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VOL. X. RED CLOUD, WEBSTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA. FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1883. NO. 24.

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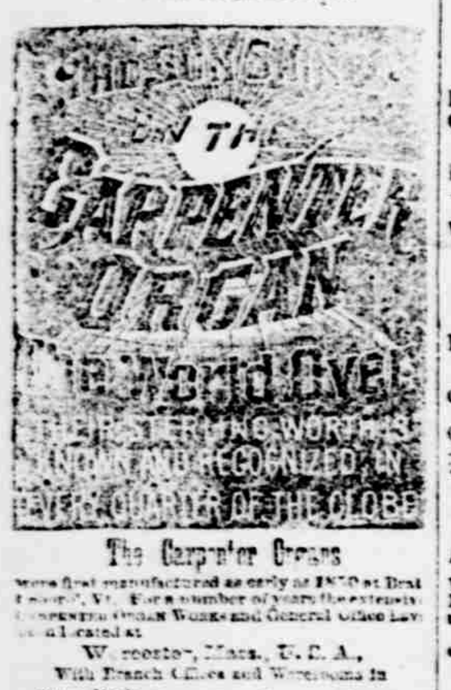
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D. LUTZ, - - - EDITOR.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1883

AMERICAN PROGRESS.

BY C. C. HETMAN.

Mr. Chairman; ladies and gentlemen The first thing you will naturally desire to learn of, it the subject on which I intend talking; and for fear that if I leave you to infer the nature of my discourse from what I shall say, you will never know, I deem it best to inform you at the outset. Besides I feel it is well to start out with a clearly defined idea, that it is well to have a target at which to shoot so that should I miss the mark at which I aim, I may still hit something lower down.

My topic, as announced, is American progress. A subject as broad and grand as the continent; as full of wonders as the Arabian Nights; and as dear to the American heart, as any topic I could select.

I am no orator, and if you have come here to listen to a fine display of eloquence; to hear grand and lofty thoughts expressed in periods fully rounded, clothed in all the splendor of rhetoric, I am afraid you will be disappointed. My remarks will doubtless be crude and unpolished, almost too imperfect in language and sentiment to present to an intelligent audience. As this is an educational assembly, convened for the purpose of promoting the interests of our schools, you may ask what this topic has to do with education.

I feel that it has much to do with it; that under this title we may include all sought to be attained by the founders of the institutions we represent.

We can't confine our consideration of the topic to the narrow limits of the school room, however, and claim that all this remarkable development is the result of the teachings there; but we must glance at the grandeur and beauty of our land from a broader platform and take into account the many causes that have accomplished our present national greatness. Yet I believe, that of all the forces at work, our liberal system of education is the mainspring that moves the machinery, and without which our land would relapse into a condition the very opposite to her present state of advancement. We are apt to forget that the schools have been, and still are the great safeguard of the nation; and that the liberties of a people are safer in the hands of persons who understand all about their land and love it, than in the hands of an ignorant and lawless soldiery. We may forget that as teachers we should endeavor to in till into the young mind a thorough knowledge of the principles and resources of our government; that it is necessary to awaken a feeling of reverence for American institutions; that it is necessary to cultivate a sentiment that will grow and deepen through all coming time. I see before me many, who, like myself are laboring as teachers. Some of you are just entering your field of labor; others have already felt the noonday heat and are looking at the results of long years of toil with pride and pleasure. I want to say to you teachers, that your influence is boundless; that you wield a vast amount of power for good; that you have the opportunity of moulding a nation whose decline and fall shall never furnish material for the pen of a Gibbon, but whose glory shall fill all the earth, and whose name shall be a synonym of all that is grand and noble.

This is why I felt like talking about American progress. I felt that while a disposition exists to ridicule, and contemn the best government on earth, it becomes us as teachers to endeavor to educate a people, who will, if necessary, shed their blood to preserve and protect a land they have been taught to respect and love.

It is my purpose to discuss my subject from various standpoints, and should I happen to get my ideas a little out of their regular order I ask you to bear with me. I never have much system about things, but must talk as the spirit moves me.

The topic is so broad that were I to attempt a review of our nationol progress from 1776 down to the present day, I should require about one month to complete it, and at the end of that time you would be thoroughly wearied.

Charles Dickens thought the American people inordinately vain with regard to their national importance. This is my weak point, and it may be true in my case. I love its beauty, I reverence its history, I wonder at its grandeur, and I lose myself when I try to paint its possible future.

We all feel this way. We are all proud that we can claim this glorious land as ours. We are all gratified when we think of our country's gigantic progressive strides, and we never tire of hearing her praises sounded. Studying the history of the world, we can trace through all the ages, the workings of a progressive spirit. We can see how, from a crude beginning man has gradually worked his way upward. We notice that he has passed many successive stages of improvement, before he attained that perfection, which enabled him to make the discovery of a new hemisphere. God, in his great wisdom, doubtless kept the early mariner from venturing out upon the mighty waters, and finding his way to a new world.

