## OPENING OF THE CAMPAIGN.

Exhaustive Review of the Problems of the Hour in Nebraska.

PAUL VANDERVOORT AS THE INDEPENDENT APOSTLE.

How the Railroads Have Tied a Stout String to Candidate Edgerton.

FACTS ABOUT OUR LATE REFORM LEGISLATURE.

Some of the Promises it Failed to Keep and Why No Railroad Measure Was Passed-Fallacy of Free Coinage and Wherein it Affects the Farmer--About the Candidate.

Conumnus, Neb., Oct. 10. - [Special to Tue : regulating transportation rates; but I simply Beg. i-The first republican rally of this year's campaign was held this afternoon in this city, the home of Judge Post. The meeting was held in the opera house, which had been appropriately decorated for the occasion. There was an attentive audience, composed of representative residents of Platte county, among them being several memoers of the farmers alliance, Mr. Edward Ros -er, Colonel C. R. Scott, ex-Congressma. 'conell of Omaha, Judge Post, ex-Senator ... 'llister and others. The meeting was called to order by Mr. McAllister, who introduced Mr. Rosewater as the speaker of the occasion.

Mr. (bearman, Ladies, and Gentlemen: Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: For many years there has been deep-scated and widespread discontent among the people of Nebraska. As far back as 1870 the popular dissatisfaction manifested itself in an ppen revolt in the ranks of the republican party against the interference by federal officers in coalition with railway employes and railway managers with our state and congressional conventions. This feeling was intensified from year to year by the issue of railroad passes to public officials and poli-ticians, the discrimination in favor of certain shippers and the excessive freight rates and

perantized the Nebraska farmers alliance in 1881. With this movement I myself, in common with thousands of other republicans, was in full accord. I felt then and I have felt ever since that the people of this state should have the right to govern themselves untrammelled by interference from any corporation; that our public servants should regard an office as a public trust; that our legislature should not be manipulated by corrupt lob-bies, that jobbery should be banished from legislative balls, and that the railroad companies of this state should be made to charge reasonable rates to their patrons. This view I still hold today.

high passenger toils. A large number of the farmers—republicans and democrats—exas-

perated by the domination of monopolies.

already established, and endeavor to right | 000 voted for the relief of the drouth sui e grievances of the producers by taking aclive part in the primary elections and conventions, and wrench the machinery of the parties from the hands of corporations. Phere were, however, from the outset in the farmers alliance quite a number of the old greenbackers, men who believed that the government could grind out money by the billion and distribute it to all the people and make them rich, and of played out politicians whem the old parties had discarded. In other words, men who had no party to return to, and political adventurers who wanted to organize an entirely new party. This class of politicians obtained the upper hand in 1882 and issued a call for a state convention of anti-monopolists. Be-lieving that a wholesome lesson might be taught, and that some reforms might be ac vant state treasurer and came very nearly

complished in an off year, I enlisted with them and we succeeded in electing Sturde-Sturdevant was no sooner in the state house than he entered the old ring and reform re-Alliance people ceased to manifest interest

in the third party movement and gradually worked their way back again into the old parties and became a strong and important factor in checking the inroads of the corpora-tion managers. But their ambitious leaders and certain demagogues and impostors who had worked their way into the confidence of the farmers persistently kept up the clamor for a new party. The failure of crops and the general depression in business naturally reated discontent not only in all parts of our state but in Kansas, Dakota and Minnesota The alliance was revived and recruited from the ranks of the discontented in the northwestern states. You all remember, how-ever, that up to within thirty days of the time when the call was issued for the peo-ple's convention last year, the leaders and the organs of the alliance assured everybody that they had no intention of forming a third party, but that they proposed simply to hold club over existing parties, and if they falled to place in nomination men who were in accord and in sympathy with the producing classes, then, and then only, would then endeavor to right their wrongs in the political arena as an independent political party. But while they were giving out these assurances and boodwinking their followers, the were secretly preparing a scheme for forcing alliance men out of the old parties and foist-ing upon them candidates that would do the idding of a junta more unscupulous and selthan any that had the machinery of the old While denouncing the machine and possism they were organizing a despotic dictatorship, such as no party in this state had ever submitted to. They juggled the apportionment of delegates to the people's state convention so counties with scarcely any population were given the largest representation and other counties unfriendly to the dictator were almost disfranchised.

Under Eurrows' Dictatorship.

It is a notorious fact that Powers, who is an honest but very weak man, a mere automaten in the hands of Dictator Burrows, was foisted on the independents as candidate for governor over General Van Wyck, and such a nonentity as Joseph Edgerton, who could not be elected justice of the peace in Stromspure Polk county where he former's light burg, Polk county, where he formerly lived, or in South Omaha, where he now lives, was aominated for the office of attorney general

abilitated for the office of attorney general in place of General William Loese.

This same bossism was carried on through the entire campaign of 1850. In many places altiance men were dragooned into voting the inscratched independent tickets by threats. They had to show their tickets to the precinct dictators before they could vote. I appeal to you, fellow citizens, whether that is any improvement upon the methods pursued by the old parties against which the people have revolted. Independent voting means individual freedom to exercise your judgment in the selection of candidates and to vote as your conscience ulctates. A people's party convention is not lifallible. If a candidate is competent all honest members of his party are in honor bound to support him. If he is known to be dishonest or is known to be incompetent it becomes the duty of the independent, just as much as it would the duty of any other good citizen, to refuse to give him his vote and to support a candidate whom he snows to be

nest and capable.

Now, I have said all this preliminarily because it has been charged that I, in common with many anti-monopoly republicans, have gone back upon what we have formerly advocaied and are now in league with the cor-porations to rivet dewn the chains of slavery upon the producers. As a matter of fact, I realize that there are many grievances to right and I recognize the necessity of the people differ with other anti-monopolists as to the most effective way to secure redress.

most effective way to secure redress.

