

JEFF DAVIS TRIUMPH

A reader of The Independent residing in a southern state to which he emigrated from Nebraska a few years ago, writes to the editor that there is a distinct revival there of the doctrines held by southerners before the war, excepting the doctrine of the right of secession, a thing which none of them now desire. He says that men openly proclaim that the whole north has come over to their idea that the Declaration of Independence was never intended to apply to any but the white race.

Not long since a southerner in conversation with the editor boastfully proclaimed that the south had at last conquered the north, not with arms, but with necessary soundness of their principles. He said that the abolitionist had disappeared forever and the government itself had proclaimed, and the supreme court had sustained it that the doctrine that all men are created equal applies to none but white men. The north was therefore administering the government upon that principle and was holding the inferior races in subjection, denying to them the right of self-government, taxing them without representation and administering law by the force of arms. He said any man of common sense ought to have known that the old northern theories were absolutely impossible of application to the inferior races. He thought the application of these doctrines in the Philippines and Porto Rico was an acknowledgment to the whole world that Jeff Davis was right and that Sumner was wrong. His closing sentence was: "Jeff Davis is triumphant, though in his grave."

That the followers of Jeff. Davis have grounds for their boasting, cannot be denied. If imperialism is to be the permanent policy of this government the doctrines held by the old confederates concerning superior and inferior races will finally become universal. Sumner, Seward, Philipps and their theories will be universally denounced, and Lincoln will live only because he prevented the establishment of two republics in the place of the one which has become so powerful.

A short time ago it was announced that the trust glass factories had shut down for the purpose of installing new machinery for blowing glass and that hereafter a common laborer could make as much glass in one day as fourteen of the hitherto high-priced and skilled glass blowers could make. Last week the trust sent out notices of a rise in the price of glass. The rise is equivalent to an advance of 20 per cent in the price of the small sizes and about 7 per cent in all the larger sizes. It would seem that the dullest intellect ought by this time to have comprehended the fact that trusts were not organized to lower prices.

Readers of The Independent will find the ballot articles by Mr. Wakefield full of interesting suggestions. He says that in Kansas, ever since 1888, a minority has filled the offices. Further, that if the populists of Kansas, when in power, had had less timidity and fear of republican criticism, they would have enacted a ballot law which would have kept them in power—an effective ballot which will not permit a minority to capture the offices against a divided majority. But they didn't do it—and as soon as the republicans got in power again they had courage enough to enact a ballot law which guarantees a divided majority and permits the minority to win.

Since Aldrich has assumed the authority to formulate an asset currency bill without consultation with any member of the house and which he expects that body to pass whenever he gives the nod to them, there has been a little squirming, but it will amount to nothing. The house having abolished the right to discuss legislation and delegated all business to a little clique of politicians, has lost its prestige. Aldrich rules the roost both in the senate and the house by the aid of the banks, the trusts and tariff grafters. The inviting of Allison and Spooner to a conference on the money question at Hot Springs, Va., was only a mere matter of form. Allison never had an opinion and Spooner would not dare to raise a finger against Aldrich.

The gambling in cotton has produced some strange results. Several mills have sold their cotton at an advance over what they paid of 4 to 5 cents a pound and closed down. In this way many thousand operatives have been thrown out of work for the whole summer and much suffering must result. When next winter begins these families will have nothing with which to face the rigors of winter. There ought to be a gallows

erected in Wall street as high as Haman's and the gamblers on the board of trade who bring this suffering on helpless women and children should be swung up on it.

News of the Week

There is an epidemic of strikes all over the United States. Some of the labor unions are doing things that will be more damage to organized labor than anything that employers ever have, or can do. When an employer agrees to recognize the union and the union scale of wages, extra pay for over time and all other things in regard to rules and regulations, for that union to refuse to arbitrate and to strike in order to force the employer not to employ any one not belonging to the union, it is a thing that the public will not stand for. The waiters' union of Chicago did that very thing and chose to order the strike in the middle of a meal, leaving the guests unserved, in several large hotels and restaurants. The men of sense, by whose work organized labor has reached its present status, all denounce such proceedings. To try to force employers to compel persons to join the union, which the union itself has failed to influence, is only another application of the blacklisting of which labor has complained. If labor organizations are to be overthrown, it will be by the action of the unreasonable fanatics in the ranks of labor.

