

DISSIPATED THE ASSETS

Receiver Howard Loots the Assets of the Exchange Bank at Atkinson.

ANOTHER POLITICIAN GONE WRONG

The Fusion Candidate for the Important Office of State Treasurer the Main Character in a Corrupt and Effective Conspiracy.

O'NEILL, Neb., Oct. 22, 1900.

Perhaps the most high-handed corruption ever practiced by a man appointed by a court as receiver was practiced by Samuel B. Howard, candidate for state treasurer on the fusion ticket, as receiver of the Exchange bank at Atkinson, Neb.

The story of the closing of the bank, the manner in which the receiver was appointed and the looting of the assets by the receiver and his political lieutenants, is a story pregnant with rottenness, fraud and corruption from start to finish.

At the time the bank was placed in the hands of a receiver it was perfectly solvent. The fusion bank examiner had been sent there but a short time before and had given it a clearing. Nobody had asked for a receiver and the depositors had absolute confidence in its solvency and stability. At the time of the closing there was enough cash assets to pay all the depositors in full, aside from Bartley, and there was absolutely no cause for the depositors losing a cent of their deposits. In the settlement, however, they received only 75 cents on the dollar.

Fraud surrounds the manner in which the receiver was appointed. There was a district judge on the spot at O'Neill, the county seat of that county, but instead of applying to him the conspirators went 219 miles to Judge W. H. Westover and had Howard appointed receiver.

Howard was required by the court to give bond in the sum only \$2,500, whereas the property and money placed in his hands amounted to upwards of \$100,000. There is nothing on file with the records of the transaction to show that Receiver Howard ever filed a bond. Search of the records high and low failed to bring any bond to light or anything to show that one was ever filed.

In order that the public may have a clear and impartial understanding of all the facts of record in the case, the following is given in chronological order:

May 6, 1897: Bank Examiner Coad reports that the Exchange bank of Atkinson is in an unsafe condition, not having 15 per cent of its deposits in available cash.

May 7, 1897: State banking board orders bank closed, and Attorney General Smyth files petition in district court at O'Neill, asking for the appointment of a receiver with authority to "compromise bad assets and convert all property into money as speedily as possible."

May 10, 1897: Judge W. H. Westover, who lived 219 miles from the scene of proposed operations, appointed S. B. Howard receiver, on a bond of \$2,500, ordering "said receiver to report his doings in the premises to this court from time to time as required by law."

The public got its first tip on the scheme in the announcement of this favorite by a judge who resided over two hundred miles away. There was a judge of the same district residing at O'Neill. The bond required of Howard, if any was given, was never filed with the other records where the public could inspect it. The responsibility which this "bond" was supposed to cover, amounted to nearly \$100,000.

May 17, 1897: Receiver Howard applies for authority to employ an attorney. Two days later Judge Westover grants the request, and Howard employs J. J. Harrington, a brother of Mike, and who has since been elected district judge. The compensation is not stated.

July 6, 1897: Attorney General Smyth files petition stating that Bartley had \$5,000 deposited in the bank, which properly belonged to the state.

July 6, 1897: County attorney of Holt files petition, stating that Bartley owed the county \$5,000 in the form of a judgment.

July 9, 1897: Attorney general files claim against the assets of the bank, and says the state "repudiates the act of Bartley in depositing the money, and refuses to ratify or be a party to said act."

August 25, 1897: Petition by Mike Harrington that if the claim of the state is allowed the individual depositors will get nothing.

August 25, 1897: Petition of H. K. Bennett and others that their attorney, Mike Harrington, and the receiver go to Lincoln to confer with the state officials, the expense of the trip to be paid out of the assets of the bank. Application promptly granted by Westover. The expense bill of this junket has never been made public.

February 5, 1898: Offer of the individual depositors to take certain securities as one-half their claim and cash for the other half as settlement in full. Petition states that the individual deposits amount to \$10,935, and that the receiver now has \$11,935 cash on hand.