When the independents became a political party they assumed the responsibility for the conduct and actions of their men. If the republican party of this state is to be neld responsible for the acts of its officers during the past twenty odd years, certainly the in-dependents must be held responsible for the acts of their officers and legislators. If they have accomplished any good for the people they are entitled to the propor credit. If they have failed to redeem the pledges they have made, they have forfeited popular con-

What have they done to earn the people's gratitude? You all remember that every candidate on the independent ticket was pledged to certain vital reforms. Candidates for the legislature were pledged to cut down state expenses, to reduce taxation, to do away with supernumaries in the state offices, to clean out the state house and give us more economic government. They were pledged to pass stringent usury laws, laws to prevent trusts and combinations among man-uracturers and elevator men, laws to abolish railroad passes and laws to do away with the school book monopoly. How have they kept these pledges? One plank in their platform adopted at the

Hastings convention reads as follows:
Resolved, That we heartly commend the independent members of the legislature for having redesined every pleage made by the people to enact their platform into law. That Reform Legislature.

The most extravagant legislature that this state had ever had was that of 1885, two years previous. During last year's cambaign the independent leaders and their papers denounced that body in the most scathing manner. Now the independents organized both houses of the last legislature, elected their speaker and their president of the somate. They organized all the committees in both houses and were in absolute control of the machinery of government so far as appropriations were concerned. What do we find! The total appropriations in 1889 were Formed a Third Party.

At the time when the alliance was organized, and ever since that time, I have always
insisted that the policy of the alliance should
be to exert its influence within the parties

The total appropriations in 1839 were
\$2,380,408.88. The total appropriations in 1839 were
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\$2 ferers, and deduct the \$50,000 voted for the World's fair, and we still have \$256,248.77 more appropriated in 1891 by the reform legislature than was appropriated two years previous by a legislature that has been denounced as the most recklessly extrava-gant body of law makers Nebraska ever had. In 1890 the general fund tax in Nebrask

was 451.59 mills. In 1891 the general fund tax was 5 mills. This is economy and referm with a vengeance! Let us look further at the record of th reform legislature and what do we find? Mr Elder, the reform speaker of the house elected by the independents, drew pay fo sixty days' service as a member, the full \$300 to which any member is entitled. He was also paid \$22 for mileage, although he rode back and forth to his home on a pass. On the top of all this Mr. Elder drew pay for seventy-two days' service as speaker at the rate of \$5 per day, \$216, making in all \$538. The clerk of the house, Mr. Eric Johnson, who was imported into this state at the instauce of railroad politicians years ago to help them defeat the alliance candidate for congress in the Second district, made a congress in the Second district, made a record of reform in the house by drawing pay for 150 days during a session in which the members could draw sixty days. At \$4 per day he received \$000; but this was only a trivial affair, for Mr. Johnson also had himself credited with \$1,500 for compiling the journal of the nouse, a job that he could very readily have done in ninety days. That after drawing \$600 for two months' session, he pocketed \$500 a month for copying the house journals. What do our tax-ridden farmers

th ink about that? The assistant clerk of the house in the reform legislature also put in a claim and drew pay for 150 days at \$4 per day, which goes to show that new brooms do not always sweet clean. Mr. Pirtle, the secretary of the senate, after drawing pay for 150 days' service in the session of sixty days, drew \$1,600 for compiling the journals of the senate. Mr. Walter Seely, who is not considered a very scrupulous man about drawing salaries, only received \$400 for the same work in 1889. I am creditably informed that only two in going to and coming from the legislature Over half of the members of the house did not disdain to accept pasteboard bribes by which the railroad dromedary first gets hi nose, afterwards his hump, and then his whole body in when he desires to manipu-late a legislature. The records show that the members of the senate drew \$787.50 in mileage, and members of the house \$2,220.35. Mr. Stevens of Furnas drew \$37.80, which at cents a mile represents 1,200 miles o ravel. Mr. Stevens was the most loud mouthed denunciator of republican extrava

The independent reform legislature, like all the other predecessors, divided itself into committees for junketing tours. One of these junkets was an excursion to Galvestor Tex., for which the state of Nebraska paid \$450, and all the state had to show for that picasure trip to Galveston was two barrels of oysters, dished up at independent head-quarters at the Lindelt hotel, in order that the republican and democratic members of the legislature should not even get a smell of the oysters. Appraise and cries of "good." In all candor and carnestness I would like t know how any man or set of men can justify the legislature in taking \$450 out of the state treasury in such hard times, when the west-ern half of the state was stricken with

drouth and the people of that section were in need of fuel and clothing.

Another little extravaganza, perhaps not so flagrant as the investment in Texas cysters, was an appropriation of \$50 for lunches served to the uniformed state militia during the time the bays were superior the during the time the boys were guarding the governor's office. I dare say the state would have been in great peril if they had left the state house long enough to have got their meals at their regular boarding houses.

Among the incidentals which the reform legislature piled upon the taxpayers was the contest expenses which amounted to \$10,900. This expense was saddled on the state without the remotest excuse, and I maintain here, and I know whereof I speak, that the whole scheme was concected as a piece of revenge by the prohibition cam-paign managers, who knew they had been defeated by over 50,000 majority in the state of Nebraska, but wanted to trump up an ex-cuse in other states where the same issue is pending by charging that there had been gross frauds and rioting in Omaha, South Omaha and other towns in the state. Every rational man must admit that there was no excuse whatever for contesting the elections of our state officers from the governor down to land commissioner, is the face of the returns, which show that they had been elected by pluralities ranging from 1,200 to over 3,000. It is it has resulting the state of the returns the resulting from 1,200 to over 1,000 to 1,1851 the resulting from 1,200 to over 1,000 to 1,1851 the resulting from 1,200 to over 1,000 to 1,1851 the resulting from 1,200 to over 1,000 to 1,1851 the resulting from 1,200 to over 1,000 to 1,1851 the resulting from 1,200 to over 1,000 to 1,1851 the resulting from 1,200 to over 1,000 to 1,1851 the resulting from 1,200 to 1,1851 the resulting from 1,200 to 1,1851 the resulting from 1,200 to 1,000 to 1 3,000. In 1884 the republican party turned

