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**Identifier: s-n-000059-n29**

# THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION

DEVOTED TO SOCIAL, FINANCIAL, AND POLITICAL ECONOMY.

VOL. 5.

WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 4, 1891.

No. 3.

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THE people of New England have been greatly shocked. They have been listening to some cold facts from men who dared to declare them. Jerry Simpson and Ralph Beaumont are made of the right kind of material to invade this plutocratic section. Others will soon follow.

THE ECONOMIST will print a resume of each census bulletin as it is given out, thereby furnishing its readers with digest of the coming full report.

THE Alliance in Oregon is coming to the front rapidly. National Secretary J. H. Turner says, at present rate, that the State can be organized in the next ninety days.

THE Meridian Standard is conducting the same style of warfare on the Alliance in Mississippi that its prototype, the Capital of Topeka, did in Kansas last fall. All admit now, that its unfair attacks upon the Alliance contributed not a little toward the defeat of Senator Ingalls. The present conduct of the Standard, if continued, will prove a blessing to the Alliance in the end. It proves beyond a question that the two old parties are a unit in their attack on the sub-treasury plan, and receive their inspiration from the same source.

## SENATOR GEORGE AND THE SUB-TREASURY PLAN.

Senator George, of Mississippi, in his recent letter condemning the sub-treasury bill, declares it to be unconstitutional and makes use of the following language:

First, I believe that the sub-treasury plan, as it is called, is unconstitutional. It proposes to lend money to persons who furnish a certain kind of security. The government of the United States is one of limited powers; it has only such power as are expressly delegated by the Constitution, and such as are necessary and proper to execute the powers which are expressly delegated, and there is no power expressly delegated in which the power to lend money is necessary and proper for its full execution. If you will read over carefully the first article of the constitution you will see that I am correct in this. Congress may, where it has the right to make an appropriation out of the treasury for a public purpose, make it on condition that the locality to be benefited by the money will return the whole or part of it, but it has no power to make an appropriation of money to be used in private business.

This is a remarkable statement, especially from a man occupying the position of a United States Senator. It places him in the unfortunate position of not only antagonizing the expressed judgment of the entire Senate, but repudiating his own previous action. Senator George voted for the loan of \$1,000,000 to the New Orleans Cotton Exposition after listening to all the debate upon that proposition. Why did he do it? Simply because he believed with others that the government could loan its money to the people, and for no other reason, or he violated his oath as a Senator and is unworthy to longer fill that position. It was a loan pure and simple, discussed by the Senate as a loan, voted for as a loan, and made use of as a loan. Will the Senator kindly point out the section of the constitution where appropriations can be made on condition that the money so appropriated shall be returned in full or in part? If he will, the constitutionality of the sub-treasury plan will be established at once by direct provision of that instrument.

This quibble originated with the Senator for the single purpose of furnishing an excuse for the glaring inconsistency of voting to loan the cotton exposition a large amount of money in 1884, and opposing the same principle in 1890. Was that exposition of the nature

of a public enterprise, and for the benefit of a particular locality, as he would like to infer? If one will read the debates which preceded this loan, the fact will be made clear that it was considered a national affair, and because of this the loan was granted. The following is the text of the bill, and a portion of the debates:

An act to make a loan to aid in the celebration of the World's Industrial and Cotton Exposition.

Section 1. That the sum of \$1,000,000 be, and the same is hereby, appropriated out of any money in the public treasury not otherwise appropriated as a loan to the World's Industrial and Cotton Centennial Exposition, to be used and employed by the board of management thereof to augment and enhance the success of the World's Industrial and Cotton Centennial Exposition in such manner as said board of management may determine.

In the course of the debates the matter was at all times spoken of as a loan, and the fact of its not being an appropriation or considered as such was emphatically stated by Congressman Oates and others. Mr. Oates said:

This is not an appropriation proper, it is a loan. While it is an appropriation in form, it is nevertheless a loan upon security for return. \* \* \* This, mark you, is not an appropriation outside of the Constitution. It is a loan. It is competent for the government to make a deposit, and it does it with bankers all over the country, wherever it thinks proper. That money is to be returned, and if this money is returned, what harm will be done? If it is outside of the power of Congress to do this, then the action of Congress would be hampered in providing sufficient legislation.

Mr. McCord. I favor this bill, and I am not deterred from supporting it by the constitutional question. It seems to me that gentlemen who question the power of Congress to legislate in this way could easily satisfy themselves by finding warrants in two or three of the granted powers delegated to Congress. The one which provides for the general welfare certainly has been constructed broadly enough to cover this.

Mr. Bayne. There is but one clause in the Constitution which authorizes the Congress of the United States to expend this million of dollars, or to loan it. The clause which authorizes Congress to levy taxes to provide for the common defense and general welfare, is the source from which Congress must derive its authority to loan this money or expend it.

Mr. Money. A new set of circumstances has now arisen, and if it seems proper to this House that the government should support this great enterprise by a loan to it of \$1,000,000, I can not see any valid objection to it.

Mr. Wolford. I believe it is perfectly constitutional, and I base that belief upon the power given by the Constitution of the United States to Congress to provide for the general welfare of the United States. I agree with Judge Story that that is a distinct power, and I believe that under that grant of power the Congress of the United States has authority to pass any law that will do good, that will bless the people, that will make them happy.

After passing the House, the bill went to the Senate. It was referred to the Committee on Appropriations, and upon its recommendation was passed with a few amendments and but little debate. The concensus of opinion in the Senate was so unanimous in favor of the bill that a yea and nay vote was not taken. The senators spoke of it as a loan. Senator Plumb considered it a loan, and in his remarks said:

There are chances, and I think a majority of chances, that the government will be repaid the money.

Senator Maxey. When we made an appropriation in the nature of a loan to the Centennial Exposition in 1876 we gave a million and a half dollars, and there was no objection to that.

Senator Garland. The bill has undergone the scrutiny of the entire Committee on Appropriations, and long and tedious investigation, and the Senator from Missouri, [Mr. Cockrell], who is acute and alert as to these matters, has given it his careful attention, and he reports that it is perfect in this respect. The United States is in no danger in reference to getting back this million of dollars.

Senator Maxey. I suggested to the Senator from Kansas, [Mr. Plumb], when he was on the floor, that we had loaned to the Centennial Exposition a million and a half dollars.

Senator Frye. I would be for it if I knew the exposition would not pay a dollar back.

Senator Miller. I would rather vote for the bill as it stands, loaning a million dollars, than to vote \$500,000 as a gift.

Senator Allison. We have restricted, so far as it is possible to restrict, the expenditures preparatory to this exposition to the subscriptions and to the amount of this loan.

Senator Allison. I move to amend the title so as to make it read, "A Bill to Make a Loan in Aid of the Celebration of the World's Industrial and Cotton Exposition."

What grounds do these statements leave for the assumption made by Senator George? Does the idea of an appropriation to be returned in part or in full obtain in any of them? Is the section of the constitution referred to that contains such provisions? Senator George voted for the loan after listening to the debates given above, and is now undertaking to rid himself of that responsibility by formulating an excuse unwarranted by the facts.

The effort being made by a number of northern and western papers to create the impression that the Farmers Alliance is really in favor of repudiating a mortgage debt is both absurd and ridiculous. The Farmers Alliance was primarily organized to assist civil officers in

performing their duty. It is nothing if not a law abiding organization, and whenever the farmers of this country are found willing to repudiate their debts it will be at a time when all other classes have done likewise. Both sides of the question in the West should be considered. It should be remembered that a debt has been made by the farmer borrowing money for a term of years. As soon as he became a borrower the people who loaned the money have by collusion introduced a system of executing the laws that has reduced the volume of money, and thereby increased its purchasing power and changed the conditions, until it takes three times the products of labor to pay the debt that it did at the time it was contracted. In the place of this, they are seeking to modify the original contract in their renewals by making it payable in gold when they have all the gold and have it locked up. It is not repudiation for the farmer to demand the conditions that prevailed at the time the contract was made.

#### THE CINCINNATI MEETING AGAIN.

The following is taken from the Kingsbury Independent, De Smet, S.D.:

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST does not believe in the holding of a convention in May to decide as to organizing a third party for 1892, and calls the leaders of the movement hot-headed, and that the question is not ripe and should be deferred. Does THE ECONOMIST take into consideration that these men that it terms "hot headed" have been the sole means of bringing about all the political honors of the new party at the late elections? Or does THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST take all this credit upon its shoulders and consider that the people have no right to move in this matter without its consent?

Editorials of similar character to the above are found in a few papers printed in the North and West. Some even are brutal enough to charge mercenary motives to Brothers Powderly, Polk, and Macune as the reason for their action in opposing the meeting. Such editorial sentiments simply confirm the position taken by these gentlemen that the coming year should be devoted to education in the correct principles of reform, and also proves that such editors should be the most earnest students.

THE ECONOMIST is not in favor of the proposed meeting. Its opposition comes from its loyalty to the Alliance and obedience to the expressed will of the Supreme Council. It simply stands by the policy of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union as adopted at Ocala, as the following will clearly support. Bro. Macune in concluding his report as chairman of the executive committee—

Cautions the Order as to the great responsibility resting upon this body at this time as to what action it takes in regard

to the political situation. The Order could never participate in any partisan political effort, and in the South it was opposed to giving its sanction to any independent or third party move on the part of the members, while in the West and Northwest the delegates claim that the Order will retrograde if such sanction is not given. In this emergency he thought he had a compromise to offer that would meet the case exactly, and that was for this body to hereby say that it gives its sanction and call for a meeting to be held about February, 1892, to be composed of delegates from all organizations of producers upon fair basis of representation for the purpose of a general and thorough conference upon the demands of each, and to the end that all may agree upon a joint set of demands just prior to the next national campaign, and agree upon the proper methods for enforcing such demands. If the people by delegates coming direct from them agree that a third party move is necessary, it need not be feared; and that the next session of this Supreme Council elect delegates from this Order to represent it in said national conference of productive organizations for political purposes.

Motion by Livingston, of Georgia, duly seconded, that all of the above report be adopted except such parts as modify the constitution, and that they be referred to committee on constitution.

This action of the national meeting was supplemented by the joint action of the confederation of industrial organizations held at Washington, January 22, 1891, consisting of delegates from the Knights of Labor, National Colored Alliance, National Citizens Alliance, and the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union. At this meeting the following resolutions were adopted:

That February 22, 1892, be fixed as the time for the next meeting, and the place left to the executive board, to be published six months previous to the annual meeting. That the President invite delegates from every industrial organization in the country to meet with this body at the next regular meeting in 1892.

Instead of THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST dictating or arrogating any authority, it is simply carrying out the provisions of the national meeting, and in so doing acting in perfect harmony with the great labor organizations in this country. It could do no less, and would do no more. Since the above meeting the Northwestern Alliance adopted a similar proposition. Here then are five national reform organizations representing 95 per cent of organized labor in this country, united upon one policy and demanding the same plan of campaign. In opposition to this comes the call for a meeting on the 19th of May, at Cincinnati. What organizations are behind it? What element of the reform movement does it represent? and why is it demanded? Let every member of the K. of L., Farmers Alliance, white or colored Citizens Alliance, or any other true reformer, ask and answer for himself these questions before he goes into spasms over this proposed meeting. The time for hurrah conferences is at an end. They have cursed the people long enough. It is not agitation the people want, it is education on correct lines. What will be the result of this meeting? Of what will the substance consist

when the froth and enthusiasm has blown off? The K. of L. will not be represented, the N. F. A. and I. U. will not be there, the N. F. A. will be absent, the C. F. A. will not attend, and the national branch of the Citizens Alliance will keep away, and the question might be asked, who will be there that represents organized labor?

#### Coal Product West of the Mississippi River.

##### Census Report.

The following table gives the product of coal in detail, the number of mines, disposition of the total product, value at mines, average price per ton, and the number of persons to whom this industry gave employment, with the wages received:

Division and States	Number of mines	Value of total product	
		Regular coal	Coal banks and local mines
Grand total.....	569	1,326	16,067,500 \$24,413,262
Trans-Mississippi valley.....	444	1,234	10,051,229 14,271,622
Dakota & Neb. ka.....	5	338	30,307 46,331
Kansas territory.....	127	295	2,207,753 3,294,754
Iowa.....	10	222	7,587,833 11,323,866
Missouri.....	121	355	2,567,821 5,152,028
Arkansas.....	8	16	270,583 305,836
Texas.....	5	6	128,216 340,617
Rocky Mountain region.....	98	91	4,835,638 7,486,000
Montana.....	8	22	363,301 881,523
Wyoming.....	15	18	1,388,947 1,748,948
Colorado.....	55	40	2,621,200 4,055,622
New M. xico.....	18	12	486,293 872,786
Utah.....	4	7	235,601 372,495
Pacific coast.....	22	1	1,179,903 2,665,636
California & Oregon.....	10	1	186,179 451,881
Washington.....	12	...	993,724 2,203,755

How Jefferson viewed the family altar, the untaxed home of the citizen, may be seen from the following extract from his writings:

When the war is over and our freedom won, the people must make a new declaration; they must declare the rights of man, the individual, sacred above all craft in priesthood or government—they must at one blow, put an end to all the trickeries of English law, which garnered up in the channels of ages, bind the heart and will with lies. They must perpetuate republican truth by making the homestead of every man a holy thing, which no law can touch; no juggler can wrest from his wife and children. Until this is done the revolution will have been fought in vain.

##### The Financial Need.

BY COL. ELLISON S. KEITT, OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

At the close of the late war between the States, Hugh McCulloch, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, in his report to Congress in December, 1865, said:

"The people are now comparatively free from debt." He was in a position to know the truth of what he asserted. His allusion was particularly to those States that remained in the Union during the war.