March 17, 1898: Settlement effected by Mike Harrington, as attorney for the depositors, and J. J. Harrington as attorney for the receiver, the depositors to take as their claim in full certain choice securities amounting to \$20,428.79, and \$2,750 in cash. Later evidence that Mike Harrington arbitrarily settled with the depositors at 75 cents on the dollar.

August 5, 1898: Howard files notice that he has on hand \$7,500 to divide between the state and county.

August 15, 1898: Judge Westover, having waited until Harrington had taken his pick of the assets, now decides that the bank and Bartley owe the state \$5,000 and the county \$500. On this same date Howard files another notice that he has \$7,500 to divide. A pro rata division is agreed upon by the state and county.

November 2, 1898: Howard filed the following notice:

"Samuel B. Howard, as receiver of the Exchange bank of Atkinson, Nebraska, informs the court that, in his judgment, it will be to the best interests of all concerned to have all the assets of the Exchange bank sold at public sale to the highest cash bidder, and upon disposition of said assets to immediately close up the affairs of said bank."

"SAMUEL B. HOWARD, Receiver." On the same date Judge Westover

issued an order that the assets be sold at public sale on December 15, 1899, and that the sale be continued from day to day until all were sold, "said assets to be either sold separately or collectively, as the receiver shall believe to be to the best interests of all concerned."

This order plainly gave the receiver full swing, and he certainly "swung." There is not another scratch of a pen on file in the district clerk's office from that day to the present date to show the result of the sale, but oral evidence is that the receiver bargained off all the best assets of the bank to the chairman of the pop county committee for \$40, without allowing any one else a chance to bid. This was done by "adjourning" the sale when bona fide bidders were present, and "reopening" as soon as the said bidders had gone away.

While up to the time of the final sale most of the operations of the receiver were concealed from the public, there were occasional filings on the record to show that certain debts were compromised at low figures, so that at the time of the \$7,500 divide between the county and state the receiver must have had in his hands two or three thousand dollars more than that amount, which had probably been used for "expenses." No report or statement has ever been filed, and the scattering bits put in the record only furnished a cloak for the general operations. This is in direct contrast to the action of Mr. E. Opp, another bank receiver in the same county, who filed regular balance sheets four times a year, showing all transactions.

One stroke of business which was performed in March, 1899, was never recorded in the district clerk's office, but comes to light elsewhere. The bank of Atkinson had a fine brick building, which was bought in 1894 at a cost of \$7,500. It was well fitted up, and besides the vault had a safe which cost \$1,500. The property had been carried on the bank books at \$10,000, and after the collapse there were a number of people ready to buy it if given an opportunity. Howard, however, had other plans. On February 23, 1899, he notified Judge Westover that he had an offer of \$1,000 for the property, "and after diligent effort could find no better bid." Westover promptly authorized him to sell, and the deal was made in secret.

The bank building, safe and fixtures were sold to Ed Gallagher of O'Neill for \$1,000, and a rent bill for \$210 owed by Gallagher was deducted from the purchase price, so that the property went for \$790. On this principle of "financing," if Gallagher had rented the property a year or two longer, his arrearages would have covered the entire purchase price and made the sale unnecessary. Other parties who would have paid four or five thousand dollars, and had notified Howard of their desire to invest, were given no chance to buy. The transaction was kept in concealment so far as the district court records at O'Neill were concerned, but copies of the application and permission to sell were filed in the office of the county clerk two days after the date of the sale. This was done to make the deed good, and to delay in filing was a proper precaution to prevent interference. Gallagher, who bought the property, also owned a building at O'Neill and rented offices to the two Harringtons, one of whom was attorney for the receiver and the other for the depositors and for the cashier of the busted bank. It was a happy "back-scratching" tournament, in which only the interests of the state of Nebraska suffered.