over the government of the United States to democrats, after twenty-four years of rule, on a majority of 1,200 in the city of New York, where Tammany has supreme control. Ours is a government of the people. Majorities must rule so long as the principles that underlie our form of government prevail. The republican party stepped down from power, and with it an army of more than 100,000 federal officials. Here in Nebraska the state was torn up for months by a baseless contest, and nearly \$11,000 of the people's money spent on lawyers, notaries and stenoymoney spent on lawyers, notaries and stenographers. For the contest made by Governor Thayer there may have been an excuse. At Theyer there may have been an excuse. At any rate the expense incurred to the state was trivial. There was no foundation for the contest made by the independent candidates for state offices and certainly no grounds for the claim of Mr. Edgerton who was defeated by more than 3,000 plurality and ran away behind his ticket and yet Edgerton came to Lincoln to besiege the legislature under pretense that he had been elected attorney general. Now that legislaelected attorney general. Now that legisla-ture had a duty to perform when it met. Every man in Nebraska expected that within six days at least after the session had commenced an appropriation would have been made for the relief of the sufferers in been made for the relief of the sufferers in the western part of the state. Reliable reports had been published of the intense suffering, want and destitution prevailing on our frontier counties, north and south, and if at any lime during January or in the early part of February a blizzard had oc-curred, hundreds of people would have been frozen to death and any number of them frozen to death and any number of them would have starved had the railroads been blockaded by snow. Yet what did the legislature do! They were wrangling and jangling over the bones their leaders wanted jangling over the bones their leaders wanted to pick. They were in session more than five weeks before they would touch the relief bill, which did not pass until the 5th of February. They did not care anything about the sufferers so long as a lot of greedy office hunters and shyster lawyers who wanted to get their hands into the state treasury were pressing their bogus cialins. They brought in bills for something like \$40,000 or \$50,000, and if it had not been for Governor Boyd they would have been successful in

Boyd they would have been successful in robuing the taxpavers of \$40,000 or \$50,000 more than they did when they made the

appropriation of \$10,900. [Applause.]

Lost a Golden Opportunity. Twenty years ago when the republican party had burely taken possession of the state house at Lincoln, a legislature, three-fourths republican, discovered that there had been corruption in the management of state lands and funds. They cleaned the state house by thoroughly investigating every officer. They impeached the governor and removed the auditor. Last winter a golden opportunity presented itself to the independnts. Their, leaders charged that thousands of dollars had been fraudulently taken out of the state treasury, that there were deficien-cies and defalcations in various state insti-tutions. The reform legislature had the best opportunity on earth, and it was its duty to have investigated all the state offices and put all its time in to thoroughly fumigate the state house if there was anything unclean in it. What did it do! It did not touch any of these things. They contented themselves by standing guard over each other—the first time that any party had to station men at the capital to watch its own members—and to put upon the pay roll of this state a dozen deputy sergeants employed chiefly in spying upon members of the legislature to see that they should not sell out their constituents. But instead of cleaning the state nouse the reform legislature voted away the people's money for supernumeraries and for supplies and conveniences that are not needed. They voted thousands and thousands of dollars for supplies and improvements in state institu tions that are an absolute waste of money. They voted for an iron fence around the State university \$14,400; for a sidewalk \$37,000 for the foundation and beginning of a university library building, which before it is finished may cost four times as much, at a time when the people of this state are grouning under the burden of taxation and when the improvements are not needed. They voted \$20,000 for fuel and lights at the Asy lum for the Insane at Lincoln, \$5,000 more than for the same institution at Norfolk or Hastings, and certainly \$10,000 more than if an honest expenditure of the money if prop-erly enforced would warrant. The Deaf and amb institute at Omaha gets along with \$8,000, and certainly if \$8,000 are enough for them \$20,000 is too much for the institution at Lincoln. They voted the State Board of Transportation \$1,000 for traveling expenses, when everybody knows that the board can travel wherever it pleases without a dollar of expense outside of sleeping berths and hotel bills, which ought not to cost over

\$100 per year. How They Kept Their Pledges. And what had the legislature done to redeem the piedges of the people! The state senate did pass a usury bill introduced by Mr. Shumway, now candidate for regent on the republican state ticket. It was very moderate, to be sure, but a great improvement on the present law, but the independ-ents voted it down just because it had come from republicans, and they failed to pass any other. They had promised to pass a law making the acceptance of railroad passes by public officers a brine. They failed to redeem this pledge because they were carrying passes in their pockets, and asking for more railroad favors. They promised to regulate insurance ompanies, and give the people cheaper pledges! Who is responsible for the defeat of the good bills that were introduced in the ast legislature! They were checked off by the lobby. There was the lobby of the rail-roads, the lobby of the telephone and telegraph monopolies, the insurance lobby, the book trust, and every trust and every corporation interested in defeating legislation. These lobbles had formed a peci, and that pool had several strings tied to the speaker of the house. Towards the last of the session, when the speaker was called upon to appoint a sifting committee which was to decide which of the bills were to be shelved and which were to submitted to the house and considered, the speaker appointed a committee made up principally of members that had been worked by the lobby. This sifting committee pigeon holed the bills which the people de-desired passed. So the corporators and job-bers handled the reform legislature just as they had manipulated that of 1889. Another plank of this year's platform of he independents reads as follows:

the independents reads as follows:

Resolved, That we denounce the present system of contract labor as maintained and fostered by the republican party in this state. That we believe that the contract was fraudulently obtained and that contract conditions have not been compiled with and that its perpetuation at each session of the legislature is a source of constant corruption, and that it supports a gang of boodlers who in any way at the last session of the legislatre sought to reverse the will of the people.