The era had not arrived, nor had humanity reached such a development, that this part of the Maker's grand domain was necessary to his happiness. He needed yet to climb to a higher elevation—to a higher plane, morally, and mentally before he was fitted to inhabit and beautify this fairest portion of the universe. I have often wondered that such a clime should for so many ages, be shrouded with the dark veil of obscurity. Then again the thought has entered my mind, that the Supreme Being had reserved this land for working out some grand design.

If we study the social condition of Europe from the thirteenth to the fifteenth century, if we notice the growing desire in the hearts of mankind, to enjoy the glorious boon of liberty; if we notice the desperate efforts of despots to retain their weakening grasp on power; and if we notice the turmoil and upheaval of social life that these conflicting interests introduced, we cannot help but realize, that the time had arrived when downtrodden humanity throughout the world, needed a home, needed a place where they might gather about them their household gods and live and die, guided and directed by those principles of right and justice that are implanted in the breast of every true man by his Creator. The time was ripe, and only was needed an instrument to accomplish the first step in the grand design, and render possible the final emancipation of the human race from the chains of error, of wrong, of weakness and of despair. Such an instrument God found in the humble sailor of Genoa, whose genius expanded by years of maratine experience, and inspired by years of earnest thought, grasped the grand truth that finally culminated in his glorious voyage of discovery and placed the name of Columbus high among the names of the world's greatest benefactors.

I shall not attempt to eulogize Columbus. He needs no words to establish his right to greatness. Neither can I compare him with any other of our master minds and prove by the parallel, his superior right to our admiration. In his own special position he stands grandly alone. In his own glorious sphere, his original genius stands without a peer. You may wonder why I talk so much about Columbus. Because he is so intimately related to the progress that has accomplished our present and rendered possible a grand, a glorious future.

About 390 years ago the world was startled by the strange statement that a captain sailing under the Spanish flag, had discovered a new land. A clime, the enthusiastic voyagers pictured ar rarely beautiful, and of bound less extent. Indeed, so astonishing was the discovery, that their inflamed imaginations peopled it with strange wonders. Old men whose heads were white with the snows of many winters sat out in quest of "fabled fountains of immortal youth."

All at once the old world awoke to a realization of the fact that beyond the seas lay a land in the midst of what before they imagined a waste of waters, whose depths were inhabited by hideous and uncouth marine monsters. Thousands of individuals braved the unknown perils of the deep, and flocked to the new El Dorado. Settlements sprang up like magic, and the onward march of civilization rolled, where for ages nature dwelt in solitude.

It is unnecessary to trace the history of our land from the first permanent settlement at Jamestown down to the day when the old bell in the State House tower rang out a foreign sovereignty, and joyfully ushered into existence the grandest nation the world has yet seen. These facts are familiar to every school-boy from Maine to the Gulf of Mexico, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. I shall attempt only to consider the subject from the time when our nationality became distinct and defined. When America took her rightful place among the nations of the earth and started out on that wonderful career, that now after the lapse of a single century has raised her to the eminence of a first class power, a result as wonderful as it is satisfactory. Over one hundred and fifty years ago, the poet, disgusted with the corruption of Europe, penned the following prophetic lines:

"There shall be sung another golden age,
The rise of empire and of arts;
The good and great inspiring epic rage,
The wisest heads and noblest hearts.
Not such as Europe breeds in her decay;
Such as she bred when fresh and young,
When heavenly flame did animate her clay,
By future poets shall be sung.
"Westward the course of empire takes its way;
The first four acts already past,
A fifth shall close the drama with the day,
Times noblest offspring is the last."

With the birth of the American republic was achieved the first decisive victory for humanity. The last scene at Yorktown ushered into being a new nation, and the news of the defeat fell like a pall upon the despots of the old world. The rights that William Tell fought for among the Alps, the principle that Polish patriots died for and lost, gained the greatest success among the wilds of an almost unknown land.

A hundred years is a brief period in the existance of a nation. The greatness of all other nations, ancient as well as modern, has been but the result of centuries. As soon as the war for independence ended, the American people began to develop their country. The early patriots had unbounded faith in the future of their blood bought land. They found themselves in possession of a narrow strip of country along the Atlantic seaboard. Immigration began. The waste places smiled with golden harvests. The forest rang with the sound of the settler's axe. Civilization marched westward, and the people, freed from the interference of European legislatures, launched out on a career of progress, unparaleled in history. We are standing here between the worlds. On the west, the civilization of twenty centuries ago, is watching us. On the east the accumulated knowledge and enlightenment of successive ages, is noteing with admiring wonder the upward career of our native land. During a single century America has so rapidly lessened the intervening gulf between her and the proudest nations of Europe, that to-day she occupies the same eminence, and is taking those final strides, that will leave her, ere many years have lapsed into the past undisputed mistress of the world. We read in history of nations whose progress seems too wonderful to be real. We turn over the records of ancient Greece and Rome, and grow enthusiastic over them, and forget that here in the west is a star that shines with brighter lustre, than any the world has yet seen.

