

# THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

SUBSCRIPTION TO  
CHERRY COUNTY INDEPENDENT.

ROBERT GOOD, Editor and Publisher

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THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1896.

## Our Platform.

Following is the platform adopted  
by the Democrats of Cherry county, in  
mass convention assembled, Saturday,  
April 13, 1896:

We, the Democrats of Cherry county, in  
mass convention assembled, do reaffirm our  
allegiance to the principles of the Democratic party as  
formulated by Jefferson and exemplified by the  
illustrious line of his successors in Democratic  
leadership, from Madison to Cleveland.

We will denounce the Republican doctrine of  
protection as a fraud—a robbery of the great  
majority of the American people for the benefit  
of the few. We still adhere to and maintain the  
Democratic doctrine of "a tariff for revenue  
only." We believe the interests of the masses  
of our population will be best conserved by the  
collection of such taxes as shall be limited to the  
necessities of the government, honestly and  
economically administered.

We express our faith in the time honored  
doctrine of the Democratic party as to international  
trade relations—an interchange by which the  
countries participating shall enjoy reciprocal  
advantages. We denounce the silver reciprocity  
scheme of the Republicans, which joggles with  
the people's desire for freer exchanges by pre-  
tending to establish closer relations, while en-  
acting prohibitive tariff taxes against those  
countries of the world that stand ready to take  
our entire surplus of products in exchange for  
commodities which are necessities and comforts  
of life among our own people.

Appreciating the condition of the public mind  
with reference to the financial policy of this  
country, and recognizing the importance of a  
proper solution of this question, we unhesitatingly  
express our unalterable opposition to the  
free and unlimited coinage of silver, except by  
international agreement; and, until such agree-  
ment can be procured, we favor the present  
standard of value. We denounce the action of  
the Republican county convention in intentionally  
omitting to state its views on this important  
question as a repetition of the cowardly and dis-  
honest practices of that party.

Finally, we endorse the administration for its  
excellent conduct of public affairs, its vigorous  
foreign policy and its unparalleled management  
in maintaining the public credit against foes  
from without and foes from within.

It is interesting to know that de-  
spite the republican-silver-sugar com-  
bine the democrats carried Louisiana  
by 37,000 majority.

A number of young ladies of Omaha  
have organized a society and pledged  
themselves "to never marry men,"  
this leaves a chance for native duces  
and titled foreigners.

If as Colonel Ingersoll says he is  
lecturing in order to put out the fires  
of hell, his reason for going to Omaha  
is explained. The Bee and World-  
Herald are published there.

The money question is dominant.  
McKinley refuses to say what he  
thinks on the money question. Mc-  
Kinley is to be the republican candi-  
date for President. Was there ever a  
better opportunity for the democracy?  
—New York World.

At the municipal elections held  
throughout Indiana last week the  
democrats made decided gains, such  
well known cities as Ft. Wayne, Shel-  
byville, La Porte, Vincennes and Terre  
Haute being among the places where  
democratic gains were largest.

With concerted action and faithful  
adherence to right principles, demo-  
cratic principles, a democratic presi-  
dent will be elected to succeed Grover  
Cleveland. Right will triumph in the  
end, and during the coming campaign  
the democratic party will be right.

There are 60,000 or more fourth-  
class postmasterships not yet in the  
classified service, and according to the  
Chicago Post these ought to be placed  
there. Every federal employee whose  
duties in the main are of a clerical  
character should be under the civil  
service system.

We would like to know what tip  
Mark Hanna has given the free silver  
states about McKinley's ideas in  
finance. If he is a gold hog, as John  
Sherman says, why are the free silver  
states supporting him? We are afraid  
they will be disappointed in him in that  
issue.—Delphos, (O.) Courant. (Rep.)

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT is im-  
proving with each issue. It is ably  
edited along the line staked out by  
Thomas Jefferson, with a fidelity to  
sound money, free trade and low tariff  
Its publisher, Robert Good, is deserv-  
ing of the federal and local patronage  
he seems to be enjoying.—Rushville  
Democrat.

