

patriotic Edwin M. Stanton was allowed to die broken-hearted from witnessing men of no real statesmanship and less integrity and patriotism being exalted over true patriotism and loyalty to principle of justice and truth. This is the result of the lack of the common people for self-government and also results from the undemocratic spirit of hero worship on the part of the American people. I also witnessed this same manifestation of the lack of the high moral sentiment that professedly gave birth to the republican party in the acts of other members of Lincoln's cabinet even that early in his administration. The Bible says, "A wounded spirit, who can bear it?" The Hon. Wm. H. Seward, next to Horace Greeley and Charles Sumner, felt he had personally done more in creating the irrepressible conflict than any one man in the party. To be turned down and the Illinois rail-splitter preferred before him, was not to be atoned for even by the first place in the railsplitter's cabinet. Seward and Senator Baker (who as brigadier-general was killed at Ball's Bluff) were bosom friends and in many conversations that took place between them (as early as June, July and August, 1861, in the presence of the writer at the warehouse at the foot of G street, Washington city) I also learned that personal ambition more than true patriotism or loyalty to principles of liberty and freedom had to do with the organization of the republican party; and I fear that the desire to reform the boodler republicans out and boodler democrats or some other spoils-seekers in their places, lies at the root of all our political reforms and I question if a real reform of the abuses of our paternalism and boodlerism is desired by the American people. If they did they would create a new party on a platform of reducing the number of our public offices one-half and of reducing the salaries of all of them (from the president of the United States to the public school teacher) one-half and what would be better still wipe out all our state governments and instead of a Babel of fifty governments have one single government resting upon an intelligent exercise of the sovereignty of the people by educating men in the science of political economy to make and administer our laws, instead of bankrupt merchants and legal shysters to make and execute our laws. A higher order of statesmanship and political economy would prevail in the counsels of our nation, but this would be bringing a clean thing out of an unclean—an impossibility. So I think your hope of seeing any higher order of things under our American experiment of manhood suffrage is already foredoomed to disappointment, and you may as well settle down to endure the administration of Wm. McKinley's "criminal aggression" or of Wm. Bryan's "cheaper digression."

Intelligence and integrity are not distinctively American traits of character. Neither are they the creatures of political dogmas. Yours respectfully,
J. B. COREY.

FREE SEED BUREAU.

Resolutions Urging the Abolishment of Government Seed Distribution.

We, the members of Clyde Grange, P. of H., No. 33, Clyde, N. Y., believe the government free seed distribution is ill advised and wrong.

1. It is a waste of public funds in pretending to aid the farmers and "promote the general interests of horticulture and agriculture throughout the United States."

2. Almost the entire distribution of over 10,000,000 packages annually partake of being used by representatives and senators to win grace and support of agricultural constituencies, being franked in the mails, and seemingly as a gift from a chief to his well chosen, when really all of the people together are the givers. And if the gratuity is anything else but cheap plunder the seeds should be given out equally and to all.

3. It is certainly a crude and ineffective measure, if test of seeds and trial of quality of varieties are really intended, not over one recipient in a thousand reports an experiment.

4. It is inconsistent, in the face of experiment station affairs, instituted by congress especially for this work of testing seeds and plants authoritatively. And the office of experiment stations is a division of the United States agricultural department, having oversight through visiting inspectors, and even supervision of the expenditures of the stations, now located in every state and territory.

5. The seeds sent out, in the past if not the present, are often notoriously common and even inferior varieties, and when so are illegally distributed—so decided by United States department of justice.

6. There is incurred wasteful expense and hampering of United States mail service in deadheading nearly half a thousand tons of this stuff.

7. It is not a function of government to make gratuitous distribution of any material thing.

8. The grange has never supported this old scheme, and the grange sentiment everywhere is directly opposed to it.

Resolved, That we recommend that the legislative committee of the National Grange formulate a bill for introduction in the next congress to regulate and define the distribution of seeds by the United States department of agriculture so that none but new varieties of seeds and plants originated in the department service, or in the experiment stations, or acquired from foreign lands,

be distributed, and these for first testing only to the state experiment stations and by them to farmers and gardeners.

Resolved, That we censure the United States secretary of agriculture and the assistant secretary, both prominent members of our order, in their course of helping along this foolish waste of public funds, in recommending appropriations for seed distribution, furthering its extension and abuse by others, which precludes a possibility of new seeds being the bulk used, and soliciting applications for the seeds.

Resolved, That we as members of Clyde Grange hereby agree to have no part in this ill-advised and ill-featured plan of free seed distribution, and we will return to the department such packages as are received, the cost and trouble to be paid by our subordinate grange.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be sent to the parties mentioned, also be sent for publication in The Utica Press, American Grange Bulletin and home papers.

These resolutions were adopted by the grange at a meeting March 25. They are the result of a discussion of the seed bureau, occasioned by receipt of a letter by the grange from the department and congressman instructing the procurement of a list of persons applying for seeds thereby. And we urge every grange to co-operate in demanding this reform.

W. L. DEVEREAUX, Lecturer.

ARBOR DAY IN IOWA.

For more than a decade Arbor day has been observed in Iowa schools. Each year its value and influence has become more evident. Says Superintendent Barret in a circular just issued:

"As school premises have been beautified, interest and enthusiasm have increased. While it has been deemed best to modify the official bulletin this year relating to the observance of the day, it is hoped that the awakened interest in tree planting will continue to grow until all school grounds are beautifully shaded and ornamented. Since 1887, 101,996 trees have been planted on Iowa school sites by and through your work and influence. It is of far more importance as a factor in education that school yards be improved by the planting of trees, than that buildings be lavishly ornamented. In all may you seek to make each pupil feel a sympathetic interest in that which surrounds him and his daily life. He will soon take pleasure in studying those things he loves. Teach pupils to have pride in the good name and beauty of their school. As a result of your labor may each pupil not only be inspired to 'go forth under the open sky and list in Nature's teachings,' but with strong and noble purpose be determined to aid in beautifying and bettering the world."
—Sun, Sidney, Iowa.