

NOT GUILTY

Captain Ashby Replies to the Charge of Plagiarism Made by Mr. Theobald

Editor Independent: Returning from Oklahoma and Kansas where the exigencies of my profession as an attorney took, and detained me, I find two communications from a person announcing himself blushing as an economist, and James Theobald of Hackensack, N. J., (populist) by name.

Aside from the charge of plagiarism made by this person, there is nothing, which, standing alone, would call for any reply from me; because his confused mutterings upon the subject of "value," do not rise to the dignity of criticism, and are the mere mouthings of one who advertises himself as a retailer of hearsays, and a slave of an ignorant past. His only intellectual aliment consists of hearsays which he finds in print, and any absurdity is satisfying to his appetite if only he can find it set forth authoritatively in the writings of celebrated men from the Stagyite to Del Mar. A great name is the only guaranty demanded by him as a condition to his acceptance of any theory, whether rational or absurd.

He says: "But while thus disagreeing with Mr. Ashby's premises, I cordially assent to his conclusion that 'money and coins are widely distinct (different) from one another, the latter being merely the symbols of the former.'"

The reason this economist assigns for this cordial assent to that doctrine is that thus it is written in Del Mar's "Science of Money" at page 47.

Now the fact is I have never yet so much seen a copy of Del Mar's "Science of Money." The fact that this critic never saw the chapters dealing with "coin" in "Money and the Taxing Power," because they have not been reached in The Independent, constitutes no impediment to his assertion that my theory of coin as set forth by him was stolen from Del Mar.

With me, the case is different. Never having read the work referred to I prefer not to accuse Mr. Del Mar of advancing such nonsense, unless upon something more convincing than the report of this modest economist of Hackensack, N. J., (populist).

The quotation he pretends to make from my article in The Independent of March 5, is a bald falsehood. He can find no such foolish statement in the chapter referred to nor elsewhere. My chapters dealing with "coin" are now and for nearly three years have been in the custody of The Independent. They have not been published; but this libeller could not restrain his egotistical desire to display his stock of hearsays, which he mistakes for information, until he can have opportunity to read what I have written concerning coin. He slanders me much more by attributing such foolishness to me as that coins are merely the symbols of money than by accusing me of literary larceny; and Del Mar, I hope, for his own reputation, is entitled to an apology. If Del Mar advances the doctrine set forth by my libelous critic, I venture to say that James Theobald is the only economist in christendom, who will accept it. For my own part I repudiate such a doctrine no matter by whom it may be championed.

The distinction between the device, "money," and the physical object "coin" and its substitutes, which I have attempted to set forth, is for me at least an original discovery.

Whether Mr. Del Mar has reached the same point, I am not able to declare because I have not read his work, and unlike my critic I do not possess the gift of inspiration enabling me, as he claims it does him, to know the contents of writings I have not seen or which are not yet published.

I am perfectly willing to acknowledge that the epithets to which this person objects, had they been applied by me in a mass to the persons he says they were applied to would have been objectionable; but it should not be forgotten that the human race has produced many Theobalds in the past who have seen fit to "darken counsel by words without wisdom," and the mass of epithets referred to, if fused into one, would but faintly express the contempt which such have deserved at the hands of mankind. These creatures know nothing except the reports of things as given them by others. They concern not themselves with realities, but only with what some one else has said about them. This man's criticism is not honest, and his objections do not arise from any want of conformity he is able to perceive in any theory of mine to any living reality. He cites no such incongruity. He has read books, he says; but reading books is not neces-

sarily a means of acquiring knowledge. It is not so important to know what men have said of things, as it is to know something of the things themselves. It is because I have attacked the class to which Mr. Theobald by nature belongs, that he manifests such bitterness toward me. It is this which makes him willing to perpetrate a libel by charging me with having stolen an idea from a book I never saw. His rancor also leads him to falsely ascribe to me conclusions nowhere to be found in any utterance of mine. He seems to be one of those natural serfs, who, having a great man as lord, feels it to be his duty to that lord to resent any encroachment upon his domain. As the born thrall of all the celebrated writers upon the subject of money from Aristotle down to Del Mar, he feels that my attempts to set forth some ideas which cannot be found in any of their books, is an affront to him, and he resents the thought that any idea can be drawn from the realities, unless confirmation of it can be shown in the books which alone furnish him information.

The coarseness and brutality of his attack discloses the fibre of his mind, as well as the servile quality of his spirit, and manifests his pre-eminent qualification as flunkey for men whose ideas have obtained ascendancy over him. Legitimate criticism is beneficial to writers as well as the public, and I should welcome discussion of the positions taken by me, if such discussion be directed to the elucidation of the matters involved. But when, as in the present case, the motive, born of a supercilious egotism, is to display what the critic mistakes for his extensive knowledge, and to notify the world that he has read many words; and when, as in this case, there is no purpose to investigate with a view to arrive at the truth, it looks much like a waste of time to give it attention.