## "BRITISH PROSPERITY."

An article which recently appeared  
in the Omaha Bee with the above cap-  
tion was intended to show that Great  
Britain was enjoying an era of great  
prosperity, while the United States  
was in the throes of financial and in-  
dustrial depression, and the inference  
supposed to be drawn was that this  
state of affairs was caused by the Wil-  
son tariff superceding the McKinley  
tariff. No figures are given in sub-  
stantiation of the statements made,  
and the reader is supposed to swallow  
the article without attempting to  
ascertain its truthfulness. According  
to the Bee the life of British industry  
depends upon the tariff legislation en-  
acted by the United States. By main-  
taining a high tariff we could kill  
British industry and make England a  
desert island, for England depends  
upon her manufactories for her popu-  
lation and wealth. How sad it must  
be for England and Englishmen to  
know that upon the leniency of the  
people of the United States depends  
their hope of existence! How they  
must tremble at the slightest hint of a  
change in the present tariff!

The Bee speaks of the present as a  
"low tariff," yet the difference between  
that of today and three years ago is  
only 4 per cent. As a matter of fact,  
during the last decade England's ex-  
ports have decreased \$140,000,000,  
while those of the United States have  
increased in like proportion. The  
tariff has not caused the hard times.  
The republican bred monopolists who  
are fostered and petted by the g. o. p.  
are responsible. The article in ques-  
tion also infers that the imports of the  
United States have increased at a  
wonderful rate, but statistics do not  
say so. During the last fiscal year the  
imports of this country decreased  
\$111,000,000, and yet the average tar-  
iff was 5.2 per cent lower. The Brit-  
ish scare is being worked to the ut-  
most by our political opponents, but  
thinking men do not accept unsub-  
stantiated statements on the tariff  
question.

## SHOULD BE STOPPED.

Ohio papers are advertising the  
opening of Buckeye Park which takes  
place Saturday, May 30. This park is  
situated on the line of the C. H. V. &  
T. railroad, and the company has ar-  
ranged for a collision between two  
locomotives, each pulling three coal  
cars and a caboose, while running at  
a speed of 50 miles an hour, as one of  
the chief attractions of the day. Pre-  
parations are being made to accom-  
modate from twenty to forty thousand  
people to witness the novel exhibition.  
THE DEMOCRAT has always regarded  
this as an unprecedented era of sensa-  
tionalism, but never did it expect to  
see public taste become so depraved  
that a wanton destruction of property  
would be looked upon as a legitimate  
form of amusement. To this paper it  
seem that the C. H. V. & T. railroad  
is cultivating a very poor trait in  
humanity, and we may soon hear of  
railroads advertising for men who will  
remain on the engines during colli-  
sions of this sort, unless the tendency  
to indulge in this new amusement(?)  
is checked in its infancy.

## CIVIL SERVICE.

The recent order of President Cleve-  
land transferring to the civil service  
lists nearly 30,000 federal employees, de-  
serves to be mentioned in history as  
one of the most creditable acts of his  
administration. Regarding the wis-  
dom of the principle which divorces  
the civil service from politics, there  
can be only one sound opinion. Since  
the first civil service order was issued  
thirteen years ago, it has been demon-  
strated that the efficiency of national,  
state and municipal official and clerical  
labor has been increased in exact ratio  
to its detachment from all considera-  
tions except those of merit. Of  
course President Cleveland's order is  
not binding upon his successor, but it  
is hardly possible that the next presi-  
dent, whoever he may be, will revoke  
it. He will probably be heartily glad  
to not only leave the civil service list  
as it is, but will extend it, thus rid-  
ding himself of the "horde of hungry  
office seekers" who quadrennially be-  
sieve the White House for appoint-  
ments.

Six months ago the chances for the  
success of the national democratic  
party were few. Three months ago,  
even, we had not much to count upon.  
Today the prospects are bright, and as  
McKinley's nomination by the republi-  
cans is now assured, and as it is more  
than probable that he will be nomi-  
nated on a platform which straddles  
the finance question, they will continue  
to grow brighter as election day draws  
nearer. Now is the time for democrats  
to work in harmony.