What is their condition now, brought about in twenty-five years by the operations of the present financial system instituted during the war? The farm mortgages in the northwestern States alone, exclusive of city, county and town property, aggregate the stupendous sum of \$3,450,000,000. And it is likely the last census when published will put it far in excess of that sum if it has been faithfully taken. The same con-

sition to a greater or less extent exists in every community in this vast country. The interest of this stupendous debt, much less the principal, can never be paid under the present financial system. Instead of the condition of the people improving it will grow with each year, as it has been doing for twenty-five years. If the bonded and mortgaged debt of the people was aggregated it is doubtful if the wealth of the entire nation could liquidate it. With these facts before us, is it at all surprising that the people should be loud and clear from one end of the land to the other in their demands for financial reform? Is there anything surprising in the late uprising of the people and the beginning of the end, sending to private life old leaders who brought about this condition, and who propose to continue it? The nation is between Scylla and Caribdis. Will patriotic men wear out their lives and the lives of their wives and children in constant toil and worry in vain efforts to pay a debt when under the present financial system it is impossible to pay the interest? Will capitalists still cling to the present financial system and press on until the country is plunged into a bloody revolution and repudiation? These are momentous questions demanding an answer. The nation is seized with a deadly malady and requires heroic treatment. What is the remedy? More money, oil upon the spindles of civilization and progress is the imperative demand. What is money? Is gold money? No. Is silver, money? No. Is paper, money? No. All of these are commodities until they receive the stamp of the government. All are now in use as money in this country, made so by the government. Money is a creation of law. Whatever the government declares a legal tender in payment of debts is money. The government has out among the people \$346,881,016 United States legal tender notes, less the loss in twenty-eight years, based on her credit, which pass current equal with gold coin. The imperative demand is, and the remedy for the malady is, money in circulation in sufficient volume for the easy transaction of business on a cash basis. How is this money to be had, and how are the people to get it into their hands? In our adjustment of balances with foreign nations, gold and silver are received as commodities according to weight and business. Let there be coined fractional currency, from one cent to fifty cents, in ample volume for the demands of the people. Let the government print notes beginning at one dollar and going as high as one thousand dollar notes if desirable, and make them a legal tender in payment of all debts both public and private. The question is, how to get this money into the hands of the people after it is printed and in the Treasury? Let the government establish a sub-treasury at the capital of each State and loan this money on real estate at 2 per cent per annum for fifteen years, the interest and one-fifteenth of the principal to be paid annually to the government. Let the loan be sixty per cent of the

assessed value for taxation of unencumbered real estate, and the maximum loaned to any one individual \$5,000, and the minimum \$100. We will then have a currency based on real property, something everybody wants—we can't eat, drink or wear gold and silver. They are worth nothing without the stamp of the government except as commodities in the arts. Capitalists have jugged with these metals for ages and denied mankind to satisfy their greed. Let America have her distinctive money. Let her lands and buildings be printed to a limited extent into money, and be a blessing to the people. Let the government be made safe by a mortgage, and where there are buildings an insurance of the property. The sub-treasuries can be run as cheap as the banks. It will take less than \$1,000,000 to operate them, one in each State; \$60 per capita will put out in round numbers \$4,000,000, which at 2 per cent per annum will yield the government \$80,000,000; net profit, \$79,000,000. This the people will be paying to their government; hence to themselves. The cost of printing the notes will be very little. The saving in interest to people very great. Sixty dollars in circulation per capita is not one dollar than the people need. France, the most prosperous of the great nations, has \$67 per capita in circulation. The loss to the nation by the people being idle for lack of money to pay them wages cannot be estimated. It is an awful uphill-business to work for next to nothing. It is a sure sign of distress when gold circulates among the people. Money is tight. There is no mortgage on any of the holdings of the writer and there has been none since the war. What he says he feels is for the common good and general welfare. Ours is a government of the people, for the people and by the people. It is the only government on the earth where all power resides in the people. In all the other great governments the people are held down with bayonets, and the last Congress tried to put us in that fix. The people should remember those who did it. It is for the people to say whether they will continue to toll and fret out their existence in the old rats, or assert their manhood and reform the government and make the country prosperous and happy. The government needs reformation from the President to the coroner. Fifty thousand dollars a year is too much to pay the President. Large salaries beget luxury and corruption. Let the country return to republican simplicity, virtue and morality.

##### A View from the Far West.

BY A. LYONS, BIRD'S VIEW, WASH.

The lesson of exploded nationalities, as we see them reflected to us through the broad mirror of universal history, that have gone down in chaos, ignorance and revolution, should be a warning to us. History informs that the most advanced civilizations of antiquity were destroyed by the concentration of the wealth in few hands. Are we not following rapidly in their footsteps? Do we not hear their footfalls still echoing adown the corridors of time? Statistics

show us that twenty-five thousand people own or control one-half the wealth of the United States, while the wealth of the country is still drifting into the hands of the few with wonderfully accelerating rapidity, while corporations buy up legislators like so many sheep and cattle on the market, and trusts, pools, and powerful syndicates rule and plunder the land.

We met last night in Bird's View to organize a Farmers Alliance and succeeded in effecting a preliminary organization. I might say the farmers throughout this whole country are not organizing specially for a political purpose.

For politics in the narrow sense of the word they care nothing. But they are organizing primarily to educate themselves upon the great social, economic and financial questions of the day. They are neither for nor against the Republican or Democratic party. They are organizing to better the condition of the producing classes of this country, and to suppress abuses by legislative means. They are organizing to fight for their natural rights, to retain a just share of their toll created gains, for the preservation and perpetuity of the advantages of free self-government. They are not opposed to the dollar but they are in favor of the inalienable rights of man. And when it comes to a conflict between the two they believe with the immortal Lincoln that man should rule and not the dollar.

Much is being said in the columns of THE ECONOMIST in regard to independent political action. We are told by some, with somewhat monotonous and persistent reiteration, that we must stick to the old parties, and no doubt many people, fondly hoping for, and sincerely desiring a better condition of our industrial situation, are yet so blind and dizzy with party fealty, so ecstatic in their devotion and attachment to a party name, that we must stick to the old parties, and no doubt many people, fondly hoping for, and sincerely desiring a better condition of our industrial situation, are yet so blind and dizzy with party fealty, so ecstatic in their devotion and attachment to a party name, that we must stick to the old parties, and no doubt many people, fondly hoping for, and sincerely desiring a better condition of our industrial situation, are yet so blind and dizzy with party fealty, so ecstatic in their devotion and attachment to a party name, that we must stick to the old parties, and no doubt many people, fondly hoping for, and sincerely desiring a better condition of our 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efforts for our overthrow than ever. He has used his common weapons without success, and now, like Satan after his banishment to the infernal regions, he will assail us with his most deadly and enviable instruments of welfare. He has failed to make us believe our demands are unconstitutional, and that our wants are the mere fancies of a lunatic mind, now he will see what can be done by deceit, treachery, flattery and corruption. Having tried bombast, ridicule and invective without effect, he will now try voluminous argument with false logic with the hope that by the use of many words he may confuse those who are not able to follow rapidly and understand quickly the meaning and force of the ideas that may be presented. Tallyrand said that words were to be used to cover up ideas, and he is quoted as one of the most successful diplomats that ever lived. He could by a skillful use of words lead others to disclose their projects while he kept his own concealed, then by the same means he could confuse their minds until they would assent to his propositions. An open enemy is not to be feared as much as a flattering tongue. Now brothers let us understand our demands and then make those who oppose them give good and closely stated reasons for their opposition. If they can not or will not do that, then pay no attention to what they say. Pay no attention to the man who tells you you ought to stay with one party or the other, if he can not show you plainly that that party is willing to work in the line of the demands. They contain what appears to be the best means for bettering the condition of the laborers and the producers, and until they have been tried and found to fail or there can be something offered, which upon mature deliberation and thorough discussion appears to us to be better, we must make them our battle cry, and accept no compromise with those who oppose them. The war is on. The leaders of the opposition have their forces in line and their skirmishers thrown out. They have opened their batteries and begun the attack. Senator Sherman says the farmers do not want free coinage of silver, it is only a mild form of lunacy with them and will soon pass off, showing how well he was posted on the wants of the people, and trying to make it appear that a hungry man would not know better when he had had enough to eat than the one who gave him the food. The St. Louis Globe Democrat in one of its editorials says: "The daily wages of mechanics in Kansas last year averaged \$2.25; but they cannot expect to do as well during the present year, owing to the fact that the Farmers Alliance has paralyzed the agencies of employment and put a stop to the investment of capital and new enterprise." The foregoing editorial is very apt to mislead the unthinking. In the first place it does not say how many days they worked; but would leave it to be inferred that they worked every working day, when perhaps they did not work one half of that time. If a man worked 100 days in a year and received \$2, he

would average \$2 per day, but by using a sentence like the editorial it would appear that he received \$62 per year. Then again there are shops in Kansas where there is a great deal of skilled labor, some of the men would get from \$3 to \$8 per day which would raise the average, while the most of the men would be getting from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per day. Then do not let any one influence you by the use of any statement which he cannot fully explain and give all the circumstances connected with it so you can see for yourself whether it bears out his views or not. Another thing is left to be inferred is that, because the mechanics seemed to be getting very good wages the farmer must also be doing well or else the mechanic would not be able to get such wages, which is not true, as the most of the mechanics' work is in town, either for the manufacturing companies or other people who make their living at some other business than farming.

We are told in the Bible "not to put our trusts in princes," and I wish and hope the brothers will not put their trust in politicians, but stand firm on the demands. Let no man turn you aside, who ever tries to turn you is not your friend, although he may intend to be. If he understands the situation and tries to turn you out of the way, he is not honest. If he is ignorant, be careful, for if the blind lead the blind shall they both not fall in the ditch?" Any statement which pretends to prove that the whole of the people are prosperous because a certain class, which does not contain more than one-tenth of the total population, is making money is false. Then when they tell you the mechanic, manufacturer or merchant are making money, ask if they can give any information about farmers doing the same.

**Another Standard Oil Candidate.**  
I see by Toledo papers that John H. Doyle (principal attorney for the Standard Oil Company in Toledo) is pushed for a position on the Supreme Bench. With Foster, their gas man, at the head of the Treasury Department, Brice, their railroad manipulator, in the Senate from Ohio, if they can get their man Doyle a position as judge of the Supreme Court, they will be well fortified against the people of Ohio.

#### PRODUCER.

The Union Bee (Humansville, Mo.) seems to have found the right kind of footing. Others will soon follow: When the Alliance of Missouri, or any other State, elects men to State offices, it is neither consistent with the duties of such officers, nor consistent with the principles of the F. and L. U., for such officers to be "fishing for further advancement, by the aid and influence of their positions; and, when Alliance men discover such prostitution of principles to selfish purposes, they should not hesitate to sound a note of warning, and immediately sacrifice all such delinquents of duty. The object of the Alliance is to fight demagogues and professional office-seekers and wirepullers and not sustain and elevate them. It was the rock upon which the Grange stranded, therefore, then, your principles demand that you shun it. Elevate no man to office whose private character will not admit of the severest investigation. The principles demand it, and you are sworn to honor and defend those principles.

#### FROM THE PEOPLE.

##### Sample Parcels of What the Mail Brings The Economist Every Day.

The mail of THE ECONOMIST is so large and contains so many readable letters that it is impossible to print or even extract from all. In holding over for future use many excellent contributions become unavailable, because current discussion has passed the stage at which their arguments were applicable and new. It will be the effort hereafter in this department to give all parts of the country representation. Brethren should understand that much more is received than can be used, and therefore many letters cannot be inserted; this not because of want of merit, but from actual lack of space.

With this understanding letters are solicited from all sections. The name of the writer is always expected, as any suggestion or argument loses its force by anonymous publication.

#### In Missouri.

J. M. Glover, of New Ark, Mo., sends a letter of inquiry. The statement of Mr. Dunning is rigidly true; there is no law authorizing the redemption of greenbacks; in fact, all greenbacks paid into the treasury are paid out again, and as they are legal tender, must be taken by any one to whom they are tendered, save and except for interest on the bonded debt. The \$100,000,000 gold idle in the treasury was put there by sale of bonds, and therefore illustrates the manner in which the people's credit has been made

the means of taxing them to enrich investors.

We demand that the government

shall establish sub-treasuries or depositories in the several states, which shall loan

money direct to the people at a low rate

of interest, not to exceed two per cent per annum, on non-perishable farm products, and also upon real estate, with proper limitations upon the quantity of land and amount of money.

We demand that the amount of the circu-

lating medium be speedily increased to

not less than \$50 per capita.

[The object of this demand is to restore

the circulation of money to the basis of

years ago, when many of the debts of

the country were contracted. The bonds upon

which the national banks were based, for

instance, were bought with money that was very much below gold in purchasing power. By reason of the contraction of the volume of the currency, and the unjust adoption of the gold standard alone, those same banks can now sell their bonds for nearly double what they cost originally. Under the present system, too, of furnishing money to the people through the banks, the banks pay the government at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum, and then lend it out to the people at 10 and 12 per cent. We maintain that the government, which is a creature of the people, and can get its money only from the people, should lend the money direct to the people instead of to the banks; provided the people give the government the same security that they give the banks now. This seems reasonable and just, and by this method of lending to the people on imperishable farm products and real estate, we hope to increase the circulating medium to \$50 per capita instead of less than \$10 as at present.]

2. That we demand that Congress shall

pass such laws as shall effectively prevent

the dealing in futures of all agricultural

and mechanical productions; preserving a stringent system of procedure in trials as shall secure prompt convictions, and imposing such penalties as shall secure the most perfect compliance with the law.

[This demand aims to prevent speculators from combining to force the farmers' hard-earned products below their true market value; buying them up at the reduced valuation and then cornering the

market so as to force prices up above the true value of the products. Thus the farmer has been robbed in what he had to sell, and then robbed in what he had to buy. Thus he has been kept with his nose to the grindstone, while our lords speculate on the profits of the people's party to form the nucleus of a centre. Call it what you may, only don't call it a party. Let it be understood that it represents the principle of reform in all matters needing reform. At present it will mainly represent the measures demanded by the Farmers Alliance and other industrial organizations in reform of the administration of the finances, land and transportation. Of course all those representatives who have been elected on these issues will align themselves with the centre, either on one side or the other, the right or the left. The extreme right and left will then still represent the old issues or get up new ones, as the case may be. As the campaign of education progresses it will be the people's fault if their representatives don't in truth represent them, and it will then be shown whether the centre will be strong enough to remedy all the errors and abuses which have crept into the administration of our government under the old party alignments. Some Republican friends may ask: What about a free ballot and a fair count? Let them read the ninth demand of the sub-lectureship, from the county to district, district to State, so there is possibility of high advancement for each sub-lecturer if he will qualify himself and be diligent. Naturally the one who develops into the best sub-lecturer in his county will be made County Lecturer. The County Lecturer who develops most energy and ability will be made District Lecturer, and so on. We confidently expect a good report from your work at the county and district meetings—therefore be diligent and redeem the time.

[The free and unlimited coinage of silver is no new, untried measure, as the opponents of the measure would have us believe. It was the policy of the government from 1792 to 1873, when silver was surreptitiously demonetized. In demanding its restoration, the Alliance is simply getting back to first principles from which the government has been diverted in the interest of the moneyed classes. This is one of the most important demands that the Alliance has made, and one that we cannot afford to reude from.]

4.

We demand the passage of laws prohibiting alien ownership of land, and that

Congress

take prompt action to devise

some plan to obtain all lands now owned

by aliens and foreign syndicates; and that

all lands not held by railroads and other

corporations in excess of such as is

actually used and needed by them be re-

claimed by the government, and held for

actual settlers only.

[This demand was framed on account

of the vast areas of public lands that have

been given by the government to various

railroad corporations. Some of the gifts

were conditional, and the conditions have

not been fulfilled, but the lands have not

been restored to the government. Many

foreign companies and syndicates, too,

have been formed to purchase whole

townships and hold them for speculative

purposes. Our demand is for the gov-

ernment to take possession of these for-

forgotten lands and hold them for set-

ters only, also to prohibit foreign compa-

nies from holding lands in this country

for speculation at the expense of those

who may hereafter wish to settle upon

them.]

5.

Believing in the doctrine of equal

rights to all and special privileges to

none, we demand that our national orga-

nization

to give its readers an exhaustive treatise

with statistics so as to educate the Order

to a comprehensive knowledge of the sub-

ject, that they may formulate a demand

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now doing and has done more toward educating the members of the Order to a just sense of their duty to themselves and to the people at large by teaching non-partisan principles than all other periodicals together, from the fact that it is the adopted organ of the National Order and is therefore read by a greater number of persons than any other reform paper. I have no doubt that THE ECONOMIST, through courtesy to members of the Order, often publishes communications that it does not endorse as a whole. The year 1892 will soon be here with all of its fullness, and as it is to be a year long to be remembered on account of the action of the Alliance in the line of political measures, I believe it right and just that all communications touching the work of the Order, either in politics or otherwise, have a fair consideration. How else would we form opinions or come to conclusions if it were not for such periodicals and communications? We are united upon a common level, both Republicans and Democrats, for the welfare of the American people, and especially the laboring class, and the man or brother who thinks more of party names than of principle had better be somewhere else than in the Alliance. I think it useless to talk of trying to get either of the old parties to adopt, or even try to carry out, our principles and demands. We have been trying them now for a number of years, and if either of them had offered or tried to legislate for the masses of these United States it would have been backed up to such an extent by the people that it would have been more than dominant. I therefore think that if it is necessary to form a new party with our demands as a basis (and I think it is), in order that our said demands and adopted principles be carried into effect, that we should at once go into the fight in earnest. If at the February meeting in 1892 it should be thought best to make such a step, I will go in for all it is worth.

