

**BREAD AND LAW.** Ruskin wisely wrote: "The beginning of all good law, and nearly the end of it, is that every man shall do good work for his bread, and that every man shall have good bread for his work."

The occupant of a public office is not exempt from the operation of good law as defined by Ruskin. On the contrary, every city, county, state and United States officer ought to do good work for good bread and for the good name of his family, the honor of his household and the glory of his country. Good work for the public, by good men who have been put into official place because of high character, ability, temperance and industry will make good bread more easily attainable by all the American people, for it will reduce taxation everywhere. Good work in all the offices of the United States will make good times general.

**THE FARMER AND FINANCE.** Nebraska is a farming state. Its per capita output of food products from farms excels that of any other state in the Union. With these abundant harvests, with fat porkers and finished beeves the Nebraska farmer purchases money. The pork and the beef have only a *specific* purchasing power. That is to say, pork and beef will buy money of only those who want that kind of meat. Therefore the Nebraska farmer buys money which has a *general* purchasing power whenever he sells the products of his farm.

Consequently, it is important to the farmer that the money which he buys shall have the largest and most unfluctuating purchasing power in all the markets of the world.

The Nebraska farmer is profoundly interested in having that sort of currency which, when he parts with it, will bring him the result of as much effort in some other industrial line as he himself made in producing the food stuffs with which he bought the money. The Nebraska farmer desires an honest circulating medium of the least fluctuating purchasing power, so that when he lets go of a dollar it will bring him as many satisfactions as he furnished to the man of whom he bought that dollar.

But a recently conglomerated convention held at Lincoln declares in favor of cheaper dollars. This convention boldly asserted itself in favor of the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1. That is to say, this convention declares that it desires that the farmers of Nebraska shall have money of less purchasing power for their products than they are now getting. This convention proclaims that the farmer must not be permitted to take any more than sixteen ounces of silver instead of one ounce of gold whenever he parts with any of the products of his labor. This convention, made up of three different brands of politics, affirms that more than sixteen ounces of silver in

lieu of one ounce of gold would be ruinous to the country. This convention is seemingly composed of a lot of strikers for lower prices for the farm products of this agricultural commonwealth. And who can tell why—at this time in the year 1898, when money is abundant at lower rates of interest than ever before in this state, throughout the Northwest, and, in fact, throughout the entire American Union—there should be a demand for cheaper money, and for a kind of money that the markets of the world will not accept at its coin value?

**TO CONSERVE THE REPUBLIC.** Only educated and conscientious citizens can conserve and perpetuate this Republic. The scholars in American politics are the peaceful but potent guards to whom is confided the continuance of constitutional government, and asserting their intellectual independence, with courage, they will prove the trust wisely imposed and triumphantly accomplished.

He who wavers from his conviction of right and justice for the noisy acclaim of the present, loses forever the gratitude and regard of the future. The men who, in all ages, do most for the elevation and advancement of humanity, pay least attention to the clamor, prejudice, and fallacies of the time in which they act. And he does most and best who all the time bravely, studiously, and conscientiously contends for justice and right, because he incarnates in his person the duties and privileges of the enlightened citizenship of this Republic, and demonstrates them to be the best and choicest results of our civilization.

Strive then, educated men and women of America, to become honestly and efficiently—

"A part of that—the Beautiful, the Sacred—  
Which, in all climes, men that have hearts  
adore  
By the great title of their Mother Country."

**THE POLITICIANS' EXPEDITION.** The dispatch at this time of 15,000 volunteers to Puerto Rico, not because they are needed, but "to give the several states in the Union representation in the field," is a scandal and an outrage.

It is a scandal because it exposes to the whole world the wretched groveling of the war department to the politicians and throws a ghastly aspect of ludicrousness on our real achievements.

It is an outrage because it adds largely to the expense of a war already very costly, and still more because it is a recognition of a perfectly unreasonable and mischievous spirit of sectionalism. What in the name of patriotism have "the several states" to do with the war which is made by the nation? Is George Dewey any less or any more an American hero than "Joe" Wheeler because one comes from Vermont and the

other from Alabama? Is Annapolis a Maryland Institution and does West Point belong to New York? Do their graduates fight under state flags? Or do the gallant men in the ranks "represent" states?

Suppose, when the administration is subjected to "pressure" to send the troops of this or that state to the front, the reply should be: "Troops will be sent when and where the commanders think them needed, and those will be sent first who are best prepared to do the work required and who can most conveniently be forwarded." What would be the consequence? No rational American would object and no one who did object would be listened to by sensible men. The policy that has been adopted is silly and shameful.—New York Times.

**GOLD APPRECIATION.** Bimetallists are constantly prating about "the appreciation of gold." They assert that gold has appreciated in exchangeable value because of its scarcity.

But the word "appreciation" means merely "estimating a thing at its real value." Financial delusionists of the same college of monetary fallacies sorrowfully speak also of "the depreciation of silver." And again they are accurately inaccurate. Depreciation indicates merely that a thing is not really worth what it pretends or professes to be worth.

Coins made light weight by "clipping" are depreciated. But when silver falls in value because the "supply" of silver has perceptibly outgrown the "demand," it is not "depreciation" but an absolute "diminution in value."

There is a periodical in New York City called "The People"—just like the three tailors of Tuley street—which declares war upon capital and capitalists. It is in favor of running mills without water, it contends for good fires and no fuel. It advocates life without breath, apples without orchards, cereals without fields and bodies without souls.

An ancient philosopher taught that whenever a child was born into the world an adult died and that the spirit of the decedent began life anew in the infant. The question as to whether anybody died when editors of communistic papers were born is a serious and perplexing one liable to a negative answer.

What bridge in Otoe county, southwest of Nebraska City, was repaired in June, 1898, at a cost of ninety-six (\$96) dollars?

The leprosy and sugar from the Sandwich Islands having been annexed and absorbed by the United States will not hereafter contribute to its revenues by customs.