To summarize: The bank was closed up for political purposes and a pop judge 219 miles away appointed a pop politician as receiver on a nominal bond, which latter has never been seen. The receiver went ahead "compromising" claims and slaughtering assets without making any complete public report. The Harrington brothers, prominent pop bosses, acted as attorneys for everybody. They settled the claims of the individual depositors by taking \$20,000 worth of good notes and \$2,750 in cash. The depositors received less than \$8,000 for their claims. The remaining assets were eased down into the hands of political favorites. The state's interests suffered at every hand, and record of the expenses, receipts or operations, and no detailed report of assets has ever been placed before the public.

In Holt county the performances of this clique of grafters has caused common talk, and there are many surmises as to why the Harringtons so anxiously worked Sam Howard into the nomination for state treasurer, after they had dictated a warden of the penitentiary and after they had fostered the boom of Westover for governor. The people believe that there is a method or reason behind every act of this crowd.

Some information may be gained as to the value of the property looted from prominent citizens of Atkinson, as follows:

John P. McNichols, a prominent democrat, said: "I consider the building and lot, exclusive of furniture, a good investment at three thousand dollars, and stood ready to pay \$2,000 for the building or a little more. This was about wanting to buy the property, but he seemed to want to evade the matter. Several others here wanted to buy. No person in Atkinson knew when the sale was made, or had opportunity to make a bid. Howard seemed to want to favor somebody."

B. W. Johnson, for sixteen years a resident of Atkinson: "The sale was a clandestine arrangement. Several people in Atkinson wanted to buy, but got no opportunity. The building and fixtures were well worth \$5,000. The safe cost \$1,500. The general opinion was that there was no occasion to close up the bank in the first place."

A. J. Stilson, member of the town board of Atkinson: "The bank was doing well when it was closed. The building was worth more than three times what it sold for. Among the assets were some gilt-edge securities. The judgment against the city was worth face value, and the school district judgment as good as government bonds."

J. E. Allison, formerly cashier of the bank: "No occasion for closing the bank. Depositors were not uneasy, and none of them applied for a receiver. A bank examiner had been there shortly before and given a good clearance to the bank. The liabilities were

fully secured and the paper was good. The books balanced to a cent when the receiver took charge. The judgments against the village and school district were worth face value. The building, safe and fixtures were carried on the books at \$10,000. The safe cost \$1,500 and was good as new. The building and fixtures would easily have sold for \$5,000 at hard times prices. The extra room in the building, aside from the banking room, brought in \$25 per month. Among the first-class paper were the two judgments aggregating \$1,000, and decrees of foreclosure against lands in Holt county worth \$500. These and some other securities, I understand, were quietly sold to McCarty for \$40. I understand McCarty has since disposed of some part of these securities for \$400, or ten times more than he paid for the whole. Howard disposed of all the good paper and the building on the quiet."

E. G. Schultz, druggist: "The bank building was easily worth \$4,000. The location was good. There was no notice given of the sale."

Dr. McDonald, office next door to the bank: "The bank building and lot would be cheap at \$5,000. Sale was under cover. No notice in the papers. After the bank closed M. F. Harrington was made attorney for the depositors. He arranged the settlement with the receiver, and then notified the depositors in a circular letter that he had settled on a basis of 75 cents on the dollar, and he sent them each a check. He must have kept the securities got from the receiver in the deal. No reason why the depositors should have lost 25 per cent. The assets were sold in O'Neill and it was worked pretty smooth."

J. F. Brady: "I went to the sale of the assets last December. McCarty, Harrington, the sheriff and a young man who works for Harrington were there with Howard. I wanted to buy in a mortgage on W. E. Scott's place. Howard had a package in his hand, and he said, 'Let's open the package and see what's in it.' He turned to me and asked if there was anything I wanted in particular. I told him about the Scott mortgage, and he knocked it down to me at \$20 on the first bid. Its face value was \$400. Then I asked him what else he had, and he told me everything else was bargained for in advance. He said he would adjourn the sale a while. I went away, and in a short time I came back only to find that McCarty had got all the valuable stuff for \$40. Nobody else got a chance to bid. McCarty is the populist chairman, and a great friend of Howard and Harrington. The stuff he bought was worth several thousand dollars."