## In Texas.

P. G. Smith, of Thornton, writes his views on current topics:

I am not a chronic newspaper correspondent, but I am so anxious for the people to rule, that I cannot help but write and tell your readers of it. You are interested in a grand cause, educating the people, teaching them Shylock's greed. Continue on in your good work, and remain true to the people, and your name will, with those of your co-patriots, go down the line of ages as the leaders of a new era. Sacrifice the people for selfish gain, and your history will be just a repetition of scores of men that have won the people's confidence, that are now almost forgotten. I am 60 years old. I was a rebel soldier. I faced the blue upon the battle field. The blue freed four million of slaves, and I think they will free 62 million of black and white, if we will help them. We want to help them, not by the sword, but at the ballot box. What is the matter? Why is it we cannot stand together? Old bloody shirt is the cause; he is all over the country, he is here in Texas, on the coast of the Atlantic, on the slopes of the Rocky mountains, in the far off New England States, on the farms, in the work shops, in villages, in cities, in the State Legislatures, in Congress, in the church, everywhere. Laboring people, that is, all that depend upon their services either of mind or body, are deceived by this gay deceiver. Surely the devil's reign must be approaching. We are no longer represented. Shylock steals our representatives as soon as they are coraled at Uncle Sam's headquarters. In fact, the old monster has almost stole the world. It is no longer for sale. By all means let us have a third party. I am a third party man; first, last, and all the time.

## In Alabama.

B. M. Hill, of Falkville, writes:

Sister Bettie Gay expressed her sentiments as to February 21 being the best ECONOMIST. I join in the sentiment that it is a good one, but each one when I read it I think the best; the 14th of March I think is the best of all, for the cheering news it contains in regard to the labor organizations being in good headway, and several give their opinion as to a third party. I don't fall out with Brother Tyler, of Virginia. I appreciate his sentiments in general, but as to a third party in Virginia it is just to the contrary here in Alabama. The very life of our existence depend on a third party. We have to do the work ourselves; we know what we want and we know how to do it. We may depend on Tom, Dick and Harry in the old political parties to do the work of the Alliance, and

we will come out "bobtail," as the Alliance did in the Missouri legislature. I believe Brother Tyler will be in favor of a third party by the 22d of next February. A hoe or hammer without handle is not worth much; just so with the Alliance without the sub-treasury. We are seeking and asking just legislation of each political party, and have not attained it when brought to the point they dodge out and leave as a hoe without a handle. We, the laboring people of the State of Alabama justly consider that we are, to a certain extent, under a yoke of oppression, and we as justly think that each of the now existing political parties is working in that yoke of oppression, one at each end. If we obtain just legislation for the people let everyone do his duty, hoist the Alliance banner in the breeze and keep it there, put your shoulder to the wheel and keep the beam-rolling till it smashes and obliterates forever old political strife and sectionalism, and let brotherhood join heart and hand from center to circumference; then gives us a ticket for President in 1892, and victory will certainly be ours. The funeral of sectionalism will be preached.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Henry county Alliance at its last session and ordered published in THE ECONOMIST:

Whereas the Supreme Council of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union at its Ocala meeting recommended to all county Alliances throughout the Union the appointment of a competent committee to examine the mortgage records of each county and compile accurate statistics upon this subject for information of the people;

Resolved by this, the Henry County Alliance, now in session, That our worthy president be instructed to appoint a committee of three fit and proper persons to examine the record of mortgages in this county and make report of their acts to the next meeting of this Alliance.

## In Georgia.

In transmitting resolutions of Bethlehem Alliance, No. 347, Fairburn, Secretary H. N. Cochran writes:

If you had been with us when the above resolutions were adopted, you certainly would not have any doubt about their sincerity. If the people's movement is as solid throughout the country as it is in this section, it would be no trouble to elect a president in 1892 who would be in sympathy with all of the inhabitants of Uncle Sam's wide domain. We do not wish to antagonize any interest or honest industry, but we want and must have an equal showing in the great battle that brings to every citizen due honors and just rewards for his labor. Upon our part we are determined to fill our place in the ranks of the reform movement till victory shall perch upon our banners, or die in the attempt. The principles for which our forefathers fought and died were no more just than those for which we are contending to-day, and the man who would betray the trust reposed in him by a liberty-loving and confiding people ought to be consigned to the lower pits of hades.

Following are the resolutions to which Brother Cochran refers:

Whereas the Farmers Alliance was organized for the purpose of correcting the wrong that are fast enslaving the masses of the American people, and building up a moneyed aristocracy bonded together for the purpose of accumulating princely fortunes by robbing and oppressing, and

Whereas we do not believe that those oppressive laws can be corrected by affiliating with either of the old political parties, as both of those parties have been in power and the tendency of legislation has been in favor of the moneyed class, while desolation, poverty and ruin have swept over our beautiful land, driving many of our citizens into the whirlpool of the grogshop, prostitution and crime, to drown the knowledge of their deplorable condition; and

Whereas we believe the phenomenal growth and grand success of the Order has been achieved greatly on account of its non-partisan principles; and

Whereas we believe the plans adopted by our national leaders in their several meetings to be right, and we believe further that the course pursued by our national organ, THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, has been of such a character as to claim our admiration and support; therefore,

Resolved, That we indorse and pledge ourselves to stand by the principles we set forth therein, ever giving them our

support and confidence until it shall be shown and clearly proven to us that they have departed from the trust reposed in them.

2. That we guarantee to our brethren throughout the Union that we will affiliate with them in the contest of 1892 in electing a president of the United States who must pledge himself to our platform as shall be adopted by the various labor organizations at their meeting on the 22d of February, 1892.

3. That we will not vote for anyone because he is a Democrat, or because he is a Republican, but because he is willing to support the principles we have espoused.

A. M. McMichen, of Etta, Paulding county, Ga., writes:

We are still Alliance and gaining strength. We would like to be Democratic, too, but if to be a Democrat is to renounce the sub-treasury plan and all the ancient features of Democracy, and every other principle of moral justice, we confess we are not Democrats. Our sub-Alliance is solid on that question. We are disgusted at politicians performing on the St. Louis platform to get elected, then turning traitor against their constituents. Watch them and keep us posted, for money is a dangerous weapon in the hands of a fool.

## In Florida.

N. Lafon, Paisley, Fla., writes:

In South Florida the farmers have none of those products to be deposited in the warehouses, hence do not look further to see the benefits to be derived from steadiness of money and prevention of grain gambling.

It behoves the Alliance to go slow, to count well its forces, to be satisfied with smaller victories than the Presidency in 1892. Why not capture both houses of Congress? They make the laws and would pass the bill. The president's powers are very limited, and if a Democratic or Republican President would not enforce the bill after it was passed, then would be time enough to put up a man for President. In the meantime, the processes of education and organization, if prosecuted with vigor, will be more complete, and the result of the election a great deal more certain. Let us not get over-enthusiastic at our successes in Kansas, South Carolina and Georgia; but strive to educate the rank and file to support the sub-treasury bill as a unit.

## The Sub-Treasury Plan.

Free Press, Winfield, Kan.

Whatever may be said against the sub-treasury plan by the opponents of the Alliance, the scheme is becoming more popular every day, and one of the principal objections to it, that of class legislation, is dissipated when it is fully understood.

The principle upon which it would work and the benefits that would accrue to the laboring men in the consuming centers has enlisted the co-operation of the other labor organization in its favor. The plan in question is to establish sub-treasuries in every agricultural county, where farmers can get money at one per cent per annum, leaving agricultural products of a staple character as security upon which the farmer would receive 80 per cent of its actual value at the time. These farm products are stored in a warehouse and will be kept by the government for one year, the farmers receiving a warehouse certificate or receipt, said receipt being negotiable. Its advantages are plain and can be seen at a glance. The benefit to the individual farmer is obvious at once. It is a well-established fact that the average farmer is pressed for money right after harvest, having handled but little money for a year, he is in debt more or less, and creditors are crowding him for their pay.

Resolved, That we indorse and pledge ourselves to stand by the principles we set forth therein, ever giving them our

grain broker sees fit to give him, for cash he has got to have, no matter how low the price. Now, the farmer is compelled to sell when everyone else is selling, and, as a rule he is compelled to take the lowest price of the year. Now, this sub-treasury plan would make the farmer a capitalist on a small scale, and enable him to wait for a raise, since he would have received 80 per cent of the value of his products and would yet be its owner, and any advance in price would insure to his benefit. Now, as to the customers, it is always against the best interests of the public at large, who consume the farmers' products, to have great fluctuations in price during the year, but as it is now, the farmer is by necessity forced to sell in the fall, and all his produce then goes into the hands of the speculator, and it is to his individual gain to enhance the price as much as possible, artificially without any regard to the natural laws of supply and demand. Thus it is that the middle men, brokers and sharp speculators gain force to beat down the price received by the farmer, then combine to raise the price enormously high to the final consumer. Thus we see, as affairs are now run, these cunning schemers, who do no productive work at all, grow wonderfully rich by robbing the consumers of their labor. This unnatural condition of affairs is against sound public policy, justice and right, and against the well-being of the farmers and consumers individually and collectively. This plan is in the interest of the producer and consumer, and in justice to them should become a law. These two great classes have of late discovered that they are one in interest, and that the only hope of the laborer to get out from the bondage of these speculator sharks is to get nearer the farmer and aid each other in securing recognition by Congress of wise and just legislation.

## Truck Farming.

Census Report.

On the truck farms of the United States in 1889, by the labor of 216,765 men, 9,254 women, and 14,874 children, aided by 75,866 horses and mules, working \$8,971,206.70 worth of implements, upon 534,440 acres of land, valued at \$70,156,293.59, there was produced truck valued at \$76,517,155 on the farms after paying freights and commissions.

The following table shows the total acreage of leading vegetables grown upon truck farms of the United States:

VEGETABLES.	ACRES.
Total.....	534,400
Asparagus.....	37,970
Beans (string or snap).....	12,607
Cabbage.....	77,094
Kale.....	2,962
Spinach.....	20,195
Irish potatoes.....	28,046
Beets.....	2,420
Celery.....	15,381
Cucumbers.....	4,721
Watermelons.....	114,380
Other melons.....	28,477
Peas.....	56,162
Sweet potatoes.....	29,621
Tomatoes.....	22,802
Miscellaneous vegetables.....	82,601

THE bloody shirt in the North and negro rule in the South are the last resort of the politicians.

## OFFICIAL.

[Extracts from the minutes of the proceedings of the Executive Board, February session, 1891.]

Whereas, By the statutory law of the Order, the Executive Board is made to represent the Supreme Council during recess, and,

Whereas, The Supreme Council did at its last regular session pass an advisory act recommending that the Executive Board set aside one-fourth of the gross receipts of the Order, if possible, to be devoted to educational work in the lecture field, and,

Whereas, For the purpose of executing and carrying out the provisions of said law, and at the same time conforming to the fixed policy of this board, that the expenditures of our Order shall not exceed its income, which was so unanimously and highly commended by the Supreme Council at its last session, and it being probable that much less than one-fourth of gross receipts, will be all that is available for lecturing purposes—possibly not over one-tenth; now, therefore, it is hereby

Resolved, That the expenditures for said Lecture Bureau shall in no case be in excess of the available funds for that purpose. And it is hereby further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Executive Board is hereby appointed and constituted general manager and director of the said Lecture Bureau, and that his duties shall be as follows:

1. To keep standing in the national official organ, and all State organs willing to publish same, a notice of the fact that the national lecture bureau is willing to make contracts to furnish lecturers for State or Congressional district meetings, or such other large gatherings as may call upon it for lecturers, for tours or trips throughout the various territories, States or districts, and giving a list of the lecturers who are willing that the contract should be made in their behalf, and he shall have suitable blank forms prepared for closing contracts with those who desire lecturers, arranging for the detail of the lecture trip, and made out in duplicate, one copy of which he shall file in his office, and the other forward to the lecturer expected to fill the contract.

2. He shall correspond with lecturers in all sections of the country and secure such arrangements with them as will guarantee that they will fill the contracts that he makes in their behalf; in no case, however, binding the national lecture bureau to pay any salary greater than it is able to collect from the persons desiring the lecturer.

3. He shall keep a standing notice in the national organ, and all State organs that will publish same without cost, requesting lecturers of subordinate, county, Congressional District, State and National Lecturers, and all assistant and deputy lecturers to keep on file with him their names and postoffice addresses.

4. He shall prepare and forward to each one who keeps his name and address on file with him once each quarter a circular letter, containing the skeleton of three different and distinct lectures (with full reference for all authorities cited,) statistics and all documentary evidences to make each lecture a complete and conclusive document, and he shall send this to each and every one of such lecturers as above provided, when he has evidence that they are actually lecturers in good standing, for ten cents per year, to cover postage, etc.

## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

published free, and all printing done by the national organ or any other paper for the propaganda fund committee must be done at actual cost.

Be it further resolved, That all donations made to the propaganda fund shall be directed to J. H. Turner, secretary, in care of the Second National Bank of Washington, D. C., and at the same time notify J. F. Tillman, secretary of the National Executive Board, that the same has been so sent.

C. W. MACUNE,

J. F. TILLMAN, Sec'y.

ALONZO WARDALL,

National Executive Board N. F. A. and I. U. Approved and accepted.

L. L. POLK, President.

J. H. TURNER, Secretary.

THE proposition to raise a propaganda fund in the interest of the Alliance, is a long step in the right direction. It marks an era in the history of the Order, and is a certain sign of the wonderful progress it has made. It says to the public, we point to our past conduct, and our present standing, as a guarantee of our future efforts. If they are such as command your approval, lend your aid in their propaganda. It places this great movement beside that of the church, the institutions of learning, and all other organizations for the betterment of the human race. By this act the attention of the world is challenged to its aims and purposes, and the opportunity for comparison is easily made. The fact has long been established that the Alliance has warm friends outside its organizations; that among those who are ineligible are some of the staunchest supporters of its principles. Through this fund is given an opportunity to render aid and assistance with the full knowledge that it will be appreciated and properly used. The difficulty with reform movements has been heretofore, that those joining who had money were by force of circumstances almost compelled to pauperize themselves in order to serve the cause. This came through want of organization, for lack of any responsible head. It is a notorious fact that nothing commands less credit in a commercial sense than a reform organization. The Alliance has passed that condition. It has arrived at that point where it can put out its declaration of principles and rely upon their equity and fairness to give them a proper consideration among the thinking portion of the people. A call for funds to further the interests of this Order is proper and right, and should meet the approval of all, as it no doubt will. Let those who wish to aid in this effort do so, not by way of charity but to assist in an effort to solve peacefully the problem that is attracting the attention of the civilized races.

