

The Omaha papers have finally reduced their opposition to the new constitution down to a point where all can see the nature of it. They have abandoned all else, and go in heavily against it on the ground that it is in opposition to large monied corporations. We are not of those who would make warfare upon corporations, neither are we of those who would give the State over to the control of monied corporations without a struggle. Let us look carefully and see just what there is to this cry about "driving out capitalists" and "stopping all railroads from building in the State."

We are opposed to doing either of these things, just as much as any man in the State; but will the new constitution "drive out capitalists," and will it "stop the building of railroads." We fail to see wherein it will do so. The separate article forbidding the rendering of aid to railroads can be voted down, as we believe it will be, and should be; the provision requiring a three-fifths vote to give aid does not exactly meet our views, but it falls far short of prohibiting aid, and it is very questionable whether taxes should be levied as donations with the consent of three-fifths of the voters. So far as the clause authorizing the sale of rolling stock under attachment is concerned, it will work no hardship to any company who are willing to pay their honest debts; and if they are not willing to pay them, then the clause is very much needed, and is just. The clause authorizing the Legislature to fix a maximum price of freights and passenger tariffs does not change the present position of affairs in that respect, but only settles a point which is often made an excuse for carrying the question into the courts. These three are the points upon which the whole opposition is based, although many other pretenses are made to deceive voters. Is it not more of a "scare," with a view to making a "Camden and Aubrey" of Nebraska, with the U. P. Co. as the "power behind the throne," than because there is thought to be any danger of driving out capital and deterring the construction of railroads. Who are the men engaged in the warfare against this constitution? But suppose we admit all that these opponents claim on this corporation clause, and then is it a just reason for opposing the constitution? Under the present constitution it is claimed that the Legislature has the right to regulate passenger and freight tariffs, so there is little in that point. There is certainly no desire on the part of any one to prevent the building of railroads in our State, and if the provisions in the new constitution should so operate how long would it take to change it? It could be accomplished in eighteen months, without a dollar of expense, and there can be no question as to what would be done if the constitution operated badly. It looks to us as if this great howl raised by a few men in Omaha meant something more than appears upon the surface.

THE FIGURES.

READ AND BE NOT DECEIVED.

I reply to a letter from Chief Justice Mason, Hon. John Gillespie, State Auditor, who exhibits an exhibit of the ordinary State expenses during the past year— not counting the impeachment and other extraordinary expenses, but only those which are incident to the ordinary machinery of State—and it foots up a little more than \$125,000. We give below an estimate of the expense under the new constitution, in which \$92,000 more are estimated on University, insane, State Prison and deaf and dumb expenses than were actually paid during the past year.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Supreme Judges at \$3,500 per annum, District Judges at \$2,500 per annum, Governor at \$3,000, Lieut. Governor at \$8 per day for 40 days, Secretary of State at \$2,000, Auditor of State at \$2,000, Attorney General at \$2,000, Commissioner Public Buildings at \$2,000, Superintendent of Public Instruction at \$2,000, Clerk hire for Executive Officers at \$4,000, 77 members of Legislature at \$4 per day for forty days, Officers of Legislature, Clerks and other officers and fuel at \$10,000, Necessary expenses for Insane Asylum at \$40,000, State University at \$30,000, 5 Regents University at \$200 per annum each, State Penitentiary at \$20,000, State Normal School at \$24,000, Deaf & Dumb Institute at \$8,000.

Total \$185,640. We ask every candid man to scrutinize the above closely, and see if we have not allowed all that should be allowed. If you find we have, then, pray tell us where is to be the enormous expense of the State government under the new Constitution, where ALL EXTRAS are cut off—and "that's what's the matter." It is not all in the imagination of a few fallers in Omaha?—Remember that, under the new Constitution, all fees go into the State Treasury while under the old they go into the officers' pockets.