Now who had the majority in the last

Now, who had the majority in the last legislature? Why did not the members who are commended for their fidelity to the people abrogate the penitentlary contract on the ground that it was procured by bribery and fraud! It is a matter of record that the con-tract with William H. B. Stout for the lease of the penitentlary provided that the con-tractor should build 240 cells by the end of 1885 at his own expense. That contract was extended in 1887, with all the obligations, and transferred to the present contractor. What did this legislature do! In the face of this contract they passed an appropriation of \$40,000 for a new cell house, and yet the independent convention commends this legislature to the taxpayers of the state. On the morning when the appropriation for that \$40,000 cell house was pending I went to the Lindell hotel and called the attention of the independent members of the peniteatlary committee to the fact that this contract obligated the contractor to build that cell house and that the state should not make this appropriation, but they paid no attention to ny remonstrance and voted away \$40,000 to nelp out the contractor. Can any honest

farmer or workingman endorse this conduct About Railroad Legislation. But, say the independents, the legislature at the last session did pass one railroad bill. They have endeavored to give us relief, but the governor vetoed the bill and the repubthe governor vetoed the bill and the republicans and democrata refused to unite with the independents to pass this bill over the veto. Now I have for years advocated and do now advocate regulation of railways by legislation. I have opposed the commissioners and transportation boards because I have no faith in a transportation coard or a commission doing its duty, and I believe that there is no the country, nor h, south, east or west!

a law that would have so be set aside by the supreme court.

What was this bill that the legislature passed at the last session! It was framed, as they say, in exact accordance with the rates that now prevail, or rather that then prevailed in the state of Iowa. This gives out the impression that the state of Iowa has really got a maximum rate law. There is no such thing on the Iowa statute books. Iowa simply has a railroad commission, and that commission has from time to time required the rates of freight in Iowa and adjusted them to suit the circumstances and conditions of the different roads. They have classified the rationals of Iowa according to the amount of tonnage and business done on them and actonnage and business done on them and ac-cording to the cost of each railroad. If such a law had been enacted in Nebraska, with due regard as to the triffic of the different roads, and the actual investment in the roads, it would have been just and reasonable and would have stood the test of the courts. But this legislature simply went to work as a matter of buncombe to humbug the people of our state and make them believe that they sincerely had carried out their pledges and passed a law that they knew would be pronounced unreasonable by the courts because it made inflexible rates on all the rail-roads, branches and main lines, short roads and long roads, for all commodities accord-ing to the lowest rates that are charged upon the longest and best paying roads in lows.

On the very face of the bill there were provisions which made it void and would

have compelled the supreme court to set it aside. They provides that if the court found that the rates fixed by the bill were too low, that is unreasonable, then the courts should fix the rate. That would make the court a State Board of Transportation. No court has ever done that. If you bring a complaint and charge a railroad company with charging exorbitant rates, the court might leave it to a jury to say how much the overcharge was, but the court would not undertake to say how much per car load, ton or hundred bounds the railroad company is en-titled to and how much it should charge. So then what was the object of this bill! It was simply a scheme o deluce the people of this state and make them believe that the inde-pendents in the legislature had done all in their power to give them renef, and that the responsibility for failure rested upon a re-publican supreme court, or upon a democratic governor. This bill in itself was unconstitutional and void by reason of having failed to take into account the fact that the state of Iowa has nearly double the population, and more than double the tonnage of Ne-braka, that the trunk line roads in Iowa haul not only the products of Iowa but also the products of Nebraska that are exported and the bulk of all merchandise for Nebraska, and consequently they have a better earning capacity and are therefore in better condi-

tion to give lower rates than ours. What is the history of railroad legislation introduced by Senator Stevens last winter? That bill was carefully drawn by an expert who has given this matter careful attention, and that bill was so drawn as to simply give and that bill was so drawn as to simply give the people of Nebraska lowarates with about from 10 to 12 per cent added, that is to say it recognized the difference between railroad traffic in lowa and Nebraska and made the rates so reascuable that the courts could not decently have set it aside. Now, I realize that the railroad managers and their lobby would have been just as much opposed to the Stevens bill as they were to the Newberry bill. They are opposed to all maximum rate legislation; but nearly ill republicans, and I believe quite a number of democrats in the legislature, would have according to that bill had it only beautiful. legislature, would hat married for that bill had it only been given a chance for passage. Such a bill would hat been signed by Governor Boyd if it had passed and if he had vetoed it more than three-fourths of the members would have veted to pass it over his veto. I called on Serator Stevens several times and urged him to push his bill but for some reason he dilly dalled and never torced it to the front. After the Newberry bill had been defeated the inderendents still had an opportunity to pass this bill, and test the sincerity of the republicans test the sincerity of the republicans and democrats in the legislature who were pledged to its support by passing it and thus giving the producers the benefit of from 10 to 25 per cent reduction on the present to 25 per cent reduction on the present charges. But no, they sild outright that they did not propose to pass mother bill, they did not propose to do any hing but put the re sponstoility upon a demogratic governor and the republican members that did not vote to pass it over his veto and to go into the next campaign and make portical capital out of it.
What do the independents want then? Is
it relief for the people, is it a reduction of

rates, is it usury laws, or is it simply that they want grievances to go with before the people! I know some or their leaders, and realize that it really is time that quite a num per of tuem have no desire fo ber of tuem have no desire for any anti-monopoly legislation, that they simply wanted the logislature to enable them to go before the people and claim that they had no chance put as they are doing now with the usury bill. They had a splen-did chance to pass the Shumway usury bill. and I personally appeared to them several times to pass it. They said they would cass heir own bills or pass robody else's bills. Why is it, then that the people of Ne-raska today have no maximum rate law! Is t because the democra ic governor refused to sign a bill which he was advised by the ttorney general and by other legal authori ies was unconstitutional, and which he him was not on its face remonable, and could never be applied to the railroads under the present condition, or is it because republicans refused to yote that bill over the

veto and democrats referred to vote that bill over the veto when they see the bill was inurious and unfair, or im't it a fact that it is because the independent leaders in that leg-slature refused point hank to enact a maximum freight reasonable bill! Such a bill could have commanded votes enough to go over any veto, and we dhave passed the legislature.