One gentleman who was on the ground and knew of the whole proceeding, writes to a friend at O'Neill as follows:

"It seems to be no secret around Atkinson that the bank's assets were indiscriminately slaughtered by Mr. Howard. I am confident a little inquiry would bring a good deal to light."

"The fact that the building and fixtures, which originally cost about \$7,500, were sold by Mr. Howard for less than \$1,000, without giving any notice or allowing any one to bid, is pretty good evidence of what he was doing. I knew of several parties who were watching this building and fixtures with a view of purchasing when it was to be sold, and I know that Mr. Howard could have realized at least three or four thousand dollars out of them if he had not sold them underhandedly and on the sly."

"While I only looked upon Howard as a tool of the pop ring, I cannot help but feel that any man who will lend himself to such work is unfit for public office."

In an effort to get further light on the operations of Howard the office of the State Banking board at Lincoln was visited Wednesday. Dr. Hall, the secretary, who is also chairman of the democratic committee, was not present, but his deputy was there and handed over the last printed report of the Exchange bank, dated March 23, 1897. This showed that the bank had loans and discounts, \$88,303.13; overdrafts, \$698.91; stocks, bonds and judgments, \$79,228.82; banking house, furniture and fixtures, \$19,000; due from other banks, \$6,882.59; cash on hand, \$3,861.55. The capital stock was \$30,000 and the deposits were \$70,934.48.

"Will you please let me see the last report of the examiner on the condition of this bank?" was asked of the deputy in charge of the banking board records.

"No, you cannot see that," said he; "the examiners' reports are not public property."

"Not even when the bank has failed, and the money is to be paid?"

"Well, I can't let you see it. Of course if the report is filed in the district court in the county where the bank was located, and you can see it there, that is all right."

"Has the receiver ever filed a report here?"

"No, he makes his report to the district court where the bank is located. Our jurisdiction ends when the receiver is appointed."

"How much money has been turned over to the state by the receiver?"

"I do not know."

At the state treasurer's office the information was received that on August 26, 1898, the state received \$6,782.30, and on June 15, 1899, it received \$14,428.81. This last payment was made after Harrington and Howard's badges were printed announcing his candidacy for the state treasuryship, and was a happy afterthought. According to the records at O'Neill he must have been carrying that money just six months, the date of the final sale of assets "to the highest cash bidder" having been on the 16th of December, 1899. There is nothing filed to show where this money came from, or how much remained. It is presumed the receiver was still receiving salary at the date of this last payment, and that he will continue to hold the affairs open as long as any money remains to be used up by himself and his attorney.

Petroleum Drives Away Mosquitoes.

Petroleum has been used with much success as a means of exterminating mosquitoes, and thus preventing malaria. All that is necessary is to spray the drains, marshes and puddles with the oil early in the season and repeat the operation every two weeks for a short time thereafter. It is said to be the best method yet tried for disinfecting a locality of malarial germs.

PROSPERITY GALORE.

ALL CLASSES THRIVING AS NEVER BEFORE.

The Re-Clevalaudized Democracy Has No Argument That Is Not Shattered by the Happy Conditions Now Prevailing—Signs of the Times.

Mr. Bryan and his followers are having a hard time to convince the farmers that they are worse off in 1900 with protection and sound money than they were in 1896 with the shadow of free silver impending and a free trade law in operation.

A general comparison of articles of farm consumption and farm production between the two years completely disproves the Bryan theory.

In the item of farm animals alone the farmers are worth five hundred million dollars more than they were in Democratic days. The table printed below, which is from the reports of the United States Department of Agriculture, is worth study:

TOTAL VALUE OF FARM ANIMALS.

1896..... \$1,727,926,684
1900..... 2,212,756,878

The difference is apparent in every class of animals. Divided into appropriate groups, the increase is strikingly shown:

VALUE OF HORSES AND MULES.