Not a great while since at a social gathering, a young lady, dressed in the extreme of fashion, and glittering with diamonds, sat silent and apart from the rest, taking no part in a conversation purely literary in its character. The gentleman of the house approached her with the remark: "You do not appear to be enjoying yourself." "No," said the lady, "this is too dry for me. Ain't there nobody here that can flirt?" "Flirt!" said he. "Ah, I see—your aunt is a sort of Cleopatra in disguise." "Cleopatra! No," rejoined the intelligent beauty, "I never liked Indians.—N. Y. Post.

A SQUARE ISSUE. Our Omaha friends are at last driven to a square issue on the new constitution question, and they have abandoned all their nonsense about high salaries, taxation, church taxation, etc., and come out squarely and say that the clause in reference to Corporations is "what's the matter." Had they done this in the commencement, and made a fair issue, we should have felt inclined to honor them more than we do now, after they have made false issues up to the present time. We cannot say that we fully endorse the provisions of the new constitution relative to Corporations, but they are not, by any means, so obnoxious as the Omaha papers would have the people believe. They are not sufficiently obnoxious to warrant the defeat of the constitution, even taking the worst features of the case. The very course pursued by the Omaha papers is sufficient to convince any thinking man that they did not believe the people would defeat the constitution on this account. Hence they have resorted to subterfuge and false issues—they have endeavored to touch the pockets of the people, which they felt sure would be effective. The fact that their figures were outrageously incorrect has had the effect to expose them before their plans were fully realized, and therefore we may yet hope for a reaction. Had the Omaha papers stated their real opposition in a manly way, and then trusted to the people to correct the faults of the constitution at the earliest moment practicable, it would have been much wiser than the course they have pursued. The truth is always best.

TRUTH AND FAIRNESS. Where there is time to expose falsehood there is no danger that it will work any great amount of permanent injury; but it is often the case that a falsehood is circulated in such manner, and at such time, that it is almost impossible to counteract its influence before it has accomplished the object for which it was intended. Such is the case with many of the falsehoods circulated in regard to the new constitution by Omaha men. A large circular, or poster, has been issued from an Omaha office, which is a complete tissue of falsehoods. It is issued just on the eve of election, and is being circulated all over the State, quietly, at such a late day that it was thought by its originators (who do not and dare not sign it) to be impossible to refute it before it had accomplished its mission. It makes it appear as if the expense of State government under the new constitution would be very greatly increased, and it does so by just such figures as were used by the Omaha Republican on the subject of Judges salaries in the different States. Following is a statement showing the salaries actually established by law for Supreme Judges in each and every State of which any account can be found in our State library, also the published statement in the Omaha Republican for the same States:

Table with 2 columns: State and Salary. Includes Arkansas \$4,000, California \$3,000, Connecticut \$2,000, Delaware \$1,500, Florida \$2,000, Illinois \$2,000, Iowa \$2,000, Kansas \$2,000, Kentucky \$2,000, Maine \$2,000, Michigan \$2,000, Minnesota \$2,000, Missouri \$2,000, New Jersey \$2,000, New York \$2,000, North Carolina \$2,000, Ohio \$2,000, Pennsylvania \$2,000, Rhode Island \$2,000, South Carolina \$2,000, Tennessee \$2,000, Texas \$2,000, Virginia \$2,000, West Virginia \$2,000.

And traveling expenses. Page 10, Acts of 1870-71. Nebraska \$3,500, and can be reduced by the very first Legislature. This will serve to show the style of arguments being used by the opponents, and the amount of dependence that can be placed in their assertions. During this entire campaign the friends of the constitution have been compelled to battle against just such falsehoods. Let the people beware of them.

READ! READ!! READ!!!

