did in 1896.

Plasters', Bricklayers' and Stonemasons' Tenders' Union-Our scale of wages in 1896 was 15 to 171/2 cents per hour for ten hours. In 1900 our scale is 24 cents per hour for eight hours and we have 50 per cent more men employed than in 1896.

Plumbers' Union-Our scale of wages in 1896 was 45 ceats per hour for eight hours. In 1900 it is 50 cents per hour for eight hours. Until July 1st we have had 30 per cent more men employed than we had in 1896.

Painters and Decorators-Our scale in 1896 was 30 cents per hour. We had no scale signed up regarding hours of employment. Our present and a half for overtime and double time for Sundays. In 1896 our union had about fifty members in good standing. In 1898 we had nearly 200 members. This was owing to the Trans-Mississippi exposition. thembers are all, or nearly all, emplayed at the present time,

Bricklayers' Union-In 1896 our scale of wages was 50 cents per hour for eight hours; time and a half for avertime and double time for Sundays. Our scale for 1900 is 50 cents charge of purchasing supplies of this imately chargeable to and charged to per hour, with no other changes. Our character, is on very intimate terms the carpet and curtain fund and board union has had about 160 members for with certain coal dealers. In fact, at and clothing fund were supplied by the past five years. There is more the time he was appointed steward a druggist.

THE WHOLESALE TRADE

penters here who have remained.

great difference in our trade.

unless he is idle from choice.

DUSTRY

The increase of stock receipts

The hog receipts for the first seven

months of 1896, a gain of 403,195.

161,841, a gain of 436,144 for 1900.

now than in 1896.

forty-eight.

per hour.

per cent.

Information gained from a large number of the principal business men repair fund, \$204.86 from the board of Omaha through letters of inquiry and clothing fund, \$14.96 from the and personal interviews, discloses the fact that, without a single exception. there has been a marked "expansion" of business in Nebraska's chief city during the four years the republican party has been in charge of national affairs. In securing this information no regard whatever was had to political affiliations, the desire being to make the exhibit a perfectly fair one in every respect. The line of inquiry covers a comparison of amount of business in 1896 with 1900; comparison of the number of employes then and and curtain fund. now, and also of the wages paid. The replies show, with one exception, that B41835, the lowest increase in amount of business is 20 per cent, ranging from that up to 950 per cent, with a large proportion of instances where the percentage of gain was 75 per cent to 100: the increase in the number of employes ranges from 15 to 200 per cent. and the range of increase in salaries

The Hospital for the Insane at Norfolk contributes another important chapter to the history of mismanagement of the state institutions under the Poynter administration.

paid is from 10 per cent to 50 per

cent.

On the surface there is evidence of extravagance and recklessness in auditor's office at Lincoln dealing with the funds, while beneath the surface there is unmistakable evidence of fraud.

Particularly is this true in connection with the purchase of drugs and toph coal, if not clothing and other supplies. The demands on the fuel fund have been enormous, and notwithstanding the large amount appropriated, there will be a shortage in this fund of no less than \$5,000.

EVIDENCE OF FRAUD.

the maintenance of this institution \$119,350, of which amount \$12,000 was for fuel and lights. Why it should steward to favor his friends in this require such a large amount of money for fuel and lights is a question challenging explanation, but it was appropriated, and, as previously stated, this very thing has been done at Northat amount, large though it is, is go- folk can hardly be disputed. Fully ing to fall short of being enough by 25 per cent of the articles purchased at least \$5,000.

1900, \$10,625,20 of the appropriation were not bought at contract prices was expended, leaving a balance of (see vouchers B26235, B40268, B41851, scale is 35 cents for eight hours; time \$1,374. This was for fourteen months B42782, B44353, B45055, B46315 and and the rate of expenditure was there- B46975). It is known that in the fore about \$760 per month, or \$260 per stances of this kind excessive prices month in excess of the appropria- are charged, in some instances double tion.

> Our the hospital, yet on a basis of 300 tt Christoph does not deal directly in has cost the state more than \$35 per many of the articles with which he capita for light and heat for the last is credited as having delivered to the fourteen months. That this is an un- hospital. It might be a rather diff-

Upon inquiry it was discovered that and Rees to satisfactorily explain Steward Rees of the hospital, who has how it hapenned that articles legit work in our trade in Omaha at the he was engaged in the coal business. The legislature appropriated \$1,200 blood.

129.04. He has drawn \$642.31 from the drug fund, \$28.50 from the general carpet and curtain fund, \$22.85 from the book and stationery fund, \$12.23 from the incidental fund and \$157.33 from the paint and oil fund.

Vouchers B\$4289, B37404, B41857 B42776, B44356, B46972 and B47642 were drawn in favor of Druggist Christop on the paint and oil fund. Vouchers B42768, B45060 and B46305 were drawn in favor of Druggist Christoph on the general repair fund. Voucher B36252 was drawn in favor of Druggist Christoph on the carpet

Vouchers B34272, B36229, B40263. B42755. B43473, B44345. B46323 and B47634 were drawn in favor of Druggist Christoph on the board and clothing fund.

Vouchers B33386, B34283 and B36237 were drawn in favor of Druggist Christoph on the book and stationery fund.

Vouchers B40271 and B45534 were drawn in favor of Druggist Christoph on the incidental fund.

Vouchers B34282, B36235, B40268 B41851, B42782, B43478, B44353. B45055, B45524, B46315, B46975 and B47639 were drawn in favor of Drug gist Christoph on the drug fund.