Independente inance. Let us now candidly discuss the proposi-

ions upon which the perty asks support for is state ticket this fall. The first plank of heir platform reads as follows: demand the abolition of pational banks We demand the abolt on of pational banks and banks of issue, and is a substitute for national bank notes demand that legal tender treasury notes be made is sufficient volume to transact the business of the country on a cash basis without damage of special advantage to any class or calling, such to be legal tender in payment of all debts nacide and private. Such notes when demanded not the people shall be loaned to take at cost of issue upon adequate security in amounts to the hidden and exceeding \$2,500.

Here is a propositio that every rational man should consider as fully. They demand that the government should abolish the national tanks and substitute or the national bank notes a currency that will be legal tender for all uebts, and they demand that we shall add to it in unlimited amount of greenbacks sufficient to carry on the business of the country and inen that we should add to it any amount that might be required for the relief of people who want to borrow money without interest or the mere cost of printing the notes, not exceeding \$2,500 for each loan. Let any of these financiers tell me how much currency i required to transact a given amount of hysiness. How much actual money does a deiler in farm machinery need to carry on the sale of reapers, threshing machines and plows. How much actual ing machines and plows. How much actual cash must a dealer in graceries and provisions and hardware have where sales aggregate say \$100,000 a year in a poer to carry on his business? Do these more mants need the actual cash in their money drayers or banks to be able to carry on business? Does not credit, which is only another wame for confidence, take the place of capital in nine tenths of all our commercial transactions? These people propose, as they say, we give us as much money as is needed to carry on the business of the country. Where's there any proof at money as is needed to carry on the business of the country. Where's there any proof at this day that there is not enough money to buy or sell all the practicts of our farms, mills and factories! If on have got any hay out here in the Platte vollay, or any corn or grain or cattle, or other products of the farm are you not able to get money for them! Is there any evidence any where that there is not money enough to move one of any secIs not it a fact that it is credit that is calk-

ing?
The banks of the United States have as much money now in them as they ever had before. There has been some gold exported from this country, but the aggregate circulation today in the United States is larger than it has been for any year since the war. Now, then, is not it true that it is the lack of confidence and the shortage of crops and the overproduction of manufactured articles and the lack of employment for labor that causes the depression from which we have been suffering! Is it not a fact that money is plentiful, provided you have something marketable to sell or providing you have securities that will assure the leader that he will get his pay when your note matures? This is really the cause. I have myself realized that the government might with propriety issue notes directly to the people in place of the notes which have been issued by the national banks, but how is this money to get into circulation and who can say how much the government shall issue? As a mat-ter of fact, the national banks have withdrawn a very large amount of their circulating notes within the past few years. It has always been charged that the national bankers were able to make double interest upon the money which they have invested, first upon the bonds which are the security for the notes bonds which are the security for the notes that they issue, and then upon the notes themselves when loaned out. This is in part, of course, fallacious, because if they had enough money to buy the bonds they had originally as much money as they get and 10 per cent more, even if the bonds were only percent many as they have been the bonds of the course of the bonds. purchased at par, but the bonds very often have been purchased at a very much higher rate than par. The mere fact that the national banks are giving up their circulation—and I presume that nine tenths of them would be willing to give up all their circulation if they could retain the other privileges that the government has vested in a national bank. That would seem to indicate that they were not satisfied with the profits they make out of the notes. The very fact that they are giving up their very fact that they are giving up their cur-rency would seem to indicate one of two things, either that it was not profitable to keep bonds on file in the national treasury, and that they could do better by selling those bonds and taking their money directly and loaning it or else that there was such a large amount of money boarded now in the banks which they do not dare to loan out, because of the lack of confidence and the lack of securities that they find it unprolitable to keep those notes out and pay 1 per cent of tax upon them to the national govern

of the notes they issue. On the other side it is shown they are trying to contract the currency by surrendering the notes. And we are brought to the question of whether or not this is really a conspiracy against the money borrowers and the debtor class or whether it is simply because in the ordinary course of business they find it more profi-table not to have to pay the 1 per cent tax and because they can sell their bonds which now form the basis of their notes to a good advantage, and loan the proceeds of the bonds. Everybody who has given any attention to the question of money will realize that the banks make most money when money is plentiful, thats, when times are prosperous and people have an abundance of products to sell, and when property of every description brings a good price, speculation is most active and investors and stock gamblers are willing to pay high laterant because their willing to pay high interest, because they can turn the money rapidly. In prospousy times deposits are coming in from everdierrection from people who have got products to sell, and banks can loan out other people's money to great advantage and turn it around six or eight or ten times in a year, but when money is scarce, when the people have nothto turn into cash, and when the banks find lishs deposits from the merchants, because they have not been able to dispose of their goods, when the deposits run low and money is scare, then the banks make the least money, because they dare not trust their money that is held in reserve for fear that there would be seen upon their banks. They must have a reserve to strengthen themselves and dare not loan out money indiscriminately to everybody, even upon good security, for fear there might be a demand made by the depositors which must be met promptly at their counters. That is the real truth. The talk about bankers conspiring to make money scarce is therefore the sheerest nonsense.