1896..... \$603,344,643
1900..... 715,686,534

VALUE OF ALL CATTLE.

1896..... \$872,883,961
1900..... 1,204,298,366

VALUE OF SHEEP.

1896..... \$65,167,735
1900..... 122,665,913

With all grain, animals, and other farm products higher in price, it is no wonder that the farmers of this country have little use for Bryanism.

CHEAPENING OF "CATTLE" LOANS.

The feeding of hogs and cattle with corn, or the conversion of corn into hog and cattle flesh, has developed remarkably the last three years as a feature of farming, and it is responsible for a large share of the increased consumption of corn. The individual stipulating cause has been the cheapening of money due to the sound money victory of 1896.

This has enabled farmers to make loans secured by their cattle or hogs, and by use of such funds to keep their corn for feed and for raising hogs, instead of selling it. Four years ago this cattle paper was not looked on with any favor in the east. Now from forty to fifty million dollars annually are loaned on it by eastern brokers. The abundance of money in the western banks seeking investment has forced competition in the placing of these cattle paper loans until now they are taken at three to four per cent less than formerly. Of course this both tends to increase the demand for corn and to render its price more stable; for instead of throwing corn on the market at the harvest season, the farmer can now keep it on the farm to feed to cattle and hogs all the year around. Cattle loans were difficult, if not impossible to negotiate in the democratic days of 1893-1896.

PROTECTION IN FRANCE.

The industrial development of France from the close of the Napoleonic wars to 1860, says Mr. Curtis, is without parallel in any continental country. Under the protection which then existed the growth of manufactures was rapid and successful in every particular. In 1860, however, a commercial treaty was entered into between England and France, by which France removed all prohibitions from imports and substituted duties ranging from 20 to 30 per cent on competing manufactures. The experiment of this duty, which continued until 1882, was unsatisfactory, and the French government refused to renew it in that year, and a more vigorous protective policy was restored. In 1885 the duties on foreign products were raised, and in 1891 a thoroughly protective tariff was enacted, under which the great prosperity and industrial activity which now exist have come to that country.

THE TAMMANY ICE TRUST.

To questions from his audiences about the Tammany ice trust, Mr. Bryan has repeatedly made this answer in the last ten days: "There are a Republican governor and legislature in New York, and what have they done to throttle the ice trust? The Republican governor of New York has not time to bother with the ice trust, for he is too busy out here telling you about it."

Governor Theodore Roosevelt of New York, months before the Tammany ice trust became notorious, sent a message to the New York legislature advising action against trusts. The legislature passed and Governor Roosevelt signed an anti-trust act. Under this law the Republican attorney general of New York is now proceeding against the ice trust. This action the Tammany stockholders are fighting at every point.

The principal stockholders of the ice trust are Richard Croker, Mr. Bryan's eastern manager; John P. Carroll, Mr. Croker's chief lieutenant; Hugh J. Grant and Thomas F. Gilroy, Tammany ex-mayors; Augustus Van Wyck, Tammany candidate for governor in 1898; Robert Van Wyck, Tammany mayor of New York; Randolph Guggenheimer, Tammany's president of the council; J. Sergeant Cram and Charles F. Mur-

phy, Tammany dock commissioners, etc., etc., etc.

It is these trust beneficiaries and supporters of Mr. Bryan who are rending the heavens with their denunciations of trusts. As Governor Roosevelt well says: "Hypocrisy could be carried no further than it is by these men and their defenders." They charged the poor of New York 60 cents per 100 pounds for ice which cost them not over 15 cents per 100 pounds delivered, and with their 400 per cent trust profits are supporting Bryan's anti-trust campaign.

Mr. Bryan's zeal in defense of the ice trust may be due merely to a sense of social decency toward Mr. Croker and others whose guest he is today. Or it may be due to a lively sense of gratitude for favors received and expected. But whatever the motive may or may not be, the facts recorded above condemn him as a hypocritical demagogue before the people.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

TRADE EXPANDING.