The action recently taken by the Executive Board in establishing a National Lecture Bureau, and providing for a committee to solicit, receive, and disburse a propaganda fund, is very important and will be far-reaching in its effect upon the Order. The general management and direction of the Lecture Bureau is delegated to J. F. Tillman, who is also secretary of the Executive Board, and is a very active and efficient officer, devoting every energy of a vigorous mind and constitution to this great work. He deserves credit for the work he has accomplished, having already secured several of the best speakers, and will publish his list in all Alliance papers. Maine and New Hampshire have recently experienced the stirring effect of well-directed Alliance speeches.

**THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST**  
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE  
NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND  
INDUSTRIAL UNION.  
PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WASHINGTON, D. C.  
BY THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE - \$1.00 PER YEAR.

Advertisements inserted only by special contract. Our rates are thirty cents per page fine. Remittances for time and space furnished on application, stating character of advertisement required.

The publishers of this paper have given a bond in the sum of \$50,000 to the President of the Farmers' and Laborers' Union of America that they will faithfully carry out all subscriptions and other contracts.

The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the national meeting at St. Louis:

Whereas, The National Economist, our adopted official national organ, has so boldly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles; therefore,

Be it resolved by this National body, That we heartily approve of the course it has pursued and recommend that every member of the order should subscribe at least one dollar to the paper as one of the best means of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Address all remittances or communications to

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

REMITTED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON,  
D. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

N. R. P. A.

#### Official Notice.

All official organs and friendly papers interested and desiring the advancement of educational work, are hereby respectfully requested—through their columns—to notify all lecturers, subordinate, county, district, and State, and all assistant and deputy lecturers, to file their names and postoffice addresses with the National Lecture Bureau. Address J. F. Tillman, 239 North Capitol street, Washington, D. C.

#### THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST is the national official organ of the Order. It received the following indorsement at the St. Louis national meeting:

Whereas, THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, our adopted official national organ, has so boldly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles, therefore, be it resolved by this National body, That we heartily approve of the course it has pursued, and recommend that every member of the Order should subscribe and read the paper as one of the best means of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Reindorsed at Ocala, December, 1890:

Resolved, That this Supreme Council reindorse THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and the actions of Brother C. W. Macune and his associates, in said paper, and will do all we can to urge them onward in the good work of education.

THE ECONOMIST stands to-day without a rival in its claim of being the very best weekly paper published in the United States for one dollar per year. It has been the fixed policy from the beginning to run a paper in the interest of its subscribers and not in the interest of the advertisers. Advertisements are admitted, but they are confined to small space, and can not buy any editorial endorsement.

THE ECONOMIST does not run a fifty cent paper and then make up the balance to its subscribers and agents in chips and whetstones. It fills its columns with matter best calculated to make the Alliance win the fight. It is the national official organ, and has done more

to build up the cause of the Alliance and bring its principles to the attention of the reading public than any other means the Order has had.

In order to guarantee satisfaction to every member the following unprecedented offer is made: Every person who subscribes for one year and pays one dollar, who will take the paper and read it for three months and is not satisfied that he is getting more than one dollar's worth of reading matter, is requested to deposit with the Secretary a written statement to that effect, and as soon as the Secretary sends the written statement to us we will return to the subscriber his whole dollar and stop the paper. This is a standing offer, and will not be recalled.

With this number of THE ECONOMIST is sent a subscription blank, and brethren and friends of the Order are earnestly requested to secure as many new subscribers as possible, fill in the blanks and forward between now and April 30. To help THE ECONOMIST is to help the Alliance cause. The subscriber in turn gets the best dollar's worth possible in the way of a splendid weekly review of current questions.

THE scheme of the Democratic party to crush out the Alliance in Mississippi has been well planned. Traitors to the Alliance have been found and are now playing their part with all the desperation that waits on a knowledge of coming defeat. Their traitorous acts have failed to stampede the Alliance, and hence the confusion and dismay. One after another have proven recreant to their trusts. Vicious attacks have been made on those who have stood firm, but amid all, the Alliance membership have stood squarely upon principle and given their support to Brother Burkitt and others who have so ably defended the Order against such attacks. Let the brotherhood and press throughout the Order aid the brethren in Mississippi in this struggle against foes without and traitors within.

THE Southern Alliance Farmer having "whipped the fight," and demonstrated the loyalty and virility of the Georgia Alliance, has called off the thickening host of defense and buckled down to the old duty of educational propaganda. It stands among the foremost organs in the Alliance, and its power for good is by no means confined to the State of Georgia.

#### A PROPAGANDA FUND.

The educational work of the Order is admitted to be the most important, but it cannot be properly conducted without some

funds. It does not take much, but it does take some. Many are willing and ready to work, but they cannot afford to work and pay all expenses. They will work without price if they can be furnished paper and postage, or printed matter, and perhaps occasionally a car fare. Hence the necessity for the propaganda fund. Many members of the Order devote a large part of their time to efficient work in behalf of the cause; others just as true and fully as zealous, are not gifted as speakers, and see no way in which they can render effective personal effort. The propaganda fund is provided that such may assist by contributions which will be used where they will do the most good. Hon. A. J. Streeter sent THE ECONOMIST, over a year ago, ten dollars to be used to the best advantage in the distribution of literature. The literature was secured at absolute cost and given the widest distribution possible. It was money well spent, and first started discussion as to the propriety of providing for a propaganda fund.

The Irish cause has been largely sustained by contributions from this country, and it is a wise and correct system. If the people love a cause, they will contribute each his mite, which in the aggregate makes a large sum. There are very few Alliance men in the United States who cannot afford to give one dollar each to the propaganda fund each year. One dollar is very little compared to the donations of those who have spent weeks and months lecturing and organizing, without receiving enough pay to meet their bills for necessary expenses. Let every member of the Order resolve to pay at least one dollar per year to the propaganda fund, and as many as can pay more. Pay as much as possible.

Every precaution is thrown around the propaganda fund. The money goes to the secretary and a report of the remittance to the Executive Board. One is a check on the other, consequently all money sent will have to be accounted for and kept in a special fund by the secretary. Not a dollar can be paid out or used for any purpose except on the approval of the President, Secretary, and the Executive Board. Reports are to be made at regular intervals, showing fully the work done.

Jay Gould, Mr. Brice, Mr. Quay, or any other capitalist or politician, will find the propaganda fund committee ready to accept donations from them and use the money where it will do the most good in the cause of reform, and should Mr. Stanford desire to contribute some railroad money

to assist the farmers he will have a splendid chance to do so. Some of the extremely wealthy may need a depository for "conscience money," and they will find this a good place.

The propaganda fund is not established to collect money to be used for corrupt campaign methods. The money will be used to educate the masses in the principles of the Farmers Alliance and to bring about a better understanding between the good, the true and the honest citizens of this nation, to the end that all such may lay aside sectionalism and unite in a determined effort to abolish corruption and discrimination from the laws and usages of the country, and inaugurate a reign of justice that shall guarantee equal rights and equal chances to all worthy citizens. Political parties accept secretly large donations from men who expect to control the patronage of the party when in power. This propaganda fund collection is entirely different. Those who donate to it may well be proud to have the matter known, because it shows not necessarily liberality on their part, but it is substantial evidence of their devotion to the cause of humanity.

Let every member of the Order constitute himself a committee of one to solicit subscriptions to the propaganda fund.

All remittances to the propaganda fund should be made direct to J. H. Turner, Secretary National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, 239 North Capitol street, Washington, D. C., and a report of the amount so remitted should at the same time be sent to J. F. Tillman, Secretary Executive Board, National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, 239 North Capitol street, Washington, D. C.

When not otherwise requested the

Secretary will publish each week

in THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST a

list of those contributing and the

amount contributed, but when

donors do not wish their names so

published, the names will be left

blank but the amount of the contri-

bution will be published. Readers

can therefore, by watching the

columns of THE ECONOMIST, keep

posted as to the amount donated to

this fund.

THE New England grangers and plug-hatted representatives of so-called agricultural societies of that section have been "interviewed," and are a unit in declaring that the Alliance will never amount to anything in that part of the country.

However that may be, Congressman Jerry Simpson and Ralph Beaumont have been talking to large audiences throughout these States upon Alliance doctrine. They have been stirring New Eng-

land from center to circumference upon the economic questions of the day, and from present indications the farmers (not in the cities) will organize themselves rapidly into the Alliance. A New England farmer knows a good thing when he sees it, and will receive the truth when given them by such men as Simpson and Beaumont.

The New York Sun, extreme democratic; the New York Tribune, radical republican, and the New York Times, acknowledged mugwump, are all singing the same tune in opposition to the sub-treasury plan. Nothing else seems to trouble them but cheap money to the people. This shows plainly that they are all actuated by the same desire and governed by the same motives. It is Wall street against the sub-treasury plan from now until the people decide which they will take. Let the fight come on; the enemy is now located and the Alliance guns can be turned in the right direction.

BOTH the old party organs, by way of argument against the Alliance demands, say "you can't legislate money into the people's pockets." This is considered a squelcher, and as such unanswerable. Instead of this proposition being true, it is absolutely false and misleading. There was never a dollar in the pocket of any individual that did not get there primarily through an act of legislation. What makes money? Legislation. What takes it out of the national treasury, where it must all go when first made? Legislation. Where does it go when taken from the treasury? Into the pockets of the people when in abundance, into the vaults of the banks when scarce.

OREGON will soon be ready to organize into a State Alliance. The membership in the State is growing rapidly.

S. H. PARVIN & SONS, Cincinnati, have just celebrated their fortieth anniversary as a business concern. This is the pioneer newspaper advertising agency of the West, and THE ECONOMIST is not at a loss to account for its prosperity. All transactions between this paper and the agency have been entirely satisfactory, and as a reliable institution the agency deserves its full degree of success.

CONGRESSMAN HATCH, of Missouri, regards the farmers' demands as so patriotic in principle, so closely allied to the broad fundamental principles of the founders of our government, that the wonder is that they were not universally accepted and promptly complied with.

So says the Union Banner, Rush Hill, Mo. Is Mr. Hatch in favor of the sub-treasury bill, or government loans on land security?

Most emphatically not. Does he favor government control of railroads? No one ever heard him say so. Does he believe in the abolition of national banks? Let him say so loud enough to be heard. Does he favor a graduated income tax and the election of United States Senators by direct vote? No one knows. Does he favor absolute free coinage? If so, why did he not make a fight for it. What, then, does he favor that is found in the Ocala platform? Simply a reduction of the tariff, like all other Democrats. Such sentiments as quoted above are purely bosh, and will not stand the test of a rigid investigation.

WALL street dictation or the rule of the people in Mississippi is now on trial. Which shall it be? The Alliance is for the people.

A Circular Letter.

In organizing a Lecture Bureau, or educational system, as shown by extracts of recent proceedings of the National Executive Board, published in another column, a wise and benevolent movement has been inaugurated. It is, in fact, the establishment of a perfectly reliable and convenient medium, through

which the very best information upon all subjects pertaining to our Order and of public interest may be transmitted at nominal cost direct to the wealth-producing classes, the classes who feed the world, free from the false constructions of partisan intrigue and the base deductions of plutocracy. Free governments are born of honest and patriotic hearts and the intelligent minds of a just and a liberty-loving people among the farming and laboring classes. It is well known that all great reforms are led by the people, and not by plutocratic politicians and emissaries employed by a few corporations and the would-be kings to oppress the many; and all history has shown, when the people have become oppressed and heavily mortgaged, and but little or no money is in circulation, that the largest class of the people become indifferent and indolent; thus they became ignorant and their families grow up uneducated and debased, because a few control everything, and the result is not the greatest good to the greatest number.

Therefore it is eminently and vitally important that the best modes and the purest channels must be utilized in disseminating and transmitting such information as will tend to improve their minds, stimulate their patriotism, strengthen and encourage their energies. Therefore, the National Lecture Bureau hereby calls for the active co-operation of every president, every lecturer, and every citizen interested in our educational work; to forward all information, pamphlets, documents and speeches that they may have on hand, or can readily prepare at once, to the National Lecture Bureau, 239 North Capitol street, Washington, D. C., together with names and post office addresses of senders.

Fraternally, J. F. TILLMAN.

The California Bankers Throw Out a Feeler.

Capital Journal (Salem, Oregon). At the Los Angeles bankers' convention, the following resolution was offered and discussed:

Resolved, That this convention respectfully request Congress at its next session to devise a more uniform money system for the people of the United States, with the gold dollar as a standard unit of value, using gold, silver and currency for a circulating medium, in a sufficient volume to fully meet and keep pace with the growing wants of the business of the country, founding the issue of currency upon the wealth of the whole nation, making gold, silver and currency a legal tender and exchangeable at par on demand, and fixing by a constitutional amendment the legality of such a circulating medium and preventing the dangers of inflation, contraction, repudiation or change in the standard of values.

The California bankers represent an enormous volume of capital and are perhaps the most conservative class of men who could be got together to express an opinion on finance. The resolution is a liberal one, considering its source and shows quite a growth of popular sentiment even among bankers. The idea of "founding the issue of currency upon the wealth of the whole nation" is not new. It has been the fundamental principle of old-time Republicans and members of the greenback party that the nation had power to issue a currency founded upon the wealth of the nation. It is quite surprising to behold recognition of the fiat principle at a bankers' convention. The proceedings do not show that the resolution was adopted. It was not challenged however, and was undoubtedly thrown out to feel of public sentiment. If it became necessary, we presume the banking interests, as well as the politicians, would be willing to retain political power by pretending to stand upon a platform which they would afterwards evade. The introducer of the resolution construed it into a demand for a greater volume of currency.

The Use of the Black Ball.

Aliance Free Lance, Springfield, Ill.

The black ball used indiscreetly can be of great injury to our Order, hence it should be called into action only in extreme cases. No candidate can be balloted for who has not been recommended by two members in good standing. Then a committee of three is appointed to investigate the character of the applicant. Now, if this committee

does its duty and should report favorable, then a ballot is taken, and in this you should not oppose the admission of any one-to-member organization particularly on account of personal matters. Neither should you propose for membership any person that you do not think would be a proper candidate. The presidents of sub-Alliances can not too strongly impress upon the minds

of the members the obligation that they have taken; and if all members have the proper regard for the principles of the Order they would do nothing that would cast a reflection on the Order. The oftener the black ball is called into use the more animosity will be engendered, which is a detriment to any organization. We say in our preamble that we will constantly strive to secure harmony and good will among all mankind, and brotherly love among ourselves \* \* \* aiming to suppress personal, local, sectional, and national prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry and all selfish ambition. Let us do our duties, for it is said in Holy Writ that he that knoweth his duty and doeth it not shall be beaten with many stripes.

Senator J. Z. George, Clod Hopper, Kosciusko, Miss.

The Alliance has greater grounds to antagonize this Senator than the other, since he has always proposed to be a friend to the poor and the farmer, and to serve them in a public capacity from a true Democratic stand point. Senator George was on the Committee of Agriculture, to which committee in the Senate was referred the sub-treasury bill, and before whom appeared the authorized agents of a million farmers, asking that the bill be considered and amended by the committee, and reported to the Senate for discussion. Senator George remained perfectly silent on the matter, and though there was an appeal time and again made for the consideration of the measure, he joined the band of Republican and Democratic Senators to endeavor to kill the move, by treating it with silent contempt. Since then, more than a year afterwards, when driven to the wall by his home constituency, he declares against the measure. Will Mississippi farmers permit their chosen representatives in their great, good, and patriotic move thus treated, and not rebuke the act? Farmers in an organized capacity, can rule the government if they but stick to their demands as a unit, while in a separate disorganized state they are tricked and caucused out of politics entirely. The Alliance should as a unit, demand the next Legislature to supplant this Senator with one who will hear our organization, and labor to have Congress look into its demands, and if action thereon is needed, to act. Mississippi must send two sub-treasury Senators at all hazards, and we should all begin at once, and be sure that we fight to win, because we are sure of the organized opposition of all the larger towns of the State, with their demagogical, political tricksters, and little bought up one-horse newspapers, called the press.