We are on the threshold of a presi-  
dential campaign. The results of  
that campaign will affect equally the  
interests of the women and the men  
of the nation, and yet, by an absurd  
restriction, women are allowed no  
voice in the choice of the candidates.  
Should the next president be a gen-  
uine and earnest advocate of enfran-  
chisement of women and have the cour-  
age of his convictions we would have  
every reason to hope that during his  
administration their cause would be  
won. Maj. Wm. McKinley, of Ohio,  
stands first on the list of candidates,  
and he is the man above all others  
whom the women can heartily ap-  
prove. Able, witty and gifted with  
remarkable power, noble character,  
unimpeachable integrity, of honest  
life, he is personally acceptable, and  
advocate of woman suffrage. He be-  
lieves that every reason which bestows  
the ballot on man is equally applicable  
to the proposition to bestow the ballot  
upon woman.—Republican Journal.

To say the Democrats are divided  
in this state would seem to be a mis-  
take if told to one who has been at-  
tending almost every state convention  
as a delegate or visitor for the past  
eighteen years. We have been there  
and was also present on the 29th of  
April, and in looking over those fam-  
iliar to such meetings, it seemed that  
none were missing from the ranks ex-  
cept those members who in the ordi-  
nary course of life and business might  
have been overtaken by death or moved  
from the state, while a few may  
have been caught in some other trap  
as they are set on all sides and to  
those of unstable minds and unsound  
democracy the tempting bait may  
have lured them in, but for the few  
of this class that were missed we  
found new faces and energetic work-  
ers filling their places, all standing up  
for Nebraska asking for a hundred  
cent dollar and upholding the demo-  
cratic faith with the retirement of  
legal tender government notes know-  
ing that when we are assured of hon-  
est money, a sound financial system  
and a safe currency, prosperity will  
return and the visions of cheap dol-  
lars, depreciated currency, taxing of  
many for the benefit of the few, will  
vanish, to be replaced by happiness,  
prosperity and contentment.—Hamil-  
ton County Democrat.

A Chicago Tribune correspondent  
who says he "wants to fight" sends  
this:

Awake off on the other shore  
We hear the British lion's roar  
For having got his tail in twist  
From Yankee Doodle Doodle's fist.  
Go it, brother! Go it, Poet Laureate  
Austin! We are in favor of letting you  
two fight it out.

Three engineers of high reputation  
have been looking into the project of a  
ship canal from the Ohio River at Pitts-  
burg to Lake Erie, and have just sub-  
mitted an entirely favorable report to  
the Pittsburg committee. They agree  
that the canal can be constructed at  
moderate cost, and that the water sup-  
ply is abundant. The traffic between  
Pittsburg and the lakes is now carried  
by ten railroads, and amounted last  
year to 53,000,000 tons, chiefly iron ore,  
coal and lumber. Finally, the engineers  
make the surprising statement that the  
canal would pay for itself in three  
years, as the annual saving in freights  
would be one-half. It is probable that  
Pittsburg will now take hold of the en-  
terprise with a determination to push  
it through in the course of a few years.

It may be set down as a rule that one  
can never afford not to be a gentleman.  
It is best to learn this rule early and  
practice it late. It is not well to say  
mean things of another, because in  
most cases you will have to take it all  
back in bitterness of heart when he  
does you an unexpected favor. It is  
not wise to treat any one brusquely,  
because you cannot always judge a  
bird by the feathers he has on. It is  
not well to look down on anybody, be-  
cause the time may come when he will  
look down upon you. There is a certain  
selfhood in every one which should be  
respected. We have no right to infringe  
upon it. It is not morality, it is not  
mere conventional rule, it is not simply  
a social regulation; it is something in  
the nature of things that you should al-  
ways show a delicate regard for others.  
One who did not fall here was never  
known utterly to fail elsewhere.

The 140 bankers and members of the  
Board of Trade in Chicago who about  
a year ago subscribed an aggregate of  
\$15,305 to be used for the purchase of  
seed grain for the sufferers from  
drought in Kansas and Nebraska have  
had an agreeable surprise. The crops  
of last year in those States were not  
uniformly good, so that all of those  
who benefited by the subscription are  
not yet able to pay, but the more for-  
tunate ones have paid in a total of  
about 40 per cent. on the amount, which  
was regarded as a donation by many  
of those who subscribed to it. The  
thirty car loads of wheat and twenty-  
five car loads of oats that were bought  
with the money contributed saved  
many a farmer from utter ruin, and  
the fact is not forgotten by those who  
were helped in their time of trouble. It  
is to be expected that the greater part  
of the remaining 60 per cent. will be  
repaid at some time in the future.