The Chicago Tribune, a paper that can look without prejudice or personal interest in the matter, has a lengthy article, (over a column), on our new Constitution, in which it says "it is perhaps the best natured instrument of the kind ever prepared in any State." We extract the following, as a sample: "The existing constitution contains no provision for its amendment, except through the agency of a convention, and should the new constitution be rejected another cannot be framed and go into effect before January 1876. In the meantime the State will have to endure the embarrassments of the existing law. The new constitution is perhaps the best natured instrument of the kind ever prepared in any State. It embraces nearly all the wise provisions of the new Constitution of Illinois, with several additional precautions against fraud and extravagance. Had the State of Illinois enjoyed such a constitution twenty years it would have spared our people many millions of dollars shamefully wasted, and prevented legislative and other frauds and abuses, to remove from the consequences of which will cost years of ceaseless effort, and the most expensive and vexatious litigation. In Nebraska the new constitution proposes to keep the State free; to protect the rights, liberties, and property of the people against confiscation by monopolies, and to stop at the threshold the creation of corporations greater than the State, and beyond and above the reach of that law to which the person and property of every citizen is amenable. If Nebraska wants to be free—wants to escape the despotism of monopolies under which all her sister States have suffered, and from which they are preparing at heavy cost, to escape—let her adopt this constitution now. Five years hence it will be too late; the work will be accomplished, and the wise restraints proposed now will be entirely too late to remedy evils which can easily be prevented but can scarcely be cured.

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READ! READ!! READ!!!

THE "GREAT FOLLY" EXPOSED.

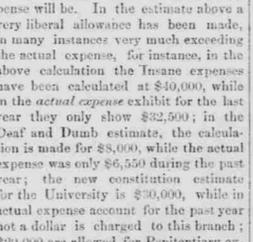
Facts and Figures for the People.

Our Omaha friends are endeavoring to defeat the constitution here howled loud and long on the enormous expense to be entailed on the people by the adoption of the document, but they have completely failed to demonstrate a single assertion they have made. There never was a greater humbug than this expense dodge, as we have already shown. We clip the following item from the Chicago Tribune, not because it contains anything not already known to thousands of people in Nebraska, but to show the views of a disinterested and well known journal on the question: "The new constitution further and wisely adopts a system of salaries for all its State officers, and prohibits their increase during the term of the officers.—So admirably is the system perfected that, instead of the fee system, under which each officer may roll up enormous annual incomes, the fees are to be paid into the State Treasury. Assuming the present value of taxable property in the State to be fifty five millions of dollars, the entire salaries of the State Government will not require a tax of more than three-fifths of a mill annually; and in five years, when this valuation shall be quadrupled, the entire salaries of the State Government will not equal, in the aggregate, the amount of fees which a single officer may receive in case the new constitution be rejected."

This estimate covers the entire salaries of the State government under the new constitution. Just think of it, only three-fifths of a mill on a dollar annually for all salaries. Does this scare our Omaha men? But suppose we go farther. Let us take the entire expense as provided by the new constitution—the Supreme Judges, District Judges, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, Attorney General, Public Building Commissioners, Superintendent Public Instruction, clerk hire for Executive officers, entire legislative expenses, insane Asylum expenses, State University Regents, Normal School, Penitentiary and Deaf and Dumb Institute expenses, and as we have already demonstrated, by itemized statements, the whole thing only amounts to about \$185,000. Now let us calculate upon the basis of \$55,000,000 of taxable property, as suggested in the above item from the Chicago Tribune (although the present assessed value of our State is much more than this) and see how "burthensome" the taxation will be. The \$185,000 expenses is but a small fraction over one three hundredth part of the \$55,000,000, or one dollar tax out every three hundred, or three and a half mills on a dollar taxation to pay the entire expense of the State government under the new constitution. Let this be well understood—it is not an increase of 3 1/2 mills taxation, but that is the entire amount of taxation estimated for State expenses under the new constitution, counting the assessed value of the property at only \$55,000,000. Remember there are NO EXTRAS for any officer under the new constitution, while there is NO LIMIT to the extras that may be allowed under the present document.