BOOK REVIEW.

A PECCULAR BOOK.—"The Silver Question" is a book that contains in condensed form and in plain words that any one of ordinary intelligence can understand, all that people who can devote but little time to the study of economic questions, need to know on that subject. Each chapter is a separate article and can be read without reference to the rest of the work. Price, 10 cents. To be had of the author, Robert Schilling, 482 Market street, Milwaukee, Wis. Agents wanted.

## APPLIED SCIENCE

In Agricultural and Rural Economy.

EDITED BY DR. M. G. ALSTY.  
WORCESTER, MASS.

## AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE.

As a sample of the current work of agricultural stations and scientific deductions based upon it, the following is offered to our readers. We quote from an article on strawberries in the *American Farmer*. As we are nearing what the great and good Hiawatha termed "the pleasant moon of strawberries," this science may be admitted to be reasonable. Speaking of the best way to grow strawberries the article before us says:

A Tennessee analysis gives the following as their composition from which the best fertilizer to use on them may be determined: Water, 90.52 per cent; dry matter, 9.48 per cent; of which glucose, 3.78 per cent; cane sugar, .58 per cent; free acid as malic, 1.37 per cent; ash, .62 per cent; crude fiber, 1.55 per cent; ether extract, .64 per cent; crude protein, .99 per cent; non-nitrogenous extract, 5.76 per cent.

Now, in what way the best fertilizer to use on strawberries is to be determined from the data furnished by the above analysis may be a thing which a tyro should discover at a glance, but this present writer finds the problem too steep for his powers. Water, it should seem, would be the best as there is more of it in the strawberry than of everything else in the proportion of nearly nine for one. But if we may rely on the clouds for water, nearly one-tenth of the strawberry is dry matter of which one-half is glucose. So, then, one-half of the manure ought to be golden syrup. "Cane sugar, .58; crude fiber, 1.55." After April 1st cane sugar will be cheap and pine tags will do for crude fiber. There is a great deal of free malic acid, and a few cabbage leaves will furnish that, for, says Burton, the learned monk, in his *Anatomy of Melancholy*, cabbage preventeth drunkenness by virtue of the juice thereof, which containeth an acid. "Ether extract" and "crude protein" would be furnished by kitchen slops, and the "non-nitrogenous extract" abounds overmuch in poor land. The conclusion that an analysis of a plant gives the clue to the manure best for its growth is unscientific and at variance with common experience. For example, the legumes are rich in nitrogen variously combined, yet instead of nitrogen being especially useful to them applied as manure, they leave the land far richer in nitrogen than they found it. Again, what manure produces glucose, or cane sugar, or malic acid? What shall we apply to produce "ash;" and what is "ash" anyhow? Again, if a plant contains much lime does that imply that we must fertilize it with lime, or does it rather imply that the plant absorbs and assimilates the crude forms of lime, very abundant in the soil, with great facility? It would be a delightfully simple science if we could by analysis classify all plants as lime plants to be manured with lime; potash plants to be manured with potash; soda plants to be manured with soda. Does this sort of science apply also

to animals? And if to animals, also to man? Shall we analyze the cadaver and determine a ration for their living? In good old nursery days we used to be told that little girls are made of sugar and spice and everything nice; but boys are made of spiders and snails and puppy dogs' tails. We submit to the Tennessee College these data, and beg that it will determine accordingly how boys and girls should be respectively fed. It will be quite as easy to determine from the "Tennessee analysis" how to manure strawberries. This sort of thing is not science, and it is a thing very remote from common sense. There are hundreds of persons in this country capable of executing a few fairly accurate analyses which they have been shown how to execute. There are, perhaps, three great chemists capable of interpreting correctly, and applying usefully, the data furnished by an analysis.

## TAXATION A FACTOR IN COST OF PRODUCTION.

It is obvious that the tax paid on the tools and implements used, and the raw materials of manufacture enter into the cost of production. Too broad a distinction exists in the minds of some between agriculture and manufacture. A farmer is at once a manufacturer and a merchant. What is the essential difference between the manufacture of butter and cheese, and the manufacture of butcher meat or leather? The tax on land, on live stock, on implements of culture, on fertilizers is a large part of the cost of production, whatever be the product of the farm. Behold then the inconsistency of some who pose as thinkers and thought leaders, and teachers of the people. They tell us, Mr. Edward Atkinson tells us, that taxation is so increased by the high tariff that it is the great crushing load which is breaking the back of American agriculture, and yet we are told, Mr. Atkinson tell us, that the cost of production is vastly lessened, and therefore products have gone down in price, and wages gone up. Now listen, wages gone up, hours shortened, tariff taxation increased beyond possible endurance; and yet the cost of production vastly decreased by improved implements and processes, and therefore agriculture is prosperous, and labor also prosperous, and but for the McKinley bill would be prosperous beyond all precedent. Cleveland and the Mills bill, and the standard gold dollar will make glorious summer of this, the winter of our discontent. Finally, to lift us into the third heaven of prosperity and happiness, the Edward Atkinson oven is ushered into the world. In that oven can be baked with three cents worth of coal oil, three square meals for a family of working people, which square meals can be bought under the direction to accompany the oven for a quarter of a dollar. And now therefore if anybody is poor, it is the result of ignorance and incapacity. Nevertheless the aggregate difference between the tax levied by the Mills bill and that by the McKinley bill amounts to a matter of seven per cent. Both bills are the same in principle,

both are protective tariffs. Both bills are bad in many of their parts and good in a few of their features. In some respects the Mills bill is better, in some respects much worse than the McKinley bill. It is difficult to determine which of these is the better or which the worse measure as a whole. Both fully recognize and apply the vicious principle of taxing one class for the benefit of another, and the difference between them is in the manner of doing it.

**ONE VIEW OR FREE COINAGE.**  
A correspondent is informed that the expressions "free coinage" and "unlimited coinage" mean the same thing. In relation to silver they mean the absence of restraint upon persons who wish to have silver coined into silver dollars. If the free coinage proposed in the bill passed recently by the Senate had meant the coining of one hundred cents' worth of silver into dollars, there would have been little objection to it, but the bill proposed the coining of dollars worth but seventy-five cents, which were to pass for one hundred cents.

So says the Baltimore Sun of March 17th. But there were 103 cents in the silver dollar when demonetized.

Taxation in every form is increased. State, municipal and local taxes make an aggregate more oppressive than the extravagant and indefensible federal system.

There is one view of the matter of taxation which seems not to have received the attention it deserves. It is this, the payment of the mercantile profit on the tax by the government.

It means taking silver as a commodity out of the hands of syndicates who deal corruptly between the people and the government, and make large profits which ought to go into the pockets of the people.

The pretense that the value in gold at 20 per cent premium of the amount of silver, as

the duty he would sell it for two dollars, with the duty he sells it for four dollars.

The merchant or manufacturer who pays a tax on his merchandise simply adds the tax to the cost of his goods and charges the same profit on the tax as on any other part of the cost.

So the tariff is virtually a part of the importer's stock in trade.

When we say that the consumer

pays the tax that is the truth, but by no means the whole truth. He

pays the tax and the merchants or manufacturer's profit on the tax besides.

The wholesale dealer

charges the duty to the retailer

and also his profit on the duty.

The retailer charges his customer

a profit on the tax with the whole sale profit added.

## Senator George on the Sub-treasury.

The Clodhopper (Kosciusko, Miss.)

Gen. George has also sat down on the Alliance, so we are to consider the arguments he alleges against the sub-treasury bill, as he says it is called. We want to know of Gen. George, if the government has never loaned money for any purpose. Mr. George desires to create the impression that it is not the object of this bill to circulate the currency of the government, but to let the farmer start a banking system on his cotton by asking a credit or loan from the government. We would ask him, is not the issuance of all currency by this American government, based upon some source of wealth, like the silver certificate upon the silver bullion, and the gold certificate upon the gold bullion, or gold interest bearing bond; and all other moneys are based upon the entire volume of money in use, so as to enable them to expand or contract it at will. Under such circumstances how is it possible that anybody can live by agriculture and not encroach upon his capital to make ends meet? Evidently it is not possible. And when in addition to all these facts there is the additional fact that the government has to redeem the money they issue, but the General don't call it a loan because the borrower does not pay any per cent. We differ by saying it is

millions of the most productive property in the country legally escapes or fraudulently evades taxation; it ought not to be believed that agriculture can prosper.

## ONE VIEW OR FREE COINAGE.

not a loan, as Senator George would have our people to believe; but is a favor that the farmer gives to this "limited charter," called the sub-treasury to issue it and circulate it, and if it is wrong, please point us to a more just method, and we will heartily accept, if there is not too much red tape about it.

Kansas Mortgages.  
Hazen (Kan.) Independent.

An agent of an English company organized under the laws of New York has been in town a couple of days for the purpose of obtaining figures on defaulting Kansas mortgages. It is the purpose of the company to buy up all such mortgages as can be obtained at satisfactory discount and foreclose the same. Having secured the titles the lands will be offered to actual settlers on ten or twenty years' time, at a low rate of interest. No cash payment at the time of purchase will be required, and the payments will be made so easy that a thrifty man may pay for his farm out of his labor. The agent has employed a law firm in Atchison to assist the company in making bargains for mortgages and foreclosing them afterward. The company has a capital of \$1,000,000. There is another company in New York organized for the same purpose.

## The Meeting Next May.

Industrial Free Press (Winfield, Kan.)

As to that reform meeting on May 19, we believe it to be a mistake for several reasons, the most prominent of which is that it is too early and the industrial organizations have agreed to hold a meeting in February, 1892, hence what

is the use of this meeting unless it is to enable a few to air themselves? Good reformers they may be and true, but their zeal urges them along sometimes faster than the rank and file can follow. Ambitious, they are determined to lead, to be at the front, but the reform movement not having permeated all sections of the country alike we see these over-zealous

reformers putting their outposts so far ahead that the rank and file cannot reach it. We should be patient, wait until the public mind is ripe for the new party movement in all sections, then go ahead. As a result of this early meeting these hasty reformers will find that they will at last be compelled to wait until public opinion can catch up with them and will lose more time than they gain.

Private Pension Bills.  
Alliance Advocate (Indianapolis, Ind.)

Since the war, Congress has shamefully squandered money enough to have paid off the national debt several times. The river and harbor appropriations have served as an excuse for fearful frauds. Private enterprises could make one dollar go farther than ten dollars do when appropriated by Congress. And the ship subsidy steal will soon rival the old time steals. But for brazen-faced frauds just look at the private pension steal! It is a disgrace to our country, and an insult to our veterans. It is a confessed fact by Congress that a just and equitable pension law does not exist. If it does exist, then why not make all entitled to pension apply under that law? Why are so many worthy soldiers compelled, after applying for a pension, to wait

years and years and finally die without obtaining a pension, while the United States Senate can pass one hundred and fifteen private pension bills in forty-five minutes? How can Senators investigate the merits of one hundred and fifteen bills in forty-five minutes? The scheme is infamous. If such claims are meritorious and Congress has enacted a general and meritorious law why not make such applicants take under that law?

The truth is, these private pension bills are simply acts of favoritism accorded to personal friends of members of Congress to be paid for by log rolling for the members. This thing has gone on until the pension bureau is loaded down and the people beginning to weigh against the whole system. We demand of the incoming House of Representatives, fresh from the people, that the number of private pensioners and the amount paid them annually, be published to the world, and then wipe out the whole business. The fossilized Senate can't stand before such an exhibit.

Suggestion to the Alliance.  
Garden City Alliance (San Jose, Cal.)

A farmer called the attention of the Times this week to the fact that the Southern Pacific railroad had charged him \$125 to bring a harvester from Stockton to Visalia. He said it required but one car for the service, and that on many other classes of freight the rates were much less. He then

look into the matter and presented the company from robbing the farmers. Another farmer, who does not believe in sitting quietly down and submitting to extortionate charges, even from the railroad company, said that last year he had some freight that he wished hauled by the railroad, and upon ascertaining the rate, concluded

that it would be more than he could afford to pay. He hitched up his own team and hauled it himself, making on the trip, at the rate the company wanted to charge him, \$10 a day while engaged in the work.

"Why," said he, "If the Farmers Alliance object to the high freight rate charged by the Southern Pacific, they can easily get a reduction. Let them have their goods shipped by boat from San Francisco to Stockton. They can get that done for \$1 per ton.

Then they can take six horses and two wagons and make the trip to Stockton and return in 14 days at the outside. They could easily transport five tons, which, at the rate charged by the railroad, would amount to \$125. This would make \$8 a day for them, counting freight but one way. If they had a load both ways, they would make \$16 a day. If the Farmers Alliance would resolve as a body that they would pursue the course I have indicated, we would soon hear no complaints about high rates.

The railroad people are only human, and having a monopoly, squeeze all they can out of the people whom they imagine are at their mercy. As soon as they meet organized resistance, they will reduce their rate so low that it will not pay a farmer to use his teams in opposition to them. When they do this, complaints

## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

44

"will cease." It is currently thought that the Lord helps the man who helps himself. If this is a fact, the farmers can get lower freight rates by starting an opposition to the Southern Pacific and hauling their own freight.—Visalia Times. The above showing as regards the shipment of freight through our interior counties is bad indeed for both producer and consumer, but not worse than with the fruit men through the State. Last season was productive, the yield of fruit enormous, prices good, \$1,500,000 worth of fruit being sold. Yet we learn that of this sum the railroads kept \$8,523.20 more than one-half of the total amount sold.

## Postal Service.

Comparisons just completed at the Postoffice Department, under the direction of Postmaster General Wanamaker, show that:

The appropriations for the postal service for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1889, amounted to \$60,860,233.74; the appropriations for the year ended June 30, 1890, amounted to \$66,605,344.28, an increase of \$5,745,110.54.

The appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891, amounted to \$72,226,668.99, an increase of \$5,621,354.71.

The appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1892, amounted to \$77,907,222.61, an increase over 1891 of \$5,689,732.62, making a total increase in the three first fiscal years of this administration of \$17,046,988.87. The postal revenues for the fiscal year ending June, 1889, aggregated \$56,148,014.92. The revenues for the fiscal year ended June, 1890, amounted to \$60,958,783.40, an increase over 1889, of \$4,710,768.48. The nearly for the fiscal year ending June, 1891, are estimated at \$67,208,65.44; berry, is increase over 1890 of \$6,238,882.04, half is given for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1892, are estimated at \$73,955,031.98, an increase over 1891 of \$6,656,365.54, total increase for the first full three years of this administration of \$17,807,017.06.

The deficiency in the postal revenue at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889, was \$6,407,432.86; the deficiency for 1890 was \$5,786,300.04; a reduction of \$21,324.46, the deficiency at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891, is estimated at \$5,581,615.19, a reduction as compared with 1890 of \$194,688.21.