## WHAT SHOULD THE PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOMPLISH?

Read before the meeting of the General Teach-  
ers' Association at Valentine, May 2, 1896, by  
U. O. Anderson, D. S.

The Americans are the most versa-  
tile of modern peoples and the most  
cosmopolitan nation of which history  
affords us an example. We are the  
fortunate and rightful heirs to the  
wealth of intellect and industry, the  
product and experience of bygone  
ages—of the nations that have flour-  
ished and crumbled in the countless  
centuries of the past—for nations, as  
individuals, have their periods of vig-  
orous youth, of maturity, age and  
decay. It is not a characteristic of  
the American people to engage in  
enterprises, either public or private,  
by halves. They live and act upon a  
broader and more extravagant scale  
than any nation in the world. And  
we are by no means so conservative  
as to content ourselves with this heri-  
tage as an all sufficiency for our exis-  
tence. We are because the youngest,  
the most intensely vigorous, active  
and original of modern peoples.

Nations, at such periods in their  
development, are important factors in  
universal history. They bring much  
to pass. Their events are momentous,  
bearing misery and misfortune, or  
showing benedictions upon the race  
throughout succeeding time. To esti-  
mate the character of a people it is  
only necessary to study its institutions.  
Let us, for this purpose, then, briefly  
examine an institution which is dis-  
tinctly American; that institution of  
which, of all institutions, America is  
most proud—the free public school  
system. What is it and what is the  
excuse for its existence—this institu-  
tion for the maintenance of which we  
annually pay \$150,000,000? Does it  
yield an adequate return? Why do  
we support it? What should we ex-  
pect it to accomplish?

"The American school is the Amer-  
ican temple, dedicated to what we be-  
lieve to be the essential condition of  
popular government—an educated  
people." The common school is the  
cradle of American citizenship, the  
guardian and bulwark of American  
liberty. In a government like ours,  
the intelligence of the ballot, the pur-  
ity of manhood and womanhood, the  
welfare of society and the nation and  
the perpetuity of its institutions de-  
pend upon the efficiency of the com-  
mon schools.

It would seem then that the system  
is the creature and servant of the  
state—that it exists primarily for the  
state, and that its first duty is to min-  
ister to the perpetuity of the state—  
to train the masses for intelligent citi-  
zenship and worthy membership in  
society. This, I hold to be the first  
and sole duty of an educational sys-  
tem for the support of which every  
member of society is taxed. The  
question then for us to decide, or at  
least to consider is: What education  
is necessary to prepare the individual  
to the end that he may be a worthy  
member of the state? What kind of  
men and women should compose the  
state? What and how must he be  
taught that he may reach the highest  
possibility of his being?

The first and most elementary  
function of the public school is to cul-  
tivate in the child a willingness and  
desire to make an honest living, and  
to so train him that he may be able to  
do so. If we would enable him to  
earn an honest living, we must teach  
him the "Three R's" and a knowledge  
of the world of the natural science  
whose laws he must obey and apply.  
We must train his hands to the use of  
tools and implements and utensils.  
I know there are those who object to  
this latter view as too utilitarian and  
and common-place, too base to be digni-  
fied as education. To this objection  
I will say that no one is more un-  
worthy of membership in society than  
he who can contribute nothing to its  
support—who cannot earn his own  
living, but who is a dependent upon  
society; and that the most worthy  
member of society is he who can and  
will contribute most to its welfare.  
Now 90 per cent of our people—the  
per cent is larger in many countries—  
live by manual labor—by producing  
and manufacturing and transporting  
those articles which must supply the  
physical comforts to the race. This  
condition, in a greater or less measure,  
will always exist. Niggardly as theo-  
rists would have us believe this position,  
they must admit the exigency. But  
says the conservative, do you mean  
that serving and baking and carpentry  
and blacksmithing should have their  
respective places upon the daily pro-  
gram in our country or even our vil-  
lage schools? No, I would not advo-  
cate so visionary an idea as that; what  
I mean to say is that the public  
school somewhere, somehow, and at

