

## A RAILROAD HOLD-UP.

But the Railroad Acted the Part of Highwaymen This Time.

The attitude of Nebraska railroads towards the different political parties was well displayed by the action of the Burlington people towards Mr. Bryan and his party last week. In order to fill the dates made for him by the fusion state committees Mr. Bryan was compelled to make use of a special train.

The treatment accorded to Mr. Bryan and his associates was well explained by a special dispatch to the World-Herald last Sunday morning. The dispatch reads as follows:

Ravenna, Neb., Nov. 1.—It was not by the aid or consent of the railroads that Mr. Bryan and his party were able to carry out the program for today at Broken Bow and Ravenna. Meantime some of the most interesting and picturesque hours of the trip were experienced. After a mad but merry chase across country from midnight until dawn the party made Broken Bow in spite of obstacles.

It was at Loup City that the first complication presented itself. When the special arrived at that city there was a telegram from a Burlington official instructing the conductor to demand \$115 extra for the special train if it carried the Bryan party back to Aurora. The train had been hired for the day, and was paid for in advance at the rate of \$1.50 per mile from Fairmont to Loup City, and at the rate of 75 cents per mile from Loup City back to Aurora, a division point.

As the train had not returned when the Loup City meeting was over the Bryan party asked if they could return to Aurora at regular rates. The train was ready to start, and as the return trip had been paid for, the party supposed there would be no objection. When it was learned that the company wanted to add a full rate to the half rate, and charge 50 per cent more to take the party back on a deadheaded train that was ready to make the trip than it cost in the first place, Mr. Bryan and those with him refused to submit to the extortion, and decided to make the trip to Ravenna by private conveyance. There was no thought, however, of abandoning the trip to Broken Bow, if by any possibility it could be made. Events proved that Mr. Bryan was not to be defeated so easily.

It was pointed out that the attitude of the railroad on this occasion was vastly different from the attitude of the Elkhorn on July 9, when it forced the regular passengers to wait over in order to make up a special for Candidate Mickey and run it from Fremont to Bordeaux.

After Mr. Bryan had spoken at the opera house and the road's demands were ascertained, a conference was held at the hotel and a number of expedients were suggested and good stories told before it was at length decided to drive across the rain-swept hills from Loup City to Ravenna, a distance of twenty-two miles, to catch the local morning train. It was nearly midnight, and a committee of citizens opened up negotiations with the liverymen, Mr. Mathew, candidate on the fusion ticket for county attorney, returning to the hotel occasionally to report progress.

When all arrangements for two rigs had been satisfactorily concluded, Mr. Mathews appeared and caused consternation by saying: "Another complication, one of the horses is sick and we have been bracing him with medicine." It was agreed that it would be out of the question to attempt the hard drive on the terrible roads with a sick horse.

At this juncture a gentleman whose home is in Ravenna generously proffered his spring wagon for the trip. "My horses are good, but I don't know the road very well," he said. "Let the livery rig go ahead and I'll follow." This plan met with loud applause, and it was at once decided to attempt the drive.

After a cup of coffee four members of the party, Mr. Bryan, General Barry, J. H. Edmisten, member of the populist executive committee for the Sixth district, and, the World-Herald correspondent made the start for Ravenna. General Barry and Mr. Bryan nestled down in the hay that had been placed in the bed of the wagon. The other two members of the party climbed into the buggy and gave the driver the word to start. Scarcely had Loup City been left behind when it was discovered that the spring wagon was missing. From that time until Ravenna was reached the two divisions did not come within sight of each other.

The afternoon rain had penetrated just deep enough to make the roads slippery and travel slow. The stars were out, but there was no moon. The driver, however, knew his way by the "dipper" and he occasionally gave it an

affectionate glance over his left shoulder as he urged his horses southward. When 4:40 o'clock came, after four hours of painful plodding, Ravenna was not in sight and the only hope was that the train would be late. At just a o'clock the exhausted horses staggered up to the station platform. The train was late. It would arrive in fifteen minutes, said the agent.

Mr. Bryan and General Barry, however, were not there. When the train arrived men ran to and fro with torches for ten minutes testing the wheels. Mr. Edmisten and the World-Herald correspondent climbed aboard, resolved to reach Broken Bow and report Mr. Bryan's determined, but futile effort, to keep the date.

"All aboard," shouted the conductor. Then General Barry and Mr. Bryan rushed out of the darkness and sprang to the platform. As they entered the smoker they confronted their despondent friends and a hearty laugh followed.

Mr. Bryan and General Barry reported that at a point six miles out of Loup City they lost their way and were piloted by Albert Snyder, a farmer living near the road, who accompanied them a distance of ten miles, and but for whose assistance they would not have arrived at Ravenna until too late. The general and Mr. Bryan were covered with hay and looked decidedly dishevelled. But the battle had been won and the trip to Broken Bow was a cheery one.