The estimated deficiency at the close of the year ending June 30, 1892, is \$3,560,862.43, a reduction as compared with 1891, of \$1990,752.76; a total reduction of the postal deficiency, during the first three years of this administration, of \$2,816,570.40.

To sum up the increase in revenues of the postal service for these three years equals the full amount of the increase in appropriations for those years and \$760,028.19 in addition, and the decrease in the postal deficiency for the same three years will be nearly \$3,000,000.

The Progressive Age (Minneapolis, Minn.) says:

The condition of public opinion in this country is not the most encouraging, when we consider the difficulty realized in making popular any reform. It often occurs that the reform has the passive assent of the people, yet because of the lethargy of those whose interests are at stake, is practicable impossible to create a movement of any momentum. The contaminating flood of ill-bred men and women into our country, is one reason for this sluggishness. Not but that there are good ones who come to our shores. We are glad to welcome them. We do regret to be compelled to acknowledge that a large majority of our immigrants are averse to our civilization. They are wholly unconscious of our greatest needs, and cannot be expected to respond to the call of the leaders of the various reform movements. The condition of public thought is, in many respects, alarming. The pandering of the daily press is an evidence that every man and woman, who has an interest in America, should make their lives count in the public interest.

## THE REFORM PRESS.

The Discussion of Current Topics in the Organized States.

The Alliance Vindicator (Sulphur Springs, Tex.) says:

Wonder why it is that every member of the Alliance who intimates that he doesn't exactly favor the sub-treasury is taken up by the partisan press and heralded over the country as a leader in the Alliance movement and one of the most level-headed deep-thinking members in the whole organization? Kind reader, can you imagine why this is? You may paste this in your hat, that those news scatterers who are constantly finding Alliance men who are opposed to the chief demand of your Order are no friends of yours and would gladly grasp an opportunity to forever stop the existence of your organization. Papers that have been loudest in proclaiming their friendship for you, are those same papers that are now finding so many anti-sub-treasury Alliance men. Mark you, they never make any notes of the many thousands who favored the demands at St. Louis and reiterated them at Ocala. It is only those who are not in full accord with the reform movement that they pick up and make heroes of.

The Industrial Educator (Ft. Worth, Tex.) true every word:

Remember that the harder the times are for the farmers, merchants, and laborers, the better they are for the Goulds, Vanderbilt, Sages, Astors, Rockefellers, &c. Their prosperity is our adversity.

The Voice (Batesville, Ark.) says:

Nearly the whole financial policy of the Alliance is included in the first demand. The abolition of the national banks, the establishment of sub-treasuries and the loaning of money on land is really the most important portion of the money question. The equitable distribution and free circulation of money is fully as important as its creation. These institutions will accomplish the things most desired by the people, and will also do the things most hateful to the banker, the speculator, the Shylock. But the Savior spared neither the feelings nor the backs of the money changers and brokers, so why should we? Let us strive for future justice to the people, and there is no danger of our millionaires starving if we do cut off their profitable business.

The National Alliance (Houston, Tex.) gives good advice for all:

Members of the Colored Farmers Alliance: Do you know that while you are buying badges and regalia, and all that kind of thing and not subscribing for your paper nor paying your dues, you are very liable to absolutely break up your Alliance? Most men buy bread first and after that fine clothing, and men who buy the fine clothes first, very often have to do without the bread. There are very many of the States that have made no reports and paid no dues, and yet we get thousands of letters from them asking about badges and regalia. We want to remind you that when you have not paid dues for six months you stand suspended from the Alliance and would not be allowed to wear its badges or regalia, or if you wear them you would have to wear them backward. Had you not better attend to your dues and subscribe for your paper and try to get some benefits from the Alliance? Without the paper, or the information it contains the Alliance can be of no more use to you than a second rider to a tired horse. Depend upon it, the Alliance was organized to do you good and to help your children after you. But you all know that any one of you can lead a horse to water, while twenty can not make him drink. Unless you take your paper and take it at once, the Alliance can be of little use to you.

The Arkansas Economist, Searcy, Ark., says:

The people are the government; they are all powerful, having the right to make, amend or abolish constitutions. If they, through their delegated representatives, decide that an increase of currency is necessary, they have the right to decide as to the character of said currency, and how it shall be distributed. If a majority decide upon a greenback issue, and that it shall be based upon the non-perishable products of the land, who will dare say it unconstitutional? Who dares question the right of the people to rule?

The Kansas (Wichita) Commoner says:

The old politician thinks that he has settled the question of government ownership of the railroads when he says they would cost \$9,000,000,000, or at the rate of \$6,000 per mile. Why, he says, the government could never assume such a vast amount of debt as that. Well, what is the matter with the government taking them at their assessed value for taxable purposes, say about \$6,000 per mile?

Farmers Herald (Smithville, Mo.) says:

Take the sub-treasury plank out of our platform and you have taken the meat out of the coconut. This is what our enemies of the coconuts. They are thoroughly cognizant of general principles and often fail utterly to comprehend their specific application. This is assuredly true of some who, from ignorance, oppose the Alliance demands. There are those, however, who cannot be acceded the excuse

of ignorance, and they, preface, are set down among those whose opposition is venal. A man who claims to be an Alliance man, and yet make captious objections to every definite demand of the organization is certainly not true to the cause.

The Peninsula Farm (Federalsburg, Md.) says:

From all parts of the country comes evidence of a concerted attack on the Order by that class of politicians that the success of the Alliance would retire to private life. Where the Order is strong, then the attempt is made to divide them on some public question, the sub-treasury or free coinage measures being those preferred, but where it is weak, then it takes the form of trying to hold back the organization of Alliances by representing that it is in the interest of some political party or other falsehoods concerning the workings and interests of the Order.

Notwithstanding this, the Farmers Alliance is growing fast and next fall will show that Ingalls was not the only politician to mistake the signs of the times.

Clothesline (Kosciusko, Miss.) says:

Messrs. Beaman and McAllister, in their pieces, allege that they are for the Democratic platform and white supremacy. As to the Democratic platform, they should at once have judgment enough to know the Alliance will not carry them and their ideas when they are antagonistic to our published declarations, and resign their places, which, though small, are "too big" to be filled by them. As to white supremacy in Mississippi, we have to say that forty such minds banded together could not drive the sub-treasury Alliance men into any other field. We are going to do our work inside the white supremacy party. If we could get representative State Alliance of farmers, and leave all little town corporation Alliance organ editors and other shysters who have no more business in an Alliance than an educated hog, the State Alliance would have no such output as these two learned gentlemen. The farmers compose the white supremacy party, and the Alliance is composed of farmers, and every Alliance man to about eight out of ten is in favor of the sub-treasury bill. Our Alliance wiseacres will find out whether this so-called Democratic press (but which should be styled the press owned by the incorporation where it is situated) and the lame little Alliance leaders will say who are our next United States Senators or not. They float high at present, but soon it will be said of them,

"When they lived, they lived in clover;

"When they died, they died all over."

The Alliance Herald (Montgomery, Ala.) says:

The next dodge the politicians will make on the free coinage question is that it is a local matter, within the province of the respective States to regulate; and that it can not be a national question. That is good States rights doctrine, and it is true. But if free coinage is eliminated nothing but the tariff will remain; and nobody can be bamboozled with that. The Ocala demands must receive recognition or there is a funeral awaiting the refusals. The demands of the people must be met. If the parties refuse, it looks very much like they will attend to their political business.

To show how widespread falsehoods may find lodgement in the minds of good reform editors, it is only necessary to couple with the following paragraph from

The Monitor (St. Louis, Mo.), the comment that there is as yet no State Alliance in New York, and therefore, whoever claims to be president of such a body is a fraud:

The Kansas (Wichita) Commoner says:

U. S. Hall, President of the F. & L. U., of Missouri, and Mr. Livingstone who occupies a similar position in New York, are doing their best to deliver the bodies over which they preside to the Democratic party. But the great body of the farmers will remain true to the principles of the St. Louis and Ocala demands.

Farm Record, Aya, Mo., says:

There are a few members of the Alliance who, so long as the organization's action was vague and indefinite, hurried with loud voice and declared that the Alliance would live forever. All acknowledged that its principles were pure. Everyone predicted Alliance success. Their subsequent action in many instances has proven that while a person may be

in this great effort for economic reform,

it would give them joy unspeakable.

To divide our ranks and to launch us into a

sea of strife and discord is their hope by day and their dream by night. The gold bugs of this country can tolerate anything

on earth, save an interference with our

lives count in the public interest. All

present monetary system. Their only hope is to perpetuate the present condition of things. It is not strange that they should oppose the sub-treasury scheme or any other scheme that is designed to relieve the masses of the burdens that now so sorely oppress them. The sub-treasury scheme means nothing more or less than a flexible volume of currency, sufficient to meet the varied demands of trade.

The Jackson (Mich.) Industrial News says:

Throw your eyes to the economic question, which is the question of the present and the future. Understand that in the past mankind evolved, under the law of biology, in the severe struggle for life, it was merely due to the fact that the products, the necessities of life, were limited. But to-day products are plenty and distribution wrong. Sociology teaches us to replace the wrong system by a just and equitable system.

Farm View (Porterville, Cal.) says:

That farmer is a poor supporter of his own cause, who only takes a journal that advocates the interests of the old parties through which he has been so long robbed. Would it not be a good idea for him to take at least one journal in which he can see presented his own side of the questions of the day? The professions of a reformer are best judged by his actions in supporting the cause with something more than wind.

The People's Press (New Castle, Ind.) says:

Take good care of your sub-Alliance; use every means to keep it pure; strive to make it an educator; labor to keep up an interest; teach the doctrine of truth, justice and social equality; stimulate the young mind as well as the old to a higher and nobler purpose in life; cultivate a high degree of social fellowship in the Order; invite free discussion on the living issues of the day; do not expect to accomplish too much in one day, but be satisfied to see your strength increase day by day.

The Industrial Union (Kokomo, Ind.) says:

The above letter from Mr. Anderson, "New York," Bolivar County Review, (Rosedale, Miss.) says:

Hon. Frank Burkitt says Alliance men in the State are practically solid for the sub-treasury bill. They are as a unit for it in Bolivar county.

The Industrial Union, (Kokomo, Ind.) says:

Some time ago the Gazette Tribune said:

"At no time in the history of Kokomo would an honest dollar purchase as much as it will now." We will admit this, but it occurs to our mind that this is not what the people are wanting. The purchasing power of the dollar is too great; the price of money is too high. When a dollar is so large that it commands an extortiorate rate of interest, when it is so big that it will buy a wagon load of produce, when it is so great that it will purchase half a month's labor, it is a mighty good thing for the man that has the dollar, but a mighty poor thing for the man that has something to sell. What the people want is a cheaper money, for it is easier to get and will pay debts just the same as a dear money. A cheaper money means a low rate of interest, and that is why the money men fight it. The money kings want a dear money, they always wants Wells, Richardson & Co.'s Improved Butter Color.

George Jackson, Beach Grove Farm, Ind., for a long time editor of the Dairy Department of the Jersey Bulletin, writes: "Wells, Richardson & Co.'s Improved Butter Color was used. This award has largely increased the sale of the Improved Butter Color, for every progressive dairyman wants to use the best. Don't let your dealer sell you other kinds on which he makes a large profit.

No dairyman can afford to be

without it, for it is unequalled in strength and natural June color. Send three two cent stamps to W. O. Jones, with Wells, Richardson & Co., Burlington, Vt., for postage and packing of a sample bottle (to color 60 pounds), and see for yourselves how far ahead it is of ordinary butter color. If you never colored your butter, this article will increase its value several cents a pound.

Chas. Robinson & Son, Barre Plains, Mass., Holstein-Friesian breeders, write: "Wells, Richardson & Co.'s Improved Butter Color is the most economical we know of."

Gen. L. F. Ross, Proprietor of Mt. Prospect farm, near Iowa City, Iowa, and breeders of Red Polled cattle, finds Wells, Richardson & Co.'s Improved Butter Color with others, and found it to be freer from sediment, more uniform in quality, and that it colors more butter at the same cost."

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Crawfordsville (Ga.) Document says:

An experienced teacher says that pupils who have access to newspapers at home, when compared with those who have not, are better readers, better spellers, better grammarians, better punctuators, and read more understandingly, and obtain a practical knowledge of geography in almost half the time it requires the others. The newspaper is decidedly an important factor in modern life. This will not be disputed by any one who has taken the trouble to investigate the matter for himself.

Alliance Advocate (Louisville, Tenn.) says:

The Alliance is no longer on probation. It has come to stay. Its principles are clearly defined and easily understood. The organization is not fighting Democrats and Republicans, but has organized for self protection. When either party or the leaders of either party ignore the interest of the laboring class, then through the pure reform education instilled into the minds of all of its members, they will receive a rebuke that will be a lesson worth remembering.

In connection with this we would

say that Wells, Richardson & Co.'s Improved Butter Color is thoroughly reliable and one that we can recommend to all dairymen. From a letter recently written by Mrs. H. P. Dunham, Lenexa, Kansas, we quote: "Several of my neighbors said they

would not use anything to color

## A BUTTER BUYER'S ADVICE.

How Butter Makers Can Get Higher Prices.

## LETTER FROM PROMINENT DAIRY-MEN.

Alliance Advocate (Louisville, Tenn.) says:

The effort to make the tariff the main issue in 1892 will not be endorsed by the people. The farmers will not accept the second place in candidate or platform.

Farm View (Porterville, Cal.) says:

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Opinion. This course has been suggested by me to my clients, and by them adopted during the past twenty-two years. Full information in pamphlet form as to costs and what is requisite on part of an Inventor to secure Patent, Caveats, &amp;c., sent free on request.

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The Ingersoll Liquid Paints are the only Paints known to science that will successfully resist the action of the sun's rays, salt air and water, so destructive to all other Paints, particularly in the Southern climate. Hon. O. H. Kelly, founder of the Order Patrons of Husbandry, writes from Florida: "The Ingersoll Paint, which I have thoroughly tested in this climate during the past five years, is certainly all you claim for it. The salt air from the Gulf has no visible effect." Thousands of farmers and Alliance members in every State testify from personal experience the truth of this.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

We want to hear from the Purchasing Agent of every Lodge in the United States within the next thirty days—for appointment as Agent. Write for particulars "under seal," sending certificate of authority signed by Ex. Com.; also forward list of all property owners in your Lodge, with post office addresses—will write them requesting they order through you. Presidents, Secretaries, and Members, let us hear from you. Remember, we sell you "DIRECT" at full wholesale prices, saving you the entire middleman's profit, and furnishing a Paint which forty-eight years' use has proved to be the most durable and color-lasting known. Sample cards painted with the Paint, confidential wholesale discounts, and particulars free. Write at once.