Now let us look still further and see the ACTUAL EXPENSES during the past year, and what the increased expense will be. In the estimate above a very liberal allowance has been made, in many instances very much exceeding the actual expense, for instance, in the above calculation the insane expenses have been calculated at \$40,000, while in the actual expense exhibit for the last year they only show \$32,500; in the Deaf and Dumb estimate, the calculation is made for \$8,000, while the actual expense was only \$6,550 during the past year; the new constitution estimate for the University is \$30,000, while in actual expense account for the past year not a dollar is charged to this branch; \$29,000 are allowed for Penitentiary expenses, while only \$13,000 were actually paid during the past year except for inspectors, which officers are abolished by the new constitution; \$24,000 is allowed for State Normal School, while only \$4,500 are accounted to this fund in the actual expense exhibit for the past year, thus showing a grand total of \$62,050 which are reckoned in the estimated cost under the new constitution more than was actually paid during the past year. We give these facts to show that the men who are arguing in favor of the adoption of the new constitution are not endeavoring to deceive the people, but are willing to make liberal allowance, as the expenses of these various branches of the government are liable to be increased, rather than diminished. As we have already stated, the estimated cost of running the machine of State under the new constitution is only \$180,000, with all these liberal allowances; while the actual cost under the present constitution, as shown upon the Auditor's books, without taking into account the expense of the impeachment trial and many other things of an unusual character, is \$149,033.20, or over twenty-six thousand MORE than the estimate under the new constitution if we deduct the \$62,050 which the estimate exceeds the actual expense. We have the figures from the Auditor's books, over the Auditor's own signature, of the expense for the past year, which foot up as above, and any man can figure the expense under the new constitution by taking the amount of salaries therein prescribed. Let no man be hoodwinked by false figures, such as have been furnished by the Omaha papers, but let him figure for himself.

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The Marsh harrower and reaper that two men can drive, and all of them working into shade.

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September 1st, 4 and 5th.

crease of expenses to the amount of over \$9,000 in the salaries of the State officers. They fail to give their readers the full facts, and they dare not do it.—They fail to tell you what the actual receipts of these apparently low salaried officers were, counting "fees" and "perquisites," which are strictly prohibited in the new constitution, every dollar of them going into the State Treasury.—They also fail to tell the reader that the one officer of Commissioner of Public Lands and Buildings under the new constitution, with a salary of \$2,000 takes the place of three States Prison Inspectors, three Asylum Commissioners, and three Capital Commissioners, with an aggregate salary, under the old constitution, of \$14,500. Now let us see how these figures which the Omaha papers distort into such damaging shapes actually are when given as they appear upon the records of the State, and compared again with the clearly defined salaries under the new constitution—which salaries not even the Omaha papers dare attempt to falsify:

Table with 2 columns: Position and Salary. Includes Governor \$10,000, Secretary of State \$5,000, Auditor \$5,000, Treasurer \$5,000, Attorney General \$5,000, Superintendent of Public Instruction \$5,000, Commissioner of Public Lands and Buildings \$2,000, State Prison Inspectors \$2,000 each, Asylum Commissioners \$2,000 each, Capital Commissioners \$2,000 each.

We ask every voter to carefully scan this whole matter, and see if we have not given a fair and impartial statement of the facts in the above. We have many other facts in our possession which the short time prior to election prevents our getting before the public. But one thing we can assure our readers, that the great burden of expense is only used by the Omaha press because they know that by this means they can most easily frighten voters, and thus defeat the document which they dislike for other, and to them more potent reasons, but reasons which they do not make public. Examine this matter carefully; figure for yourselves, and vote intelligently.

Its Opponents.

Who are making the strongest opposition to the new Constitution? 1st. The politicians who fear that the "iron clad" oath of the Legislative Article will prevent them from buying their way into office. 2d. The railroad corporations whose lands the new Constitution proposes to tax, and whose rates of fare it proposes to regulate. 3d. The newspapers owned or controlled by these corporations. 4th. Demagogues who seek to make political capital out of certain clauses of the Constitution. 5th. All the chronic grumblers and "sore heads" in the State. 6th. "Sol. Miller's" "Carlo."—Nebraska Valley Journal.

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"What made you quit the East?" said a man in Nevada to a new-comer. "I got into trouble by marrying two wives," was the response. "Well," said the other, "I came out here because I got into trouble by marrying only one wife." "And I," said a bystander, "came here because I got into trouble simply by promising to marry one."

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