The train arrived at Broken Bow a few minutes before 7 o'clock in the morning. A sleep of four hours at the hotel considerably refreshed Mr. Bryan and he made a spirited and telling speech to his Broken Bow audience. The local committees at Broken Bow and Ravenna had made excellent arrangements and in spite of the short time in which the meetings had been advertised they were attended by hundreds of people from the country districts. From Broken Bow back to Ravenna the trip was made on a freight train and the party arrived several hours earlier than it was expected. Mr. Bryan had a chance to meet and talk with many old friends. He finished his wearing trip in good spirits and voice. Late tonight he left for Lincoln.

### Forty Years a Republican.

Editor Independent: I desire to inform my old friend, Califf Lafferty of Iowa, who is also a subscriber to your invaluable paper, why I left the republican party after voting with it for nearly forty years. When I voted with that party it had many policies that were good, now it has but few. Then it advocated bimetalism and in 1896 pledged themselves to promote the interests of bimetalism and afterwards repudiated their pledge. Now it is wedded to the gold standard; then it boasted of having been the author of the greenbacks, that paid our soldiers, that bought the supplies, that put down the greatest war of the world; now it is their destroyer. Then it claimed to be a friend of the silver dollar; now it is pledged to its extermination. Then it was a friend of laborers and producers; now for the classes and trusts. Then its policies were directed by patriotism now by dollars and cents. Then it had a voice for struggling liberty now shot and shell. Then it aided Christian missionaries; now it shoots Christians and bribes pagans. Then it was a power for peace; now it is for force and plunder. Then its platforms extolled the teachings of its Lincolns, Garfields, and Blaines; now it boasts of its Funstons, Hannas, and even Cleveland's financial policy. Then it passed anti-trust laws; now it refuses to enforce them. Then it condemned Cleveland's financial policy; now it praises and adopts it. Then it was anti-slavery; now it favors slavery in the Philippine archipelago. Then it favored the masses; now it fosters the classes. Then it proclaimed that "labor was prior to and superior to capital and should always have the first consideration;" now it gives capital the first consideration. Because of all the changes, and more, is the reason why I don't vote with the republican party. The republican party left me; I did not leave it. Am I right or am I wrong?

An old soldier from '61 to '65.

J. M. ROBB.

Clayton, Ill.

### One Hundred Thousand.

Editor Independent: I send you one new subscriber. I hope that you will increase your circulation to one hundred thousand. W. W. NUTTER. Masonville, Colo.

Readers of The Independent should examine the advertisements in its columns. It will pay you to read them and take advantage of the bargains offered. Always mention The Independent.

# STALLIONS

Iams October, 1902 Importation of Black Percherons, Belgians and Coachers was the largest ever made west of the Missouri River. His stallions of big size, quality, finish and extremely low prices are propositions that will make you his buyer. If you can pay cash or give bankable note, you will sure buy stallions of Iams. Only man in the U. S. that imported only black or bay stallions. He has just imported,

## 63-STALLIONS-63

Shipped to N. Y. by fast boat, then by Fargo Express, special train from N. Y. to St. Paul, Nebr. Iams' big barns are full of big black ton stallions. He is just finishing a new barn 36x100 feet. Iams horses are the sensation of the town, visitors throng his barn and say, "Never saw so many big black stallions together;" "They are larger, bigger bone, more finish than ever before;" "But Iams is progressive;" "He buys them larger and better each year;" "He makes prices that makes the people buy his horses;" "Iams has a horse show every day better than State Fairs." He has on hand over

## 100-Black Percherons, Belgians and Coachers-100

2 to 6 years old, weight 1600 to 2500 lbs.; More black percherons, ton stallions, winners at largest French horse shows, more government APPROVED and STAMPED stallions of any one importer in the west. Iams speaks French and German; PAYS NO INTERPRETER, NO BUYERS, NO SALESMEN, no 2 to 10 men as partners to share profits. His buyers get MIDDLEMENS PROFITS and SALARIES. Iams buys direct from breeders. This with his 20 years experience, secures the best. All the above facts save his buyers \$300 and \$1000 on a first class stallion and you get a first class horse, as only second-rate stallions are peddled by slick salesmen to be sold. GOOD ONES SELL THEMSELVES. It costs \$200 and \$800 to have salesmen form COMPANY and sell a second rate stallion. Form your own companies. Go direct to Iams barns. He will sell you a better stallion for \$1000 and \$1200 than others are selling at \$3000 and \$4000. Iams pays horses freight and his buyers fare. Good guarantees. BARN IN TOWN. Don't be a clam. Write for an eye-opener and finest horse catalogue on earth.