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## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

stir up strife over the old question of protection. McKinley is in the East and North explaining the beauties of the late tariff bill, and others are holding meetings in various parts of the country for the same purpose. On the other hand, the Democrats, especially the Cleveland wing, are not idle—they are working systematically and incessantly to bring about an uprising on the part of Democracy for another campaign for free trade. The following is taken from the Washington Star and throws considerable light on the subject:

The leading tariff reformers, those who want the next presidential campaign to be fought on the tariff issue, are exerting themselves to the utmost to prevent the silver or any other question from assuming such prominence as to distract attention from the issue they want to be the main one. The question of Mr. Cleveland's candidacy in '92 depends largely on the result of this effort. If silver is made the main issue Cleveland cannot, of course, make the canary, and, as the most earnest tariff reformers declare, the issue upon which the Democrats have been battling all along, and upon which they gained the victory last fall, will be robbed of its potency and much of their labor of love will be lost. Even though they believe in free coinage of silver and intend to bring it about, if possible, they do not want to suddenly discard an issue upon which they are united and can bring out all their strength, in order to give greater prominence to one which, while a majority of them favor it, there is a division upon in the party. The educational campaign on the tariff has been going on without interruption, but the danger of its being crowded out by other issues has excited the most radical tariff reformers to re-subdue efforts and by some clubs "documents" advancing absolute free trade are being sent out. The advanced position taken by the farmers on the question has encouraged the most vigorous attacks upon the whole protective system, as represented by this administration and the last Congress. The "Hand-to-Hand Club," of which Logan Carlisle, son of Senator Carlisle of Kentucky, is president, is sending into all parts of the country thousands upon thousands of Henry George's book, "Protection or Free Trade" more than a hundred thousand volumes have been distributed already, and Mr. Carlisle says that they expect to distribute a million copies of the book. These books are being sent among the farmers of the West in great numbers. Probably no author has ever had his works so widely distributed, and it is the belief of those who are circulating the book that it will find readers in nearly every household where it is received.

It is but fair to say that all their efforts are meeting with poor success; that the people are tired of the question of tariff and can see nothing to their advantage in its continual discussion to the exclusion of all other economic measures. They are determined to have some legislation on matters of land, transportation and money before the tariff shall again absorb the attention of the people to any great extent. In this discussion they are wise, and upon these lines the Alliance will make a contest.

## THE SCENE OF WAR CHANGING.

Is there anything to attract popular support to the Alliance in the course pursued by its representatives in the States in which they have constituted a majority or a strong party in a State Legislature, or one branch of it? The Missouri Legislature is almost wholly made up of farmers, and it seems to be distinguished by the introduction of many foolish bills and the passage of few useful ones. The record of the lately adjourned Kansas House of Representatives is notorious. The Western railroad employees have formed an association to protect themselves against the railroad-hating granger legislators,

This association is said to number a good many thousand members already, and it could easily become powerful enough to prevent the Alliance from gaining ground. The mechanics and the ranks of unskilled labor could be called upon if necessary for help against the farmers. The Alliance must be disabused of the notion that it can injure the railroad "monopolists" without injuring the railroad workmen. The latter see their employment threatened, their wages liable to be reduced as the result of the blind meddling of the granger Legislatures. The farmers have gone to the length, as they did in the time of the first granger epidemic, of attacking one business for the supposed benefit of their own. They are trying to fatten themselves at the expense of men engaged in other callings. It is a risky experiment for an organization that hopes to grow. There is nothing in this winter's work of the Alliance in the West to excite hopes or fears that it is "building greater than the majority of the people on the Eastern slope are willing to admit." It has shown incapacity, or else a fury to attack the rights of property. It has raised a fresh crop of enemies. In the South the Alliance has political importance chiefly in the sense that it tries, and usually by no means succeeds, to make the Democratic leaders do its bidding, but it has not been able to force the sub-treasury idea upon the Democratic party, nor does it threaten seriously to disturb the Democratic party in national politics.

The above is taken from a leading editorial in the New York Sun, and is therefore sound Democratic doctrine. It sounds remarkably familiar to one who has read the recent utterances of those who are trying to bulldoze or break up the Alliance in the States of Mississippi and Missouri. In fact, it locates the fight against the sub-treasury plan too plainly to be misunderstood. Similar editorials are found in the leading Republican papers of New York, showing clearly that Wall street and its interests dominate both the old parties. This dominant and directing force has been kept in the back-ground until now, but the fight has become so severe that it could remain concealed no longer, and was forced to come out and show its power openly. This it has done, and the Alliance must stand or fall before the assaults of the money owners of the East. The contest has been directed from that source all the time, but in a covert manner.

These great principles were enunciated from his prophetic mind before an acre of land had been granted to railroad corporations. Had they been headed, the 200,000,000 acres that have been thus disposed of would have been kept for free homes for the homeless; the great struggle for shorter hours of labor would have been prevented; the thousands of children that are now being, and have been for years, dwarfed upon the tread-wheels of our factories would have been in school preparing for useful and exemplary lives. That our prisons, insane asylums and poor-houses would have been robbed of their numberless victims and the millions that are squandered for drink, would have been expended in procuring the comforts of life. He refers to another crying evil, the subserviency of the clergy to the rich, as follows:

During the last fiscal year \$12,000,000 was paid out for interest in advance. This enormous sum was paid out of the treasury as interest on bonds about one year before such interest was due. This \$12,000,000 was loaned out to the farmers and business men at about 8 per cent, which made a clear profit or present to the bond owners of \$960,706.12. What reason have these bond owners and bankers for not raising a fund for the family of a man who made them this donation? To

Horace Greeley.  
BY MERLINDA SISINS.

It cannot but strengthen and arouse the hopes and energies of all who are enlisted in this great contest to uplift the hands of the oppressed, to read the seemingly inspired words of the great author, editor, philanthropist and commoner—Horace Greeley. While the great battle of his life was waged against chattel slavery yet, were he living to-day, he could use no stronger language against wage-slavery than the noble sentiments he uttered over fifty years ago. The problems which, he says, incessantly cry out for solution, and can never be stifled, will become even more vehement till they are solved, are these:

Why should those by whose toil all comforts and luxuries are produced, or made available, enjoy so scanty a share of them? Why should a man able and eager to work ever stand idle for want of employment in a world where so much useful work impatiently awaits the doing? Why should a man be required to surrender something of his independence in accepting the employment which will enable him to earn, by honest effort, the bread for his family? Why should the man who faithfully labors for another and receives therefore less than the product of his labor be currently held to be the obliged party, rather than he who buys the work and makes a good bargain of it? In short, why should speculation and scheming ride so jauntily in their carriages, splashing honest work as it trudges humbly and wearily on foot?

Again he announces the eternal fact that—

So long as life is a battle in which men fight, not for, but against each other, the victors must necessarily be few and ever fewer, the victims numberless and ever more helpless.

Such words must have been written with a pen dipped in the living fire of eternal truth. Dwelling upon the fact that the majority of men are poor and uninstructed, he endeavors to show how the condition of the masses can be alleviated by legislation, as follows:

The State should ordain, and the law should be fundamental, that no man may own more than a certain, very limited extent of land; that the State should fix a definition to the phrase, "a day's work;" that the State should see to it that no child grows up in ignorance; that the State is bound to prevent the selling of alcoholic beverages.

These great principles were enunciated from his prophetic mind before an acre of land had been granted to railroad corporations. Had they been headed, the 200,000,000 acres that have been thus disposed of would have been kept for free homes for the homeless; the great struggle for shorter hours of labor would have been prevented; the thousands of children that are now being, and have been for years, dwarfed upon the tread-wheels of our factories

would have been in school preparing for useful and exemplary lives. That our prisons, insane asylums and poor-houses would have been robbed of their numberless victims and the millions that are squandered for drink, would have been expended in procuring the comforts of life. He refers to another crying evil, the subserviency of the clergy to the rich, as follows:

Congress shall have power to coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin.

Just so long as we have several different kinds of money in circulation, and that money controlled by corporations, as at present, any increase in the circulation will be but temporary, followed by contraction which will be disastrous to labor.

The time is not far distant when this people will demand the demonetization of both gold and silver and the issue of one kind of money by government. The power to control the money must be taken out of the hands of corporations and placed in the hands of the people. The following quotation may be of value in

sidering the power of government to issue money. It is from Judge Joel Tiffany, of New York, one of the foremost of jurists:

To coin money and regulate its value as an act of sovereignty involves the right to determine what shall be taken and received as money, at what measure and price it shall be taken. \* \* \* Government, like the Spartan law giver, may put its stamp upon leather and make that currency. \* \* \* Much has been said about paper money, and gold, silver and copper money, but all language is deceptive. There is no such thing legally as gold and silver money, and paper money. Money, as the measure of price or value, is the sovereign authority impressed upon and attached to that which is capable of taking and retaining the impress of that authority. It is the recognized presence of sovereignty in the market and in the court. \* \* \* As a medium of exchange, or a means to an end, it has no value but the sovereign will record upon its face. \* \* \* Its value being fixed by the will of the government, and not by the intrinsic qualities of that upon which it is impressed, legally, it cannot vary. The common idea of coin is, that it must be metal, as distinguished from other substances. But this rests solely in the diction of the sovereign or sovereignty, whether the coin shall be metal, leather, parchment, paper or any other substance, as a question of expediency of political economy, and not authority.

The word "coin," as used in the Constitution, has no reference to the precious metals; for it is a verb and expresses an action and not a name, and means to make or to stamp. Many good things were said by Judge R. W. Hughes on silver coinage in your issue of March 14, but there is one thing he said to which I must take exception; as follows:

Silver, the metal and as metal, is the world's money. A good deal is heard about the "demonetization" of silver. But this metal cannot be demonetized. It is not in the power of local legislation to effect such a purpose. Nature has provided this metal as money most convenient for the use of nine-tenths of the human race.

This sounds too much like the argument of Shylock when he says "law cannot make money nor regulate its value. Money is made and its value fixed by the fiat of Jehovah." This is equal to saying that God made gold money, and the people have no right to try to make anything else money. The people all over the United States repudiate the argument and claims of Shylock, and at present are demanding the free coinage of silver. Soon, very soon, they will demand a more complete finance, that government take away from banking corporations the right, which they now have, to coin money, and also prohibit the payment of interest for the use of money to any person or corporation except to government itself; for the payment of interest, for the use of money to any person, company or corporation, except to government itself, will build up a monopoly, even though it be not more than one per cent per annum. But if paid to government it goes out to defray the expenses of government, and thus returns to the people who pay it.

On with free coinage! as that is a step which will lead us on to that greater reform of Congress assuming the power given it by the Constitution and clearly outlined in the quotation from Judge Tiffany.

Be not hasty to decide.

BY H. A. CRESWELL, N. C.

If we are to judge public feeling by what is published in your valuable paper on the subject, the Alliance, with associated organizations, will have become a partisan political organization in 1892. At one time it

looked as though such action would bring a sectional rupture, but now there seems to be as much feeling in the South for a new party as in the northern and western States. It should be a happy thought paramount to everything else, to every true Alliance man, that nothing should occur to pervert that unanimity of feeling between all sections of our common country so happily brought about by this, the grandest organization the world has ever known. It has been truly said this is a period of organizations. All kinds of business is fast becoming a herd of combinations and trusts. No anti-trust laws will ever be effective in preventing the monopolistic evils of organized capital, and it is only left for the agricultural and laboring people throughout the whole country to keep thoroughly organized and in perfect harmony that they may fight these capitalist powers with their own weapons. The absolute necessity for the perpetuation of the Alliance and all organizations in harmony with it is apparent to every man who has a direct interest in the work, and for this reason we should measure well every step before it is taken; if an attempt at a political organization as a new party of a national character was made and resulted in a failure, it would be the greatest calamity than can possibly befall the Order, if not its death blow. And for this reason I can not believe that the conservative members of the Order, who are the mud sills and ground work of this grand superstructure, are willing to risk the fortunes of this great work in the hazardous venture of a third party movement. There may be a great many noble-minded brethren that sincerely believe that such a movement would be for the best. There may be a genuine necessity for such a movement in some sections, or even States; and it should be for the brethren, when and where such necessity occurs, to decide the matter for themselves; but in this State I am satisfied the people would resist such an effort. Let the question of a third party be discussed in a practical and conservative manner, and when it is seen that the brethren everywhere are unanimous for such a movement, then and not until then will such a venture be safe. The political object of the Alliance is to secure legislation in behalf of its demands. "There is no success like success." The Alliance with less than 15 per cent of the voting population has secured, principally within old party lines, nearly 20 per cent of the members of the Fifty-second Congress, who will support these demands. In North Carolina, with 35 per cent of the voters enrolled as members, we elected 75 per cent of the members of our Legislature, six out of nine Congressmen, and a Senator, all of whom are pledged to the demands of the Alliance. Upon the principle that the Alliance is "political, but non-partisan," it can very easily be seen that we are not entirely dependent upon our own strength for the success of our demands, but the probabilities are very strong when we have assumed independent political action, that the ineligible class of our people, whose influence upon the laboring classes can not be ignored, will cease to affiliate with us, because they are not under the educating influence of the Order and will not recognize the necessity of such action, and we will be arrayed almost entirely upon our own strength. Then admitting that the

membership will all follow the new movement, or that the loss from our own ranks will not exceed what strength we get outside, then must we secure a membership sufficiently strong to elect our ticket. No small undertaking, all will admit, and the new process of recruiting the order will not be any more successful than the old. People who barely recognize the importance of becoming members will not imbibe the new faith any quicker than when the Alliance was a non-partisan organization. The last, but by no means the least, of the evils of which we will speak grows out of the fact that for every office within the gift of the people there are at least ten aspirants. The disappointed nine may be weighed in the same balance with their successful rivals and will be, in spite of all precaution, in the front rank of any new political pulse.

The Alliance should discard the idea of expecting to carry out its demands by means of any existing political party. It should put its own shoulder to the wheel, for until this is done, it will accomplish but little. In this matter it should move slowly, conservatively, and surely. Let us send men who are fully in harmony with us to our legislatures, to Congress, to the Senate; and when the organization has become accustomed to the wielding of its mighty power, we can lay hold on the highest office in the land. Until then let us wait and work, not running the risk of a backward movement by attempting to accomplish what we are not fully ripe for.

THE sub-treasury scheme sprang up in the northern Alliances who were more directly feeling the unlawful and burdensome discrimination against them, and which contained a considerable leaven of Republicanism that had been concocted in the ranks of that party, inducing them to look less critically upon the insanity of creating the greatest trust of all, under the provisions of the sub-treasury bill.

The above, from the Natchez (Miss.) Democrat is so glaring an example of mendacity or ignorance that it cannot be permitted to go unchallenged. The sub-treasury bill did not originate in the North. It originated in the South, and was first adopted by the national meeting at St. Louis in 1889, which consisted of representatives from the following States: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Indian Territory, and Oklahoma. Will the Democrat please name the northern State that introduced the sub-treasury plan, or the northern man who championed it? If it came from the Republican party, who concocted it and what Republican States were strong enough to corrupt every southern State in the Union.

Prior to the organization of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, the majority of the voters of this country were divided between the two great political parties. The Farmers Alliance, acting in accordance with its declarations of purposes, "to labor for the education of the agricultural classes in the science of economical government; in a strictly non-partisan spirit," has, irrespective of party affiliations, drawn in numbers from both parties; and to-day we see men all over the country acting in harmony for the advancement of Alliance principles and objects who a short time ago were arrayed against each other politically. What does this mean? To my mind it conclusively proves that these men

## FROM THE PEOPLE.

Sample Parcels of What the Mail Brings The Economist Every Day.

