

THE INFLUENCE OF A LIFE.

Among the lives that touched with mine,
Was one somewhat apart
And quiet, with a fair combine
Of grace that won the heart.
And she who thus lived year by year
Ne'er dreamed that o'er her way
So meek, a brightness would appear,
To shine beyond her day.

She simply strove as duties came
To meet them one by one,
And looked not for reward or fame
For aught that she had done.
For those who wept she had a tear,
She soothed the sufferer's pain,
And gave quick words of helpful cheer
To those whose hopes seemed vain.

And, young at heart, she loved in truth
The sparkling joy of mirth,
And glee of gay and sunny youth.
The saddest souls on earth;
The souls whose weakness and whose sin
Had marred the best of life,
No judgment cold, but grief they'd win,
The fallen in the strife.

Close to her side the children came
And looked up in her face,
Content with simple faith to claim
A welcome resting place.
A Christlike love the smile would tell
Which little ones received,
God's kingdom in their hearts might dwell
And such should not be grieved.

Long since this sweet soul joined the throng
Of spirits, saved and pure,
But left a life's ne'er-ending song
Of patience to endure.
"Dust unto dust," and yet she lives,
This one who self forgot
And offered all that best love gives
Whate'er may be its lot.

So deep is greed, so low are aims,
So many sacrifice
Their higher nature to the claims
Of evils, which they prize,
That brave hearts fail and faith grows weak
And striving souls make moan
That, when a nobler way they seek,
Their feet must tread alone.

But oft when dark temptation lends
Its sweep to earthly tide,
Midst troubled thoughts, like angel friends
Sweet memories abide
To guide us upward where she stood,
To show our spirits faint
This one, who ever sought the good
And shrank from evil's taint.

Ah, friends! sometimes the conflict's din
Makes struggle seem in vain,
And yet there's victory to win,
And Heaven has made it plain
That each soul has on earth its part,
The end we may not see,
The impress of a steadfast heart
Lives through eternity.

—MARY FRENCH MORTON.

CORPORATIONS IN NEBRASKA. The fashion of the fusionists which proved most inexorable among their legislators was to fight corporate capital in all of its manifold forms.

The legislation against railroads, insurance companies, banks, telephone and telegraph and sleeping car companies, stock yards and packing houses which has been proposed in Nebraska during the last ten years would make a volume bigger than Blackstone's Commentaries. And it is an established fact that a large

per cent of the proposed inimical law-making originated with political pirates who sought blood-money from the incorporated capital which they assailed. And there is printed and other record evidence to prove that some incorporations have been unwise enough, through "oil room attorneys," to surrender like cowards, their purses to the pillage of the freebooters of the Lincoln lobby. Incorporated capital which makes dastardly concessions to and pays money to legislative looters generally suffers much more morally and pecuniarily than it could possibly be made to suffer by any provision of any statute.

The incorporations which submit to the pillage of politicians are largely to blame for the continued existence of plundering law-givers.

Incorporations ought to keep away from the legislature. If unjust laws, bearing unequally upon railroads and unfairly upon all incorporated capital are placed upon the statute books the best way to beat them is to rigidly observe them until the courts shall have passed upon their constitutionality and validity.

Every time capital—whether incorporated or not—concedes the power and the right of legislatures to "hold it up," by paying money to be let off, capital encourages the ancient industry of corruption and bribery in law-making.

Corporations should have no agents at Lincoln either to secure or to prevent enactments. Corporations should take their chances with other taxpayers and abide and obey all laws however burdensome until courts determine them invalid. This course is the honest course. It is the best in every respect and will, at last, pump out the manufactured prejudice against incorporations which jobbers in offices, plunderers in politics and populists have industriously poured into the public mind.

BLATTERERS. The blatter of populistic speakers and newspapers as to what Senator Allen has accomplished for the state during his six years of service in the United States senate has stimulated the wickedly analytical citizen to ask questions.

What law, on the statute books of the United States, of value, or valuelessness, originated with Senator Allen or became law because of any argument, act or vote of his?

What particular characteristic of Senator Allen, aside from his physical endurance while he spoke fourteen successive hours in behalf of impairing American credit, and lowering the standard of American wages, demonstrates his knowledge of the needs, rights and privileges of citizenship in this country?

How did Senator Allen by any act, speech or vote, during his six years incumbency, confer any benefit or enlightenment upon either agriculture, manu-

facture, commerce or banking and currency?

Since blatterers are so plentiful and vehement in the ranks of Allen's disciples perhaps one may be found who will suspend blatter long enough to tell some one thing which Senator Allen has accomplished for the common good?

The same conundrums may be made to apply to Billgreene, and other more or less prominent members of the propaganda of populism in Nebraska?

What bit of earth in this state has been improved by their residence here?

Show some material development either in agriculture or manufacture which has been accelerated, originated or conceived by a free silver at 16 to 1 leader, high or low, anywhere in Nebraska!

Name some great corporate interest in the state, either railroad, banking, telegraph, telephone, stock yards, packing house or elevator, that populism and its chiefs have not raided and assaulted either for blackmail, boodle or political prominence?

We have had blatter enough. Give the public some facts about your statesmen. Have they done anything, at all worth mentioning, to improve the commonwealth socially, industrially or financially? When these plain and practical questions shall have been answered more may be asked.

LET US BE JUST. The republican party in Nebraska created offices-without-number, by constituting boards of commissioners to inspect railroads, coal oil and other things in general use.

The taxpayers, after a few years, were exhorted by fusion reform orators to put a populist legislature in the state house at Lincoln, and it was promised that the aforesaid law-making body should be made of statute spawners of such economy and patriotism that every unnecessary office would be abolished before the first session of the first populist assemblage was half expired.

That populist promise was never redeemed. On the contrary there were always from a dozen to a hundred of unnecessary populists applying for each unnecessary salaried office. Therefore not a single one of the republican-made sinecures was erased, and the unredeemed pledges of populism were condemned and spit upon by the people at the last election of legislators!

Will the republicans now repeal the partisan, tax-creating laws which they themselves enacted?

Will the republicans abolish the expensive, silly and extravagant board of railway commissioners and their secretary?

Will the republicans leave not a grease spot of oil inspection and inspectors, or will they save those places for retainers and heelers?