There is more trouble in the anthracite mining regions. Baer and his friends refuse to recognize the members of the conciliation committee provided for under the decision of the commission appointed by the president and another strike is threatened. The public is very highly taxed to pay the losses of the last strike with an additional profit added by the operators in the high prices charged for anthracite coal and the people don't propose to be mulcted again by another scarcity of coal and still higher prices. Even some of the dailies are warning Baer that he better look out or the proposition for government ownership of the mines will be insisted upon. The limit of exactions of the coal trust has been reached and the people will find a way of escape before they will submit to any more robberies.

The republican state convention of Ohio met last week, nominated Myron T. Herrick for governor, indorsed Roosevelt for nomination for a second term, Hanna for re-election, and then put out a platform which consists in laudation of the republican party, protective tariffs and condemnation of democratic free trade to which they attribute all the suffering which followed the panic of 1893. The self-laudation and the lie about "free trade," when instead of free trade the democrats under the lead of Gorman actually increased protection, although they lowered some of the schedules, makes it the most disgusting document that was ever issued by a political convention.

The usual amount of fighting occurred in the Philippines during the week. There is no more prospect of peace over there than when General Otis was in the habit of sending his daily cablegrams announcing that the "war is over."

In the recent case from Hawaii which involved exactly the same issues that were decided in the former imperialist cases, the court stood as before, five to four. Justice Holmes of Massachusetts taking the imperialist side the same as Judge Gray did who preceded him on the court. Many people had been hoping that Judge Holmes would stand by the Declaration of Independence.

Justice Harlan says in his dissenting opinion in the Hawaiian case: "I stand by the doctrine that the constitution is the supreme law in every territory as soon as it comes under the sovereign dominion of the United States for purposes of civil administration, and whose inhabitants are under its entire authority and jurisdiction." There stand with him Chief Justice Fuller and Associate Justices Brewer and Peckham, admitted to be the ablest men on the supreme bench, besides a vast majority of the people of the United States, which fact would be instantly proven if a referendum vote was taken.

The Independent has never believed that an isthmian canal would be built as long as the trans-continental roads maintained their power in the republican party. The dailies now begin to express doubt whether the Hay-Herran treaty will be ratified by the Colombian congress. The idea has been

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generally accepted that the payment of \$10,000,000 dollars would induce the Colombian government to ratify the treaty, but the men who indulged in that hope did not take into consideration the money which could be furnished by the railroads to offset it.

An unknown reporter's lie with an editorial or two in the great dailies to boost it along, settles things for the American people. The country press of Nebraska all take it for granted that Chancellor Andrews has "gone back on silver," when in truth the address of the chancellor which the Lincoln reporter lied about, silver was not mentioned at all.

The drouth still continues in the eastern states. All last week forest fires raged unchecked in Maine, New York, Vermont and Massachusetts. The smoke was so dense in New York city and over a large part of the state that lights had to be used in many residences and business places at midday. Everything appeared as invested in a thick fog and the sun looked like a great red ball. With the exception of the loss of life, the drouth in the eastern states has been as destructive as the floods of the west.

About two years ago The Independent warned its readers, and has frequently referred to the matter since, that the European countries would be

driven to the adoption of retaliatory tariffs against this country. Most of the European countries have raised their tariffs and now England is about to follow. Chamberlain's addresses show plainly that the tory party intend to adopt tariffs against this country and give preferential duties to Canada and other dependencies. Whatever other duty the English put upon grain and at the same time admit free colonial produce, will be just that much discrimination against the farmers of the United States. There will no longer be free competition between the products of Canada and the United States in the English markets. The result will be an additional burden laid on the farmers of the United States by the Aldrich republicans.

The trans-Atlantic steamer Deutschland got aground in the lower bay of New York on account of the dense smoke from the forest fires and was detained 24 hours, which created great excitement on Wall street and on the stock exchange in London. Laden with \$1,250,000 in gold bullion and carrying in her strong boxes securities the value of which is estimated at from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000, every hour of delay means a heavy loss to bankers. If the Deutschland does not arrive in time to allow a delivery of the stocks and bonds, according to contract on June 11, there will be interest charges accrued until settle-