These are the cold facts, taken direct from the official records in the

These figures indicate that there is something else besides friendshin in the intimacy existing between Steward Rees and Druggist Chris-

Another significant feature of the matter is that while Druggist Christoph has had the contract since his friend Rees became steward he has also been supplying the "extras." An article that is not enumerated in the contract is called an "extra" and is The last legislature appropriated for not sold subject to contract prices.

Extras are bought at the retailer's figures. It is within the power of the way, by omitting many of the articles to be bought from the contract and buy them at retail prices. That from Druggist Christoph the last year From May 26th, 1899, 'to July 19th, were not included in the contract and the amount of the actual retail price.

There are less than 300 inmates in It is also known that Druggist reasonable amount is quite apparent, cult matter for either him or Stew-

It is a matter of history that loose business methods have been employed here throughout the official existence of the present State Board of Public ands and Buildings.

Repairs have been made to buildings and the bills paid out of other specific funds. A fire occurred about wo years ago in one of the buildings. ecessitating repairs to the extent of \$5,500. It was "repaired" at that cost without advertising or soliciting bids for either labor or material and the ills were paid out of the board and lothing fund.

In 1897 this same board let the contract for the building of a new wing o the hospital, for which \$25,000 had been appropriated, to a firm of contractors from Omaha. The contracors entered upon the performance of the work, but the disposition exhibted on their part to pocket the money allowed by the board and pay nobody

esulted in numerous unpaid bills for abor and material being sent to the board, with requests that no more money be allowed the contractors until they paid or secured the claims

against them. The board made a terible messof the whole affair. The contractors left the work to be completed by their bondsmen and the bondsmen, owing to serious complications, requested that the board complete the job. The work was finally ompleted, but it was a long time be fore the bills were allowed and paid and it is said that even some remain unpaid to this day. The bondsmen

were ready and willing to liquidate all legitimate bills, but the whole leal was so replete with blunders made by the board that it was diffiult to determine the difference be tween the status of the debtor and The building was finally reditor. completed, but up to this day no one has yet come forward to exhibit it as a model of modern architecture. CRUEL TREATMENT.

Numerous complaints are afloat oncerning the practice of cruelty by employes in dealing with the inmates Last spring an employe named Charles Rossin gave one of the inmates a se vere beating and that, too, it is reported, without provocation or justifiation. The outrage was so flagrant that the management was compelled to tischarge him.

Reports of cruelty are cuite numer us, but as the inmates are of unsound mind to a greater or less extent, little or no dependence can be placed on what they say, and for this reason it is difficult to obtain satistory proof or disproof.

Upon the whole, so far as the management is concerned, there is no evidence of sincerity on the part of the authorized representatives of the fu sionists to live up to the professed economy of their party. On the contrary, the per capita expense to the state, the pay roll, the general expense, is greater today than it ever has been.

Mosquitos die within a few hours after gorging themselves with human

The Manufacturers of Carter's Ink have had forty years' experience in making it and they certainly know how. Send for "Inklings," free. About 1,500,000 persons are employed

in the coal mines of the world.

HO! FOR OKLAHOMA! 8,000.000 acres new lands to open to settlement. Subscribe for THE KIOWA CHHEF, devoted to infor-mation about these lands. One year, 81.00. Single copy, 10c. Subscribers receive free filustrated book on Oklahouma. Morgan's Manual (210 page Settlers' Guide) with fine sectional map, \$1.00. Map 25c. All above, \$1.75. Address, Dick T. Morgan, Ferry, O. T.

Nearly 8,000,000 persons in Germany are insured against illness.

All goods are alike to PUTNAM FADELESS DYES, as they color all fibers at one boiling.

The offspring of two rabbits will in ten years number 70,000,000.

For starching fine linen use Magnetic Starch.

Might may not make right, but it seldom gets left.

Your clothes will not crack if you use Magnetic Starch.

The animal that first succumbs to extreme cold is the horse.

Try Magnetic Starch-It will last longer than any other.

Yes, Howard, in high words low language is generally used.

Piso's Cure is the best medicine we ever used for all affections of the throat and lungs .- WM. O. ENDSLEY, Vanburen, Ind., Feb. 10, 1900.

Only children play ball. Men make a business of it.

Dyspepsia is the bane of the human system. Protect yourself against its ravages by the use of Beeman's Pepsin Gum.

Why should a clock be arrested for striking the hour?

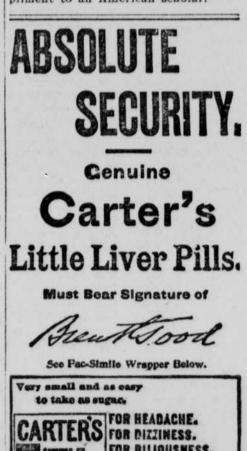
Please Try Faultless Starch once and you will never use any other. All

grocers sell it-large package 10c A rural editor says the lay of the

hen lays all over that of the poet.

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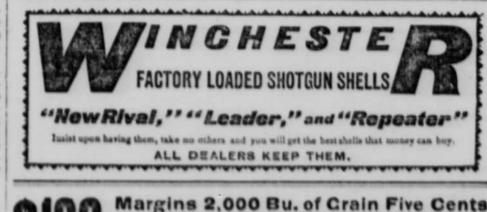
CURE SICK HEADACHE.

MONEY FOR SOLDIERS' HEIRS

Heirs of Union Soldiers who made homesteads of less than 160 acres before June 22, 1874 (no matter if abandoned), if the additional homestead right was not sold or used, should address, with full particulars. HENRY N. COPP, Washington, D. G.

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