(*To be continued.*)

The Political Cyclone.

The outcome of the campaign of 1882 was the overthrow of boss rule and monopoly denomination. The political cyclone that swept the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific had a terrible significance which no party dares to ignore. The revolt against bossism was a declaration of independence from the tyranny of political debots and corporation kings. The country is now brought face to face with grave problems that concern the welfare of the nation, and especially the future prosperity of the producers. These problem will constitute the issues upon which the next president will be elected

The late campaign in Nebraska indicates that the people are thoroughly aroused to the importance of these vital issues. The principals for which the war was fought are no longer in dispute. The greenback has become equal in value to gold and silver, and the credit of the nation stands upon a safe and secure basis. But the abuses of corporate monopoly and the oppression of the producing classes by irresponsible and greedy railroad kings continue, and can only be checked by the passage and enforcement of sound and efficient legislation.

Having battled for the anti-monopoly cause during more than ten yerrs, the Bee has established its title to popular confidence as an earnest and unflinching advocate of the right of the producers. In championing the common interests of the people against corporate encroachment, the Bee has never advocated the confiscation or wanton destruction of railway property or laws that would bankrupt these corporations but it insists that railways shall deal fairly by all their patrons, that they shall not confiscate the products of the farmer by extortionate toils, and that they shall not evade their just burden of taxation.

Railroads are intended to be public servants, and so long as they faithfully maintain this relation they are valuble complements in the great struggle for advancement in the race for prosperity, when they abandon this reation, and assume to the masters, they cease to be blessings, and become oppressors of the people, and dangerous to the public interests. It is both wise and just to foster by liberal legislation such enterprises as are honestly engaged in the advancement of the public welfare, it is no less just and wise however, to protect against all scheme and modes of administration which make all other matters secondary to the greed of railway management, or to the just for gain of jobbers and speculators. The Bee has always been a staunch exponent of republican principles, and it will continue to battle for these principles, but it will not sanction the dictatorship of Jay Gould or any other railway manager in political affair through the instrumentality of the republican party.

The influence of the Bee in moulding public sentiments on the railway issue is acknowledged in the following letter from the secretary of the national anti-monopoly league to the editor of the Bee:

HEADQ'RS ANTI-MONOPOLY LEAGUE
NEW YORK, November 15, 1882.

E. Rosewater, Esq., Omaha Neb:

Dear Sir:—We have the news from Nebraska. It makes a man feel proud to be an an anti-monopolist when one realizes what your state has done for the cause. It was a magnificent day's work, gallantry performed in the face of tremendous odds, when the balance of power was won in the interest of the people on election day. We congratulate you on the great success, and recognise that to your efforts and the votive support that the Bee has given to the principles of anti-monopoly, a large share of the credit is due. That balance of power in your state legislature has a volume of meaning for us. It promises that Nebraska is the front rank on the anti-monopoly issue, and her example will invite her sister state to join her in the great struggles of the rights of the many against the privileged few. It promises that the light of anti-monopoly principles is spreading and that the day is dawning when the people shall rule and corporate monopoly shall obey. It promises that Nebraska is to send the first anti-monopoly senator to the United States senate. It promises for the present that in your state none but measures which recognise the rights of all the people can be incorporated into law.

Again congratulating you, and through you the good men and true, who so faithfully stood by the principles of Anti-monopoly in your state,

I remain yours truly,
HENRY NICHOLS, Secy.

The Bee is not simply a one idea newspaper, but is a journal that meets every issue fearlessly, candidly and vigorously; it is above all things a newspaper, it pays more for the collection of news by telegraph and mail than all the other Nebraska dailies combined. It pays especial attention to far western news, and contains in every number the very latest events of the Rocky Mountains, territories and states on the Pacific coast. No other paper in America prints so much condensed far western news as the Bee Careful attention is paid to the selection of instructive and entertaining literature, which is adapted alike to the foarmer, the artisan and the home circle.

In order to extend the circulation of the weekly Bee, the publishers have placed a larger number of valuable and useful articles in their premium list than was ever offered by any newspaper. These premiums will be distributed among their subscribers in the same impartial manner that characterized their premium distribution last winter. The aggregate value of these premiums is over $40,000. Among these are

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Ode twine binder	300 00
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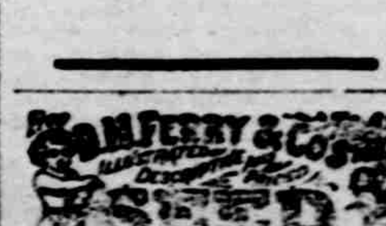

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