There is, in the United States at the present time, unparalleled prosperity, in which every citizen has a right to share. If any citizen is prevented from sharing in that prosperity he is the victim of conditions which cannot be righted by the election of Bryan, strongly as he may be tempted to trust in that remedy. The American farmer is selling for 37½ cents a bushel of corn it costs him 15 cents to produce. His wheat and cotton, his beef and pork, are selling at profitable prices. HE IS RIDING IN RAILROAD TRAINS, AND AS HE LOOKS FROM THE CAR WINDOW OVER THE BOUNTIFUL HARVESTS HE IS TAKING A NEW VIEW NOT ONLY OF HIS NATIVE LAND, WHICH WAS NEVER FAIRER AND HAPPIER, BUT IS ALSO THINKING OF HIS NEW MARKETS AND NEW "POSSESSIONS" ACROSS THE SEA. The laborer is today receiving more wages than he ever received before, and IN A CURRENCY THAT IS GOOD THE WORLD OVER.

The business man sees trade following the flag all around the world and new markets opening to him under national responsibilities. He realizes as a business man that THESE RESPONSIBILITIES MUST BE GRAPLED WITH AND ADJUSTED ON A BUSINESS BASIS. The only peril now threatening the United States is RUIN AND RETROGRESSION UNDER SILVER TURNING BACK OF THE WHEELS OF PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY TO THE STANDARDS OF SPAIN AND MEXICO, AND THE ABANDONMENT OF OUR POSITION AS THE GREATEST COUNTRY IN THE CIVILIZED WORLD.—Herville E. Ingalls, President of Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad Company, in September North American Review.

OUR ARMY COMPARED.

"We oppose militarism. . . . It will impose upon our free people a large standing army and unnecessary burden of taxation, and a constant menace to their liberties."—Democratic National Platform, 1900.

Our "large standing army," exclusive of the Philippine volunteers, consists of 65,000 men. In 1867, with a population only half as great, it was 54,000. This "large standing army" is relatively the smallest army in the world, as these figures show:

Country—	Army population.	Soldiers per 1000
France.....	500,000	14.05
Germany.....	600,000	11.05
Austria-Hungary.....	280,000	6.07
Russian Empire.....	700,000	6.01
Turkey.....	240,000	7.01
Great Britain.....	210,000	5.06
Italy.....	210,000	7.01
Switzerland.....	148,000	47.00
United States.....	65,000	0.86

Even Switzerland keeps 148,000 soldiers in compulsory, active military training, exclusive of the 361,000 men in the Landwehr and Landsturm (reserves). This is forty-seven soldiers in active training for every one thousand of the population. The United States has less than one soldier for every thousand. Is our republic forty-seven times as afraid of its protectors as Switzerland?

Shall we wipe out the army and leave American ministers, merchants and missionaries to be murdered without redress or appeal?

Mr. Bryan wants to cut down our little army to the vanishing point. Do you?

VALUES IN NEBRASKA.

Values have increased in Nebraska since 1896, as follows:

	Per cent.
Hogs, increase.....	45
Beef, increase.....	69
Corn, increase.....	15
Land, increase.....	20
Household goods, increase.....	29
Savings bank deposits, increase.....	35
All property, increase.....	75

On the other hand there has been the following reduction:

	Per cent.
Mortgages decreased.....	40

And the record runs the same through all states under McKinley's Protection and Prosperity.

PROSPERITY REACHES CHURCH

The Rock River conference of the Methodist church has just completed its labors at Chicago. During the past year five churches have been erected, at a total cost of about \$190,000, and \$12,500 indebtedness has been paid off. The church has had an era of prosperity like everybody else.

ALTGELD'S GREAT DISCOVERY.

John P. Altgeld has made a great discovery. It is that if you sell more than you buy you are growing poorer. Mr. Altgeld revealed his discovery last Thursday at New Haven, Conn. In a speech there he said:

This country is being drained to pay tribute to foreigners. By establishing the gold standard it takes twice as much of our products to pay that tribute. During this administration we have parted with over \$1,500,000,000 worth of goods more than we received in return, and we have only \$137,000,000 to show for it. How long can we stand an annual loss of nearly \$500,000,000? This amount of goods goes abroad every year and disappears.