So then we have the two contradictions

Upon the one side it is charged that the

national banks make enormous amounts out

Let us examine the consequences of the proposition to loan people money upon land, inder \$2,500. In 1871 the state of Nebrasica had a lot of money in her school fund and the governor and state officers who constituted the Board of Public Lands were authorized to loan the money out upon landed security. And what was the result! We had to impeach the governor and remove the auditor because they had loaned out the money upon property that was not worth half the amount of the loan. They had taken wild lands and town lots at appraisements away above their value and the state had to carry on law suits for years to recover its money. What would be the consequence if you attempted to carry out this land loan scheme on a larger scalef Suppose this government with the power to print billions of bank notes and with probably two or three millions of farmers and two or three millions of lot owners in the towns, each wanting to borrow \$2,500, should authorize indiscriminate loaning of this paper money, which simply means a government "I owe you." What would be the result! Why, thousands upon thousands of worthless pieces of land would be transferred to the government under mortgage amounting to twice as much as the land was worth, and in a short time the government would own all this land and the people would have a worth-less currency, just as they had down in the Argentine Republic. There the same experiment was tried only a few years ago, and the outcome has

Considering the Loan Proposition.

been the bankruptcy of the entire people of Argentiae. But how could a man who has now got his farm under a mortgage get this money from the government! Suppose that the government actually could lend him \$2,000 or \$2,500, how is be going to pay his merigage and clear up his property so as to enable the government to loan him the money? The government would simply say. "you give me a clean title to the property and I will advance you a certain amount upon the beautiful the convergence." it;" but the government could not pay his mortgage, and so he would be in a ho the same as now. The whole scheme is wild and visionary and is simply calculated to impose upon credulous people who believe Uncle Sam can make us all rich by issaing an unlimited amount of paper me

What Money Really Is. Let us discuss this question of money. Under the constitution congress has the power to coin money and declare the value thereof. Mark you, to commoney; that is thereof, Mark you, to come money; that is to say to take pieces of metal that have an intrinsic value and by a stamp declare upon intrinsic value and by a stamp declare upon their face the quantity, quality and exchange value of that metal. The government of the United States has exercised that power and coined these pieces of silver and gold to represent as nearly as possible their actual value independent of the stamp. The object of all coluage is to make each coin represent the exchange value of the metal whatever it would bring in the worlds. whatever it would bring in the worlds market, even if there was no stamp upon it. By reason of the overproduction of one metal and the underproduction of the other and other causes divergencies have existed from time to time, so that the one metal may not be worth as much as its face value. n any event the money coined by the rument represents absclute wealth, out of the earth, that could be converted into or exchanged for other articles of value into other wealth. In other words the money, whether it be coon skins, tobacco, gold, sliver or copper, is the product of labor is actual wealth. Paper money is debt. On the one side gold and silver represent value absolute and intrinsic on the other side paper money of every description, no matter by whom issued and when issued, repre-sents simply a promise to pay, an 'I owe you' from the government redeemable at some time or redeemable at no time, but some time or r always a debt.

The government cannot create one dollar wealth by law, but it can create of wealth by law, but it can create any amount of debt, If the government of the United States and for whose redemption no provision has been made, does it stand to reason that those who have coin money that has an intrinsic value would be willing to accept paper money for it at the face value! It never has been done and never will be done. The very fact that during the war the people of the United

that during the war the people of the United States were compelled to issue a very large amount of these "I owe you's," which the government was in no condition to redeem. and which the people in this and all other countries realized could not be redeemed for an indefinite period, because the depreciation of our greenbacks down to something like 35 cents on the dollar, and the same thing would happen if the government should venture to issue an irredeemable and unlimited amount of paper currency. Intelligent people everyof paper currency. Intelligent people every-where understand fully that the scheme of sub-treasuries and money loans upon land and the scheme of issuing unlimited quantities of paper is not such a one as would conduce to the welfare of the producers or any other to the welfare of the producers or any other class of our people. As a striking illustration let me compare the financial condition of this country with that of the leading European nations, France, Germany, Russia and Great Britain. France, with a population of 38, -218,903, has a national debt of \$5,107,643,450, and she levies annually a tax of \$679,764,177; the German empire has a population of 40, 857,705, a national debt of only \$364,117,847, and levies a tax annually of \$434,912,019, and has a national debt of \$3,360,927,406; Russia has a population of 112,934,600, a national debt of \$3,360,927,406; Russia has a population of 112,934,600, a national debt of \$3,360,927,406; Russia has a population of 112,034,600, a national debt of \$5,28,911,036; the United States have a population of 62,000,000, and our annual tax is \$463,903,081, or rather the removes it the removes the content of the c and our annual tax is \$43,903,931, or rather the revenue in this country, and we have a national debt or did have on the 1st of January of the present year of \$1,025,672,951. This has since been reduced by something like \$100,000,000.

What does this exhibit show! It shows this, that France, the country about which we hear so much from men who talk flat finance and unlimited coinage has the iargest debt of any country on earth, that she has a debt twice as large as that of Great Britain and more than eight times as large as that of the United States; she has a national debt of \$159.75 for every man, woman, and exide of the United States; she has a national debt of \$159.75 for every man, woman and child, and levies taxes of \$17.89 for every man, woman and child, and levies taxes of \$17.89 for every man, woman and child to meet their interest and running expenses. The German empire has only got a debt amounting to \$6.50 to each man, woman and child, and her running expenses are \$7.77 against the French of \$159.75. Great Britain has a national debt amounting to \$87.03 per capita, and levies a tax of \$11.26. Russia has a national debt amounting to \$32.18 per capita and levies a tax of \$1.68. The United States has a national debt which amounts to about \$14 per capita and levies a tax of \$7.41. So \$14 per capita and levies a tax of \$7.41. So that against France, which has been boasted about so much, the United States levies a tax upon her population of \$7.41 against \$17.80, nearly three times that of our country.