some time in its course, should pro-  
vide for industrial training which  
may be accessible to any child, high or  
low. From a financial standing the  
department would be self supporting—  
or nearly so. And even if it were not,  
is there not as good a reason for tax-  
ing ourselves to support a system that  
would benefit 90 per cent of our peo-  
ple as for supporting our state univer-  
sity or even our high schools, the ad-  
vantage of which only 4 1/2 per cent of  
the school children ever enjoy? Could  
we not with as much practicability  
establish township, or in sparsely popu-  
lated districts, county industrial  
schools? I have in mind a school in  
this state—an Adventist school—where  
I am informed by good authority that  
pupils by doing their own cooking and  
other work, live at an expense includ-  
ing tuition and everything else except  
clothing—at an expense of 15 cents a  
day.

A second and higher function of our  
system is to instill in the child prin-  
ciples of patriotism, to the end that he  
may be a liberty loving, home loving  
American citizen, and capable of cast-  
ing an intelligent ballot. Yes, more  
than capable. The duty of the com-  
mon school is not yet performed when  
it has given him a broad intelligence.  
For an education is a two edged sword  
with which he may slay his fellows or  
carve his way to the highest human  
service, and it is the duty of the com-  
mon school to see that the right edge  
of the sword is sharpened. We must  
not only enable him to cast an intelli-  
gent ballot, but we must teach him  
the moral worth of manhood and the  
principles of republican government  
to the end that he will cast it. We  
must teach him the laws of human  
kindness, the duty and brotherhood of  
man, and the love of right because it  
is right. The child is educated in the  
public schools, not merely that he may  
read and write and cipher, but that  
the trained power and noble intelli-  
gence, the purity of mind and soul of  
the American citizen may tend con-  
stantly more and more to purity and  
perpetuate the American republic.  
That he can add columns, keep books,  
relate battles and enumerate dates,  
quote poetry and read Greek will not  
suffice. These subjects are all essen-  
tial in their proper order. But the  
state demands a higher intelligence.  
It would educate the conscience, the  
feelings, the will. It would reach the  
hearts of men. It would study soci-  
ology and civics. It would study man  
through the telescope of history and  
history as a warning experience of  
humanity. We must realize that the  
most important pages in the annals of  
the race are yet to be written—and we  
are making that history with every  
breath and every thought. What are  
we doing? What should we do? When  
future generations look upon its pages  
they will say how well or how poorly  
we played our part. We must know  
our present history—and our present  
history is our present politics—politics  
today is history tomorrow. What!  
Did I say we should study politics in  
school? Yes, better there than on the  
street corner. Every teacher should  
be a political economist, and every  
member of society should be a politi-  
cian—not a wire puller, nor a political  
vampire, who robs you of your confi-  
dence and enslaves you by unjust tax-  
ation; not one who would place his  
honor and the liberty of his country-  
men upon the market for the highest  
bidder; not a Charybdis nor a Cer-  
berus; not one who would crawl where  
he dare not climb; not a shriveled,  
prejudiced, partisan politician—but a  
broad-minded, intelligent man who  
has well-founded convictions and will  
stand by them though the heavens  
fall; a politician with one face and  
one tongue and one aim—the elevation  
of mankind, the amelioration of soci-  
ety, the perfection of human govern-  
ment. When men are tested by this  
standard, how paltry is that spirit  
which leads men to be silent when  
they should speak; to praise when  
they should blame; to blame when  
they ought to praise; to truckle to  
authority; to call black white or white  
black that position may be secured or  
retained.

When we look upon the education  
of the people as a trust for the faith-  
ful execution of which we must give  
an account, and not as a job to be  
farmed out to political leeches or to be  
paid for with money, then will the  
province of the teacher become what  
it ought to be and the American  
school a more potent factor in the for-  
mation of true character and citizen-  
ship.

This is the duty of the hour: The  
public school must train the child to  
useful and industrious toil; must give  
him a fair start in the struggle for  
bread. It must give him a knowledge  
of those branches which will enable  
him to labor most efficiently and in-  
-

telligently. It must teach him the  
responsibilities of citizenship and his  
duty to society. It must minister to  
the symmetrical development of the  
whole being; must quicken every fac-  
ulty and capability into that activity  
intended for it by its maker. It must  
elevate and strengthen the moral fiber;  
must teach him, practically, success-  
fully and efficiently too, the lessons of  
self denial, uncompromising devotion  
to the right, the true and the good  
and a love for his fellow beings kind-  
red only to that for his God.