One who will fabricate a quotation for the purpose of predicating thereon a libelous charge of literary larceny is not a person who should receive much consideration at the hands of the public; and such a person is James Theobald, of Hackensack, N. J., (populist).

In closing I desire to express my appreciation to Mr. De Hart, for what he has brought out upon the subject of free coinage, and the fact that my manuscript dealing with that subject has been so long in the hands of The Independent, will be the only protection I shall have when it appears in The Independent against the charge by some Theobald of plagiarizing from Mr. De Hart. W. H. ASHBY.

Enters a Protest

Editor Independent: I read in The Independent last week wherein it stated that a republican lady of Omaha had been appointed to a clerkship by Judges Holcomb and Sullivan. If so, Mr. Editor, I, for one, enter a protest. I for one lent my little mite to help place Mr. Holcomb and Mr. Sullivan where they now are. Cite me an instance, Mr. Editor, if you can, where a republican has appointed a populist or a democrat of the Bryan stripe to a position in the state. I appeal to all readers of The Independent in Nebraska to write a protest against the appointment of a republican to any position of public trust by fusion officeholders. You can publish this if you wish, Mr. Editor, in the next issue. THOMAS KNOX.

Bennett, Neb.

SPECIAL MARKET LETTER

FROM NYE & BUCHANAN CO., LIVE STOCK COMMISSION MERCHANTS, SO. OMAHA, NEB.

This week started with a moderate run here and a brisk, active market, but nearly 8,000 cattle were received Tuesday and this, of course, brought a slow and lower market. Wednesday followed with 4,000 and market continued slow. Stockers are 10 to 20c lower.

We quote good beef steers \$4.80 to \$5.10, fair \$4.40 to \$4.75, warmed-up \$4.00 to \$4.35; choice cows and heifers \$4.00 to \$4.40, fair to good \$3.50 to \$4.00, canners and cutters \$2.00 to \$3.50. Good light stockers and feeders \$4.40 to \$4.60, fair \$4.00 to \$4.30, stocker heifers \$3.00 to \$3.25. Bulls \$3.00 to \$4.00; veal \$3.50 to \$6.75. Hog receipts liberal. Range \$6.65 to \$6.85.

Sheep receipts light. Market steady today but \$1 lower for last week and \$3 lower for last three weeks. Killers.

Lambs, choice.....\$4.85-\$5.25
Yearlings 4.50-4.75
Wethers 4.00-4.50
Ewes 2.50-3.00

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Has entirely made up her mind as to the summer Shirt Waist proposition. As was the case last year white waists are to be in greatest favor. Piques, Cotton, Damasks and Brocades, Chevoits, Madras, and Linens are the materials mostly to be employed.

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This extremely neat waist is made of Fancy Cotton Damask and comes in stripes and figures—all white. Solid tucked front of 4 broad tucks. New Bishop sleeves, fancy collar—2 inch cuff—3 large white pearl buttons on front. A waist that will wash like a piece of muslin. A waist that would be considered good value at \$1.75. Specially priced while 100 dozen last at \$1.35 by mail postpaid. Send in your order at once and be sure and mention your bust measure.

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- 50 lbs Best Granulated Sugar.....\$1.00
- 20 lbs Choice Prunes, New Crop..... .50
- 25 Bars Good Laundry Soap..... 1.00
- 2 lbs High Grade Japan Tea..... 1.00
- 10 lbs Gilt Edge Coffee..... 2.00
- 6 lbs Fancy Bright Apricots..... .75
- 4 lbs Fancy 4 Crown Large Raisins..... .50
- 3 cans Beatrice Corn..... .25
- 3 3 lb cans cans Tomatoes..... .25
- 6 lbs Fancy Head Rice..... .50
- 1 Can 16oz. Cream of Tartar Baking Powder..... .25
- 3 Pkgs. 10c Soda..... .25
- 3 Pkgs 10 Corn Starch..... .25
- 3 Pkgs 10c Gloss Starch..... .25
- 1 lb Pure Black Pepper..... .25
- 1 Bottle Lemon Extract..... .10
- 1 Bottle Vanilla Extract..... .10
- 2 Doz. Clothes Pins..... .05
- 3 cans early June Peas..... .25

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Shorthand and Typewriting.

A few more students can be accommodated. Evening class now forming. Instructions also by mail. Address, J. W. BREWSTER, Certificated Pitman Instructor. Fraternity Building, Lincoln, Neb.

George Ade has appropriated The Independent's term, "mullet head," and makes it do good service in his Modern Fables.

Do you want to read the best books on political economy? Then write a card to The Independent today.