# FRANK IAMS,

St. Paul, Howard Co., Nebr. On U. P. and B. & M. Rys.  
REFERENCES: St. Paul State Bank, First State Bank, Citizens National Bank.

### Is Silver a Legal Tender.

The National Tribune says: "At this late day the supreme court is about to pass upon the question of the constitutionality of the legal tender provisions of the Bland-Allison act of 1878.

"The case originated in Michigan in 1897, and the parties to the litigation are Fred A. Baker and Stephen Baldwin. Baldwin was indebted to Baker to the extent of \$364, and in payment rendered 364 silver dollars. Baker refused to accept the silver, alleging that it was not legal money. Baldwin brought suit in the state courts of Michigan to compel acceptance, and those courts sustained his contention. Baker brought the case to the supreme court on a writ of error, and the court will now take the case up for final consideration."

Editor Independent: I enclose the above clipping from the National Tribune of Washington, D. C., dated October 23. Will you please let us know if silver dollars were legal tender in the year 1897? Please tell your readers when silver dollars ceased to be legal tender and when they again became legal money. I am much pleased with your paper, The Independent.

H. B. VANMETRE.

Glendale, Ky.

(The silver dollar never was demonetized; that is, there never was a time in the history of this government when it was not a legal tender to a greater or less extent. It is a legal tender today "except where otherwise provided in the contract." There are many other things that are legal tender besides gold. National bank notes are legal tender between banks and for all payments made by the government for services or supplies. You can find out exactly to what extent a national bank note is legal tender by reading what is printed on its face and back. Greenbacks are legal tender for all debts and obligations except duties on imports and interest on public debt. If the followers of Fowler or any of that gang ever get congress to make gold the sole legal tender in this country, then we shall have a gold standard. At present we are a thousand miles from it. It is the opinion of The Independent that the real leaders of the republican party will think once or twice before they undertake to destroy what legal tender power is left to the silver dollar. If they make it redeemable in gold and undertake to redeem the six hundred million silver certificates in that metal there will be a crash such as the world never saw. If that is what the financial moguls want, why, of course, they will get it.

For over sixty years Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used by mothers for their children while teething. Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers, there is no mistake about it. It cures diarrhoea, regulates the stomach and bowels, cures wind colic, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children teething is pleasant to the taste and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price, 25 cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup."

Just imagine what would have happened on Wall street at any time during the last few weeks if there had been six hundred million silver dollars to redeem in gold.—Ed. Ind.)

## COAL BARONS EXEMPT.

Their Tax Rate is Even Lower Than That of the Railroads of Nebraska.

Everywhere and all over the United States the rich are largely exempted from taxation. We have had a big fight in this state over the question of whether the Goulds, Harrimans and Hills who own the railroads, shall pay the same rate of taxation that other citizens pay. But as tax shirkers the railroads do not equal the anthracite coal barons.

Bolton Hall of New York city, an expert in taxation matters, made this public statement during the coal strike:

"The gigantic coal companies of Pennsylvania pay practically no taxes on their valuable properties. I mean that, as a rule, they pay farm taxes on land that Mr. Schwab testified to be worth \$30,000 per acre. There is not an acre of coal land but is worth \$3,000, and much of it is worth Mr. Schwab's valuation. I have the transcripts from the assessors' lists to show that much of the coal land is assessed at \$3 per acre. The highest rate that I can discover is that of coal land. In other words, the coal companies are exempt from taxation.

"Now for the remedy: Let the commonwealth tax the coal barons. Nothing would bring them to their senses so quickly. They are demanding the protection of the state militia, which they avoid supporting. If the coal barons paid the taxes they should pay the burdens on the other people of Pennsylvania would be lightened fully \$6,000,000."

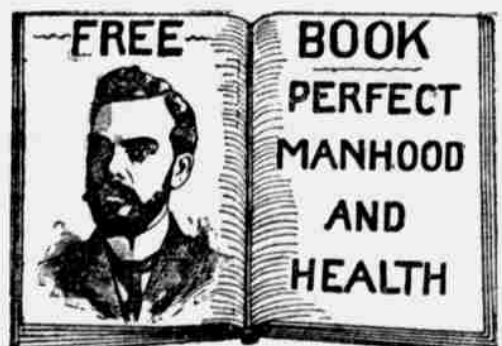
This reduced to a few words is that the coal land owners of Pennsylvania avoid \$6,000,000 of taxation by monstrous undervaluation of their highly valuable land.

### He Has The Blues.

Editor Independent: I see that my time expired in May, so I thought I would send you 50 cents to help on your building and that you may be independent of capital as far as a house is concerned. I have the blues in politics. We have no great men to lead us out. Yours for the right.

JAMES A. SINCLAIR.

St. Andrews, Wash.



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