How France is Taxed. Now, then, we want to show another thing. The total active circulation of money, metalic and paper, in the world is computed by McCarty in the Annual Statistician for 1891 is represented by \$0,500,000,—000. The United States has \$1,211,883,681, or pre-seventh of the entire stock of money in one-seventh of the entire stock of money in circulation of the whole world. The only country ahead of the United States is country ahead of the United States is France, which has \$42 per capita; but with her enormous debt and her enormous tax her people are nowhere as well off as ours. 1 was over there only two mouths ago and I find that there are taxes upon almost every food product, and even upon the rent which you pay. If a man rents a house for \$1,000 he is obliged to pay something like 20 per cent of the amount of the reut, in addition to the rent to the government. They pay taxes upon the windows of the houses. You cannot go out of Paris and travel You cannot go out of Paris and trave twenty miles out in the country without going through four or five custom house gates, and at each gate if you have a package of any kind they will tax you for it. If the farmer goes to Paris to market his eggs. butter, vegetables or grain he is compelled to pay a customs tax. At every village there are customs gates, and everywhere taxes are levied right and left. But the farmers of France are a very thrifty people. They culti-vate every inch of the soil to the highest perfection and manage to make ends meet and save up something besides. They are accus-tomed to stamp duties and custom tells upon

everything. That is the boasted condition of the people of France at the present time. We have forgotten the fact that twentyfive years ago every man in the United State had to pay taxes upon every paper that he signed. If you signed a receipt there was a stamp. If you went to the bank with a check you had to put a stamp upon it. If you sold a piece of property you had to put a stamp upon the deed. If you had your picture taken you had to put a stamp upon every photograph. If you wanted to get married you had to put a stamp upon your marriage certificate, and from the cradle to the grave there was nothing that was not stamped in my honest judgment, be the condition which we would again reach if we adopted the wild cat scheme of issuing money or running ourselves headlong in debt by reckless oans on wild lands and reckless speculation and extravarance that is sure to follow an era of inflation. You can see how inflation works in Cuba, where they have \$37 in money per capita and an American dollar can exchanged for \$2.65 in Cuban currency. Free and Unlimited Coinage.

The second plank of the independent plat form reads as follows: "We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver."

The republican party stands on the platform of the honest dollar, the dollar that will exchange a silver dollar or a paper dollar, or the gold dollar one for the other at 100 cents. Unlimited silver coinage would eventually place the United States on a silver basis with China, Mexico and India, whose money is quoted at the mere market value of silver coin. It would drive gold out of circulation and make gold a mere commodity, just as it was during the war, and in Cuba and other countries where specipayments have been suspended. There has been so much said about the crisis of 1873 and the demonstration of the

dollar by a conspiracy which is alloged to have been hatched on the other side of the

ocean and which was carried out at Wash ington by members of our congress. It has been shown very fully in the discussions before congress and in the records that there never was any such conspiracy. Democrats and republicans, the representatives from Nevada and the representatives from Cali formia and all the mining states voted for the bill. But even if the discontinuance of the coinage of standard silver dollars in 1873 had been the act of a combination in the interest of foreign money syndicates, the act of 1878 restored the silver dollar to the position it now occupies. Although the standard silver dollar has been upon the coinage of the United States from the foundation of our government, there had only been 8,125,000 I these silver dollars coined from the time of George Washington down to the adminis-tration of Rutherford B. Hayes. The re-monetization act of 1878 provided that the United States treasurer shall cause the coinage of 2,050,000 silver dollars per month. From that time on we began the enormous coinage of silver, and in the thirteen years since that period we have coined over 400,000,000 as against 8,000,025 in the first eighty-six years of our government, and of the 400,000,000 of silver foliars that have been coined two thirds are ying dead in the treasury, simply because the people prefer paper money that is ex-changeable into gold or silver to the silver dollar itself. Now, what use has the United states for further coinage of silver dollars Wasn't it much more rational to store the silver bullion in the vaults of the treasury and issue aliver certificates for its market value and let the people of the United States have the cenefit of the difference between the market value of the silver and its face This is now the declared policy of the

United States. Under it we will have a constantly increasing volume of currency absolute utely safe, and any profit derived from the United States. The tendency of this policy, it is admitted, has been and will be to gradually advance the value of sliver bullion to its legal ratio with gold, and when this is reached both gold and aliver would be coined at the mint on equal terms and conditions. Under this policy we have increased the you's," which were never redeemable, or Under this policy we have increased the which were redeemable at a remote period, volume of money by over \$63,000,000