True, this is an awful task. Yet if  
the public school fails in this it unful-  
fills its sacred mission. For, mark you,  
there is no friction, no sentiment in  
the statement that in the cradle of one  
generation lies all the possibility, all  
the brain and bone and sinew, all the  
elements of hope and grandeur that  
will manifest themselves during the  
the generation that is to follow; the  
one to whom the lullaby is sung to-  
day in turn will sing the lullaby  
tomorrow. Sometimes I think of the  
long and perilous road over which the  
child must travel to strength, independ-  
ence and usefulness. The years of  
strife and toil, of anxiety and longing;  
the temptations and vice, the possi-  
bility of failure, the panorama of home  
and teachers and school days and  
bright days and dark days—all fit be-  
fore my mind like the gulls upon an  
angry sea—and I tremble for the  
youth and the nation that he is to be-  
come. But we must not, we dare not  
waver. The weak and helpless child,  
the mischievous boy and girl, the friv-  
olous, rollicking youth—to say nothing  
of the crude material from foreign  
lands—must be run through the grist  
mill of American citizenship, the Pub-  
lic School, must be developed into the  
strength of manhood and womanhood  
—prepared to minister to the happi-  
ness and prosperity of a vast and rap-  
idly multiplying populace—ready to  
shoulder the responsibility of guiding  
the destinies of this the flower and  
fruit of the civilization of the ages.  
And in this, the present generation,  
the strength of American government,  
the stability of American institutions,  
the qualities and virtues of American  
civilization and society will be tested  
as they have never been tested before.  
A few more years and we shall see its  
triumph or defeat.

A republican form of government is  
a good form only so far as it is based  
on a broad and liberal intelligence of  
the masses. For in it the expressed  
will of the people is the sovereign  
power of the land, which makes or un-  
makes a nation's prosperity; which  
brightens or blights the hopes of thou-  
sands; which casts the sunny gleam of  
hope and happiness, or the dampen-  
ing dews of darkness and despair into  
the hearts of millions yet to be. Well  
and wisely was it said that "Education  
is the chief defence of nations." The  
ignorant child becomes the dangerous  
citizen—unfit to exercise his franchise  
—the most sacred privilege of citizen-  
ship; unfit to perform his duty as an  
element of society; unfit to properly  
live; unfit to properly die.

Teachers, the nation is in our hands.  
How faithfully and how well we dis-  
charge our trust succeeding time will  
tell. Let us make the most of our op-  
portunity. Let us not dream that we  
are on the threshold of the millennium.  
"Eternal vigilance is the price of lib-  
erty." Let us resolve more thorough-  
ly to consecrate our lives, our energies  
and our efforts to the cause of human-  
ity, that the world may be lifted to a  
higher, purer and nobler plane of ac-  
tion and of thought. And let us  
strive to reach that state of wisdom,  
intelligence, humanitarianism, and  
obedience to law and right living  
which will insure the perpetuity of  
our institutions and our government  
as a heritage to posterity.

## "Comparison of the Theories of Froebel and Herbart" next week.

The English scientists who have been  
excavating at Alexandria, Egypt, in  
the hope of unearthing some of the  
contents of the old libraries, have found  
that the sub-soil water has risen above  
the old Roman level, and that even  
walls and pavements are in a state  
of complete ruin. The explorer in  
charge favors a search in the dry up-  
per valley of the Nile, instead of the  
rainy delta, for the lost classics and  
the missing early Christian literature.

The American School of Classical  
Studies at Athens, Greece, holds an ex-  
clusive right to excavate at Corinth,  
the wealthiest city in ancient Greece,  
and the second in general importance.  
Its former site is covered with grain  
fields, and presents the best opportu-  
nity in the country to recover treasures  
of art and architecture. There can be  
no extensive excavations at Athens be-  
cause the present city occupies the an-  
cient site. No great Greek city has yet  
been excavated, and as the American  
school expects to perform the work for  
\$10,000, part of which it has on hand,  
there will not be much delay in begin-  
ning operations.