

# The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Speak softly, do right, and you need carry no club.

As for Mr. Howard of Kentucky, it's three times and in.

Joaquin Miller, the poet, denies that his existence has been permanently Davidbilled.

Somehow or other it looks queer for this administration to blame the czar for "standing pat."

Those Colombians are acting as if their little old canal concession were the product of a tariff-protected monopoly.

Mr. Morgan made enough out of a former bond deal to finance quite a campaign for the Princeton gentleman.

Recent events indicate that almost any old excuse for forming an alliance with Great Britain will do for Mr. Hay.

The Curtis Jett reputation for "b-a-a-dness" seems to have been another case of ponderous thundering in the index.

Organize democratic clubs and be prepared to repulse the assaults of those who would republicanize the democratic party.

The situation in the Philippines is so quiet and peaceful that it is only necessary now to kill a few hundred Moros every day.

The Chicago Tribune advises Nebraskans not to look a gift university in the oil can. Certainly not; they'll look at it in the tank car.

A great many people are wondering how the monitor Arkansas plumped into a mudbank when Admiral Crowninshield was not aboard.

The Nashville American is experiencing considerable difficulty in making its democratic pretensions conceal its republican proclivities.

The Panama hat is with us once more, but the Panama canal is still right where a lot of its most ardent advocates knew it would be.

Philadelphia's new mayor has declared for municipal reform and Uncle Matthew Quay is laughing so hard his family physician is worried.

By raising a great fuss about Senator Stone the g. o. p. organs hope to divert attention from certain republican senators who dare not deny it.

Those Illinois legislators who voted to thank Speaker Miller for his "fair and courteous treatment" reserved the right to think a few things on the quiet.

The Chicago Tribune rebukes Tennessee because negroes are not allowed to engage in certain lines of work in that state. Let's see, what is the name of that Illinois town where the negro coal miners received such a warm welcome?

The Cummins armor plate on the Iowa idea seems to have been sadly perforated by blowholes.

One of the worst features of the Manchurian situation is that it enables A. Jeremiah Beveridge to step into the lime light and make an "I told you so" bow.

Chicago's laundry strike makes clean linen impossible, but a large proportion of Chicago's republicans prefer to wear a Lorimer collar the year 'round, anyhow.

The monitor Arkansas is fast on a mudbank near Cairo. The Hill boom managers should carefully note the means used in getting the Arkansas out into the channel.

Mr. Bryan finds occasion to take advantage of the Subscribers' Advertising Department. Desiring to dispose of some young stock he lays the matter before the readers of *The Commoner*.

The Subscribers' Advertising Department continues to bring handsome returns to all who make use of it. This department brings to the notice of a half-million people any article advertised therein.

Every time he thinks of Breathitt county, or any other Kentucky county, ex-Governor Taylor shudders and takes a new reef in the grip he has on the coat-tails of Indiana's accommodating executive.

The good roads movement is deserving the hearty co-operation of every citizen, no matter what his business may be. Improved roads mean easier methods of communication and better business facilities.

The dome of the capitol at Washington is receiving a coat of white paint, the first in nine years. This continued neglect has probably been caused by the excessive demand for white coating in administration circles.

Another remarkable spectacle is that of a man living on the treeless plains of the west and voting for a tariff of \$2 per thousand feet on lumber as a protection for the lumber barons who live at seaside resorts and travel in private cars.

Mr. Cleveland's hesitancy about accepting the nomination tendered him by the *New York World* and the *Brooklyn Eagle* raises the suspicion that he may be requiring a bond of them to make sure of at least one delegate in the national convention before he consents to the use of his name.

The *New York World's* investigation brought out the fact that three democratic committeemen (there were only two in fact) favored Mr. Cleveland's nomination, while seventeen declared that his nomination would be a political blunder. As this is nearly 16 to 1 against Mr. Cleveland he may come to have some respect for the ratio after all.

Mr. Cleveland has written a letter saying that he is not desirous of a nomination. Well, if he is not desirous of being nominated he can console himself with the thought that he is in harmony with the democratic party on one question, for his aversion to a nomination could not be greater than the aversion felt by the democratic party.