Mr. Altgeld's figures are apparently derived from the statistics of our foreign commerce. In the fiscal years 1897, 1898, 1899, and 1900, we sold to other countries goods valued at \$4,903,685,559, and bought from other countries goods valued at \$2,927,643,225, leaving a balance or credit in our favor of \$1,976,042,334. During the same period we exported \$371,639,493 and imported 464,563,275 in gold and silver, an excess of precious metal imports over exports of \$192,923,782.

The Altgeld theory is plain. For our \$1,976,042,334 excess of merchandise exports we have nothing to show but our \$192,923,782 excess of precious metal imports, and so have grown poorer by the difference between these sums, which is \$1,783,118,552. Dividing this by four we have \$445,779,638, Altgeld's "annual loss of nearly \$500,000,000," the "amount of goods" which he says "goes abroad every year and disappears."

Mr. Altgeld's neighbors in Chicago, however much as they have differed from his (Altgeld's) opinions hitherto, have considered him a man of intelligence. But his New Haven speech must force a reversal of that judgment. To show the ineffable silliness of Altgeld's "annual loss of nearly \$500,000,000" assertion we have but to take the commonest concrete individual case.

Farmer John Smith, after selling his crops, paying his bills, and setting aside enough for next year's expenses, finds that he has \$1,000 left. He might convert that \$1,000 into gold coin and bury it in his cow stable. Being a sensible man, he looks about for an investment. He may lend his \$1,000 to a neighbor on a mortgage, or he may buy a railroad, a United States, or even an English government bond. Now, Smith has "parted with \$1,000 worth of goods more than he received," and has "only a piece of paper to show for it." But is Smith poorer? Is his British bond, if he choose that investment, "tribute to foreigners?" Smith knows it is not, for whenever he cashes a coupon he knows the British taxpayer gives tribute to him.

Democratic stump speakers have emitted many lunatic assertions, but Altgeld's discovery that our favorable trade balance of \$1,783,118,552 is not gain but loss certainly caps the climax of folly. His doctrine that men or nations grow poorer whenever they sell more than they buy is the most ludicrous "argument" that this campaign has produced.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

DEMOCRATIC PROSPERITY.

(Omaha Bee, Dec. 22, 1893.) Knights of Labor assembly, No. 374, composed of upholsterers and mattress makers, held a regular meeting last night. It developed at the meeting that about one-half of the membership is at present without anything to do and unable to find work in their line in Omaha. It has been the practice of tradesmen in this line of work to go on to Chicago when work was slack in Omaha, but their fellow workers in Chicago inform them that it is even worse there, so there is nothing for them to do but do the best they can at home.

WORKS ARE BUSY.

Four years ago the Culter Hammer company of Milwaukee, Wis., laid off about one-half of their men, on account of insufficient business, and the other half were employed only six hours with six hours pay. Today, every man is working full time and receiving ten hours' pay for nine and a quarter hours' work. The company's condition is similar to that of all other electrical manufacturing concerns.

The electrical workers know a good thing—know how to continue prosperity by voting the Republican ticket.

BUSINESS DOUBLED.

Activity at the mines, factories and furnaces is best shown by the following exhibit of pig-iron production of the United States—thus:

Year.	Tons.
1899.....	13,625,703
1894.....	6,657,388

Republican increase..... 6,968,315 While the output of pig iron doubled, those manufacturing interests which used pig iron or its products in any shape must have doubled their business within the five years.

SATISFACTORY IN COLORADO.

Returns received from a preliminary canvass of Colorado, by Chairman Ford of the Republican State committee, indicate that the gains made by the Republicans in 1898 will be more than maintained this year. Chairman Ford expects that the state will give a Republican majority of 20,000 this year.