since January 1, 1891. Will anybody tell me how the farmers and laborers of Nobraska are to be benefited by free and unlimited comage? Do they own any shares of mining stock, or have they any sliver plate to convert free of charge into silver dollars? Do they want to enrich the bullionaires of Colorado, Montana and Callfornia at the expense of the whole country? Senator Stewart of Nevada, in a letter to the western congress that held its session in Denver in May, charged that the demonetization of silver in 1873 and the refusal to give the country free and unlimited coinage had resulted in a general depression of the mining industry and had caused great loss to the people of the United States, and particularly to the people west of the Rockies. What are the facts? And by the way, I want to remark that Senator Stewart himself voted for the bill that the republican congress passed at its last session for the purchase of 4,500,000 ounces of silver at its market value as the best measure and the only measure that was practicable. In 1870 the total production of silver in the states and territorities west of the Missouri river was \$17,320,000. In 1880 the production of silver in the states and gone up to \$38,035, or double the amount, notwithstandof the Missouri river was \$17,320,000. In 1880, the production of silver had gone up to \$38,033,035, or double the amount, notwithstanding the fact that we had no free coinage, and in 1890 we mined \$62,930,831 worth of silver in these western mires, notwithstanding all this talk that we have paralyzed the mining industry. The fact is we have mined four times as much silver in the last year as was mined twenty years ago before the silver dollar was demonetized. This fact affords conclusive proof that mining under the present conditions is very profitable; that the product everywhere has been increased and that the mines are in a very flourishing condition, but speculating in mines, selling options to members of congress and members of the United States senate to pull a bill through to put millions into the products of hilleaning. ate to pull a bill through to put millions into the pockets of billionaires has not received much encouragement. It is an open secret that these speculators and gamblers around congress largely influenced the action of that body, and although the congress of the United States by a whitewashing investiga-tion, assured the people that there United States by a whitewashing investigation, assured the people that there was no foundation in the reports. I assert that hundreds of thousands of dollars of mining options were placed where they would do the most good. I have no personal knowledge, but people who were in Washington and watched the method by which the bill was becomed to give us free and unlimited coinage assert that there was an option lobby to push the bill. Do not reflect on any man who voted for it. Our congressmen and senators voted for it because there was a general clamor out here, but I suspect that some congressmen and some senators from states where there was no clamor for free and unlimited coinage voted for it because they expected there would be a big advance in mining stocks, and they had an option to in mining stocks, and they had an option to take those stocks at a given price. I repeat our mining industries are just as flourishing as they could be barring the lack of confidence among investors and capitalists in this country and abroad. About the instability of our money system. About the instability of our money system. Our business depression is largely due to the withdrawal of credits from America and we cannot hope to induce foreign capitalists to invest or loan money in America so long as this wildcat agitation continues. If you were to loan a man 100 bushels of wheat, what would you think off if you were the system of what would you think of it if you would hear that he was preparing to pay you back 100 bushels of oats! The intrinsic value of silver has gone down simply for the reason that instead of producing \$17,000,000 of silver a year, and \$31,000,000 of gold, as we did twenty odd years ago, the relative quantities of the two metals have been reversed. We are now mining \$30,000,000 of gold anyually and sixty mining \$30,000,000 of gold annually and sixty odd millions of silver. Last year's output of silver is estimated in the United States to be over \$65,000,000, and when a commodity is for after all both gold and silver are commodities of their kind—it stands to reason they will not continue to exchange at the same ratio. You can mine three pounds of silver now for the price that it cost to mine two pounds twenty years ago.

How it Affects the Farmer.

It has been said that the American farmer would gain by free silver because it would acrease the value of his product, he would sell his grain for a higher price and therefore he could also pay his debts much more readily. That, I believe, is the true inwardness of the wnole thing. But this is also a delusion. The price of grain consumed in America is regulated by the price which the surplus of grain exported to Europe commands in the Liverpool market. Suppose wheat is worth 100 cents a bushel in Liverpool, wheat in America for home consumption will sell for \$1 a bushel less the cost of transporting a bushel of wheat across the Atlantic ocean and the commission which the middlemen get for handling it. Now, with free silver the American farmer would only be able to sell his wheat in America for the Liverpool price in a depreciated S0-cent dollar. The depre-ciated silver dollar would be a legal tender n America, and that is the kind of money in silver or paper exchangeable for silver he would get for his products. On the other hand every commodity the farmer has to buy would be advanced, because prices of merchandise are regulated by the cost of labor and produc-tion. If the price of all commodities in America advances then lumber, coal, clothing, furniture, farm machinery and every-thing the farmer has to purchase would cost 20 per cent more than it does now. But the farmer would only get Liverpool prices for his grain in American money. If you deprecrate the dollar do you gain anything by it? If you open to all the world the chance of coming to the American mint and let them dump their silver that is worth only 75 cents or 80 cents in exchange for evidences of in-deptedness against the government for \$1, you are bound to depreciate the currency the country, drive out the metal trat can be exchanged abroad dollar for deliar, and depreciate your own products, raise the price of everything you have to buy and you gain nothing in return. Not even the men employed in the mines would gain anything. The mine owners alone would pocket the

The ordinary laboring man certainly has nothing to gain by free and unlimited coinage. The laboring man wants a dollar that has the largest purchasing power. His inter-est is not to have a dollar that will buy less but that will buy more, because wages do not advance in proportion to other things. Wages and real estate are the last things to advance, and the first thing to go down. That is the and the first thing to go down. That is the economic, well established fact, and the laborer who has saved up a dollar ought to have the benefit of buying as large a quantity of commodities, or wearing apparel, furniture and carpets, or anything that he needs, with that dollar, as he possibly could get. When that dollar goes down in its purchasing power ne loses part of his savings and is compelled to pay more for evarything he needs for himself and family. Office and the Candidate,

Let us now turn from the platform to candidates in the present campaign. office of supreme judge is one of the most im-portant within the gift of the people. Every ntelligent citizen recognizes that the mawho occupies the highest judicial tribunal in our state should be a lawyor well versed in law, and a man whose career inspires popular respect and confidence. The republican party has

placed in nomination for the position of su-preme judge a man who is not only a very competent and successful lawyer, but a man competent and successful lawyer, but a man who has served upon the bench of your district for over ten years acceptably to the people, and whose reputation as a citizen is above reproach. The independent party has nominated Mr. Joseph Edgerton, not because he is qualified for a place on the supreme bench, but because Mr. Edgerton is a good stump taker and has managed no invariant himself into the confidence of a fet gratiate himself into the confidence of a lot of credulous farmers who trust him and want to honor him with an evalted position for which he is totally unfit. When I first heard of him Eugerton was a republicant of the state of the control of the republican office accker in Polk county.

After the alliance carried that county be became a rempant anti-monopolist. When he came a rempant anti-monopolist. When he landed in South Omaha six or seven years ago he again proposed to be a republican, but when he found the town overwhelmingly democratic he became a democrat, and was ord of the solid democrat, and was ord of the solid democratic town council a the appointment of city solicitor. His ord in that position, the highest office he red in that position, the highest office he red in that position the highest office he red in that position and language, decidedly contrars. As the legal advisor of the