One of the papers of the reorganizers declares that the advocates of the Kansas City platform are opposed to making the democratic party "large and strong." If that paper will examine the vote of 1894 it will be able to form some idea of the largeness and strength of the democratic party when it last went to battle under the Cleveland leadership.

The republican party claims to represent the intelligence of the country and yet the remonstrance to the administration's Philippine policy contained the names of fifty-seven college presidents and four hundred professors representing the leading colleges of the country.

A reader of *The Commoner* inquired some time ago for a book called "The Footprints of Time." It was written by Charles Bancroft and published by R. J. Root, publisher, Burlington, Ia. S. I. Knowles of Quincy, Mich., can give further information in regard to it. Mr. E. C. Wells of Waterville, Vt., also responded with information in regard to the author and publisher of the book.

President Roosevelt's trip is going to cover a great many states and occupy considerable time. If he is compelled to pay for the splendid train in which he travels, the trip will prove quite a tax upon his purse; if, on the other hand, the railroads foot the bill it will probably be upon the people, for the railroads do not give favors without expecting favors in return.

A reader of *The Commoner* asks what is meant by watered stock. The phrase is used to describe stock which does not represent an actual investment in money, but upon which dividends are expected to be paid because of the corporations' power to secure a monopoly.

The *Brooklyn Citizen* is unkind enough to point out the fact that Mr. Cleveland's sponsor, the *Brooklyn Eagle*, has opposed the democratic state ticket in New York during the last four gubernatorial campaigns. This fact would seem to make its support of Mr. Cleveland still more appropriate.

The republican papers seem to be a unit in praising Mr. Cleveland and they are equally unanimous in thinking that it is real mean of Mr. Bryan to oppose the Clevelandizing of the democratic party. This is not strange; Mr. Bryan is fighting republican policies while Mr. Cleveland helped to elect a republican president.

A reader of *The Commoner* asks for the publication of Mr. Schwab's interview in regard to the selling of steel rails cheaper in England than in the United States. If such an interview was published it escaped the attention of the editor of *The Commoner*, and he would be glad to have a copy of it if any reader of *The Commoner* has preserved it.

The gold-bug papers that announced in large headlines Norman E. Mack's conversion to Clevelandism are now admitting, in small type, that his position was misrepresented. Mr. Mack is the New York member of the national committee and he has been too bitterly denounced by the Wall street crowd not to know what a return to Clevelandism would mean.

Some may think that the nomination of Grover Cleveland for the presidency by the *Brooklyn Eagle* would insure him one vote, but it must be remembered that the *Brooklyn Eagle* threw the ex-president overboard at the time that it launched the Parker boom. If the *Eagle* should later withdraw its support it might leave Mr. Cleveland entirely alone—and, think of it, exposed to the shafts of Brother Watterson.

A South Dakota reader of *The Commoner* writes that a number of peddlers were colonized against Senator Pettigrew in his own ward when he was a candidate for re-election to the United States senate in 1900 and also suggests that the peddlers may not feel so friendly to the republican bosses, now that an anti-peddler law has been passed in the state which very seriously hampers them.

Occasionally the editor of *The Commoner* is in receipt of an unsigned communication enclosing a criticism from some republican or gold democratic paper. While he is always glad to read criticisms it is only fair to his readers to say that he has not attempted to avoid the criticism of those papers that take their orders from Wall street. He not only expects their criticism, but would feel that he was not doing his work well if he failed to receive their criticism. Their violent denunciation of him is the best evidence that he could have that his arguments are effective. They would not notice him if he was doing them no harm.

The Salt Lake City Herald says: "Nothing in the records of the war department is more pitiful than the recent statement that ten officers and seventy-three enlisted men have killed themselves in the Philippines because of homesickness." If the money magnates who are "developing" the Philippine islands under the protection of our colonial policy could be furnished with photographs of these suicides and made to look upon them every day they might find the profits of exploitation insufficient to quiet their consciences. If the misguided enthusiasts who think that they see that God is using a war of conquest to Christianize (or, rather, protestantize) the natives, were compelled to gaze upon the sad faces of these eighty-three victims of imperialism, they might be willing to substitute the peaceful process of Christianity for the brutal and merciless methods of empire.