## FROM CALIFORNIA.

A. N. Rude, Paso Robles, Cal., sounds a note of warning to farmers and Alliance men:

Lookout for these so-called farmers newspapers that oppose the demands of the Farmers' Alliance. They are ever ready to give you advice to be "economical" not to go into debt, "quit raising so much cotton," raise more corn, bacon, flour, etc., but are against the demands of the Farmers' Alliance. The Farm and Fireside, published at Philadelphia, and Springfield, Ohio, and claiming the largest subscription list of any agricultural journal in the world, is a sample of the above style of farmer's friend (?) It has at all times been solid against the sub-treasury plan and government loans on land, all of which is of the most vital interest to farmers. In its issue of March 1, 1891, front page, it says, "How can the government loan money at one per cent when it pays three per cent at least, for the money it borrows, without making up the difference by taxing the people or without going into bankruptcy?" This government land loan scheme, if adopted, would be class legislation of the most pernicious sort." I think the above gross insult and lie should not be passed in silence by the struggling farmers and laborers of this country. Does not the farmer know that the government has been loaning money to the national banks at 1 per cent for years? And now this so called "Farm and Fireside," this traitor to the farmers' best interests, tries to make the farmers believe that the government could not loan money to farmers at 1 per cent, because it pays 3 for the money it borrows. This government has no right or occasion to borrow one cent, and its debts could and should have been paid off years ago. I have been a subscriber to the Farm and Fireside for the past two years and have observed that it is solid against the farmer's demands, at all times a perfect traitor to their most vital interests. Therefore I shall not give my support to it any longer, or any similar publication. Every Alliance man should immediately withdraw his patronage from all such traitorous publications. Let shylocks support them whose interests they so faithfully guard.

## FROM MISSISSIPPI.

Joseph H. Powell, State Agent of the Colored Alliance, writes from Augusta, Miss.:

I notice in the State papers a departure of Mr. McAllister, assistant leader of the Alliance, from the leading principles of the Alliance platform; also that gentleman is not in favor of a third party. In the latter we are with him, but in the former, not. The Colored Alliance in the State of Mississippi was organized for the common good and benefit of the farmer and national reform. This we expect to obtain by legislation brought about through our choice of candidates. So long as we hold to those who have misrepresented the farmer in the past it shows our inability to act for ourselves. Let the old party plow its own field over. It has cost too much for our education in politics of old political economy to old politicians. We will support a new Alliance man and not Mr. George or any other old candidate from the present list. Mr. McAllister wants Mr. George returned to the Senate, the man who was foremost in the origination of the constitution that has disfranchised so much of the Alliance vote of the State of Mississippi, which was the severest blow ever struck at a party. Mr. McAllister is not in favor of the sub-treasury plan. But he is in favor of returning a candidate to Congress who is opposed to every interest of our plans. We heartily indorse Mr. Burkitt in his defence of the Alliance.

## FROM KANSAS.

Jim M. Kane, of Osawatomie, Kansas, writes that the Alliance is growing faster than ever before in his county. He says:

Our Alliance legislature—the house part of it—need not think for a moment that they will beat the "common cattle" out of money to borrow; although the Republican and Democratic newspapers here have shed more tears over the Elder bill to tax notes, than was lost over

the fall of Jerusalem, they can't make the connection. Like Rome, when the money lords became so oppressive with the people, aided by a corrupt congress, the people found better friends outside their own government; although some of their invading friends (?) slaughtered them like sheep, it was no doubt preferable to being starved to death. While Wall street is wailing and weeping for a potential life through its hired Hessians in Kansas, to put money out at 10 per cent per annum, English money has been loaned right here at the historical city of Osawatomie, for three per cent per annum. One individual took enough to build forty tenant houses; a farmer, whom I have known for years, has been scuffing for the past six years to get his pile in buying, feeding and selling hogs and cattle—he only lived at the business; so he concluded to take a flank movement, and borrowed money of a firm in London at 3 per cent per annum, which firm now holds a mortgage on his farm. He bought young mules with the money borrowed, and expects to realize in that way. But, see! he must pay tax on farm and mules too, for four years—that will eat up about seven of the mules in the meantime. We could have got around Wall street—there are many roads to heaven—but just as the "note tax" was settling, the "presiding Elder" had to lift the covering of hell—to Wall street—in some other section, in the way of that resolution legalizing all currency in Kansas. Simultaneously the grand old State of Pennsylvania, with her iron ribs, coal black eyes and steel backbone, gives a grunt through her legislature that will even convince the doubting that there is yet a God in Israel. The skirmish line thickens, the grand phalanx moves slowly to the front; the "presiding Elder" is in the saddle in Kansas, and we must clean out the whole machine or do worse than we have done. To come to what the constitution guarantees every citizen, we must have but one kind of money—legal tender for all debts. To keep the monetary system up with the other improved systems of country, we must have a sufficient volume of legal tender money to transact business. To become one homogeneous whole, which must be, government has to own and operate the railroads and telegraphs. To prevent dealing in futures and making corners, we must have the sub-treasury plan. To make the United States what we claim for them—the home of the free and the home of the brave—every person must have a home that no mortgage or debt can touch. But, when these measures are talked of by the people, we are threatened with a foreign war, to have ten or twenty million of the disturbing working-class killed off; but to those I would say, don't count without your host; it will very much need the sympathy of the people in such a measure, and the President and Congress is not going out to battle "aud" England or any other nation alone. In fact, your humble servant is of the opinion that we'll be there in '92.

The following letter from D. D. Carpenter, McPherson, Kansas, should teach the oppressors that their task is hopeless. No people willing to make the sacrifices indicated by the writer of this letter have ever yet been subjugated or conquered. This spirit pervades the Alliance as a rule throughout its entire extent, and will require a war of extermination. Are the politicians and the plutocrats willing to undertake that? Time alone will show:

I enclose \$1.50 to pay for twelve copies of ECONOMIST Hand Book for our Alliance. Please forward at once and oblige your friends in suffering Kansas. We have been earnest readers of your good paper for a year. It was always hailed with delight. I would like much to get Harry Hinton by the hand and give him a good hearty shake. I think he is the most able writer on our demands that is living. May God give him life and strength to wield the mighty sword of truth, till every oppressor is subdued in our fair land, is my prayer. I would like to take THE ECONOMIST but I can't raise the dollar. The times are crushing; we can't get a dollar from our old loan brokers to buy feed to keep our stock from starving. They say we, the people's party, have ruined our State by our Alliance demands. I have to-day seventy head of hogs starving to death for the want of corn, and we can't get it for the lack of money. I have lost two cattle from starvation. Feed is nearly all gone. There are many more of our farmers in like situation, and the men who have ruined us

by their 2 per cent per month money refuse to let us have any now to save our hogs. If our dear old Republican leaders could see and realize our suffering it does seem their hearts would be melted and they would be more willing to grant us some relief in way of more money and at cheaper rates. How long, oh, how long must this state of things last? I am an old soldier and a thoroughbred Republican and I voted my first independent vote last fall; but not the last if I live.

## FROM TENNESSEE.

Dr. J. E. Head, Rogers, Tenn., writes: The Farmers' Alliance met in St. Louis and adopted a political platform that was endorsed at Ocala by the National Council as the basis upon which they were to act in the selection of men to represent them politically. Kansas, believing we were sincere in the position we had taken in the national meeting, ignored the old parties and selected men to represent them in accord with that platform. South Carolina pursued a similar course. Other States, believing we were not strong enough to contend against the two old parties, adopted the tactics of meeting with them as partisans, and by attending the conventions get as much of the Alliance doctrine injected into the platform of the dominant party possible, but at the same time acknowledging allegiance to that party. In Tennessee, where the latter policy was pursued, we succeeded in electing a Governor with a majority of Alliance members to the Legislature, but upon a platform adopted by the Democratic party. What was the result? Our candidates did not feel at liberty to discuss Alliance doctrine, only so far as it was contained in the Democratic platform; and we were tantalized during the canvass by the insinuation that they were either afraid or ashamed to come out in their true colors. In the legislature their position is no less embarrassing. Any departure from the dictates of Democratic bosses is regarded as treason to the party, and they are reminded that they owe their position to that party, and if they fail to carry out its behests, it is because they are under the control of an iron clad oath bound secret organization. This is not an overdrawn picture of the condition of Tennessee to-day. Contrast that with Kansas. She, relying upon the justice of her cause and the intelligence of her citizens, with over forty thousand majority of one party over the other, and the minority party not in accord with the principles of the Alliance, nominated her candidates, and with both the old parties to contend with a foreign war, to have ten or twenty million of the disturbing working-class killed off; but to those I would say, don't count without your host; it will very much need the sympathy of the people in such a measure, and the President and Congress is not going out to battle "aud" England or any other nation alone. In fact, your humble servant is of the opinion that we'll be there in '92.

Wm. C. Hopper, of Athens, Alabama, writes:

I have read so much about third party from different sections, I beg leave to ask the brotherhood and all co-operative orders the question: What need of any more parties? When I, as a Democrat, you as a Republican, you as a Prohibitionist, or a Greenbacker, or an Independent, joined the Alliance, did we not virtually leave the old hags, and swear fealty to a non-partisan order of higher, purer, nobler, more patriotic principles than it is possible for either of the G. O. P.'s to imitate. Read Article 10, of the Declaration of Purposes, and tell me how you can be a partisan. We left the old party, stepped upon a platform of principles which was expressed at St. Louis, reiterated at Ocala.

Consider that a born Democrat can no more be a Republican than a Republican can be a Democrat, but we can stand on principles united, and vote for no man who will not pledge himself in writing to these principles for any office, high or low. Do this faithfully, and if this is not party enough, then explain, to yours half way.

H. E. Cochran, Fairburn, Ga., writes:

For the past few years the farmers have been very much interested in terracing their lands to prevent the soil from washing off and impoverishing their farms. The rule has heretofore been, when one field became worthless on account of washing rains, a new one was cleared and brought into cultivation, soon to be abandoned like the others to sage grass and

hension in some quarters. Standard silver dollars are full legal tender for all debts. Jurists seem divided as to whether a contract stipulating gold payment can be liquidated with silver, though it has been held in some cases that silver can thus be demonetized by the face of the contract. At no time has silver been absolutely restricted as to money power, the limitation and cessation of coinage leaving that in circulation full legal tender. The subsidiary silver coin is legal tender for limited payments (now \$5), and has always been so. By limiting the coinage of standard dollars the holders of bonds have effectually flanked the laws and been enabled to collect vast sums of principal and interest solely in gold, when coin was stipulated in the contract.

We wish to know if silver is a legal tender in payment of debts to any amount, or is its tender limited in amounts. In other words, has silver ever been remonetized since its demonetization in 1873?

## FROM MISSOURI.

J. B. Kaylor, New Ark, Mo., asks two questions, to the first of which the reply is, it is current newspaper and official talk that the money in the Treasury was actually counted with the result stated, and further gossip says the missing copper was found afterward. Be that as it may, the new Treasurer became satisfied of its accuracy and signed the necessary receipt. To the second question, the answer is that members of the Grand Council at Ocala do not remember any representative of the paper named. Here are the questions:

1. Was the Treasury of the United States ever actually counted piece by piece, and was it short one penny?

2. Did the New York Voice have a reporter at the Ocala meeting?

## FROM INDIANA.

Cyrus A. Young, Bricknell, Ind., writes:

In this section we are all F. M. B. A. men, but are deeply interested in every movement made by the Alliance. Your success is our success; your cause is our cause. No partisan issue divides us. The day your gallant ship goes down, ours sinks in the vortex. Your noble efforts deserve highest praise and the support of all patriotic citizens, regardless of old party affiliations. We extend the hand of fraternal fellowship to brother farmers in the South, and wish them God speed in all they may wish or desire for their future welfare and prosperity. No measures enacted by Senators and Congressmen can divide us.

## FROM ALABAMA.

Wm. C. Hopper, of Athens, Alabama, writes:

I have read so much about third party from different sections, I beg leave to ask the brotherhood and all co-operative orders the question: What need of any more parties? When I, as a Democrat, you as a Republican, you as a Prohibitionist, or a Greenbacker, or an Independent, joined the Alliance, did we not virtually leave the old hags, and swear fealty to a non-partisan order of higher, purer, nobler, more patriotic principles than it is possible for either of the G. O. P.'s to imitate. Read Article 10, of the Declaration of Purposes, and tell me how you can be a partisan. We left the old party, stepped upon a platform of principles which was expressed at St. Louis, reiterated at Ocala.

Consider that a born Democrat can no more be a Republican than a Republican can be a Democrat, but we can stand on principles united, and vote for no man who will not pledge himself in writing to these principles for any office, high or low. Do this faithfully, and if this is not party enough, then explain, to yours half way.

## FROM GEORGIA.

H. E. Cochran, Fairburn, Ga., writes:

For the past few years the farmers have been very much interested in terracing their lands to prevent the soil from washing off and impoverishing their farms. The rule has heretofore been, when one field became worthless on account of washing rains, a new one was cleared and brought into cultivation, soon to be abandoned like the others to sage grass and

briars; but the farmers have at last discovered that instead of their land being worn out by cropping, it was the continued washing off of the soil by beating rains that was sapping them of their fertility, hence the interest manifested in terracing to prevent it. While the main body of the farm has been depleted of its fertilizing properties, there are small areas that have been accumulating a super-abundance of the crop-producing element, often lodging in places where it can do no good, but in many instances doing much damage by clogging the regular channels of water outlet.

And thus it has been with our government; heavy floods of oppressive laws have been showered upon the masses, depriving them of their just rights, leaving them to grow up in ignorance, while the few have been accumulating their millions, clogging the regular channels of trade to the great injury of the wealth producing class of the country. Will it remain thus? We think not, for as the farmers found out that by terrace their lands they could to a great extent stop the washes on their farms, so we have adopted the same rule in government affairs, and propose to be fixed to that less expense of carriage to the mint. Silver is traded in by speculators, as are cotton and wheat, and paid for with whatever money will buy other products.

In the report of Edward O. Leech, the Director of the Mint, as published in THE ECONOMIST of March 14, I find the following: "There was a marked improvement in the price of silver during the past calendar year, the price reaching the highest point in twelve years. The fluctuations covered a range of 26 per cent, a wider range by far than in any previous year.

At the commencement of the year silver was quoted at \$0.96 per fine ounce. It reached \$1.21 on August 19, and closed December 31, at \$1.04. The average price during the year was: In London, \$1.046; in New York, \$1.05." Silver is here evidently compared with something else as a standard or measure, and I would like to know just what that standard or measure is! Mr. Leech says: "At the commencement of the year silver was quoted at 96 cents per fine ounce." I would like to know what the 96 cents is paid in, is it gold or paper?

Again, Mr. Leech says, "At the lowest price reached during the year the value of the silver contained in the silver dollar was \$0.748, at the highest price, \$0.926, the average price \$0.809." Am I to understand from the above that the banks or a set of bullion brokers are speculating on silver? I would be glad if you would simplify the matter, so that your readers could plainly understand the workings of the financial question.

I regard the money question as par excellence the question of the day. Many do not care to give the subject any thought at all, while others are investigating the subject, and are beginning to conclude that the vicious financial legislation of Congress is but a colossal humbug, both State and federal. I am for government ownership. In conclusion I will ask the brethren who want to remain in the Democratic party a question, why do you want to associate politically with men opposed to every reform set forth in the St. Louis platform, the sub-treasury in particular?

1. How is the value of the silver in a silver dollar ascertained, or measured?

2. Is not the traffic in silver as set forth in the above extract a speculation on the part of bankers, bullion brokers, etc.

## FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

J. A. Johns, of Westminster, S. C., writes:

Constantly some one rises up and declares against a third party. Why don't he declare against a second party and a first party? Why should not the people rule the government, whose is it, and whom it is by, and of, and for? Partyism has destroyed every government where it has run high from the Grecian Republic to the present day, and I challenge the historian to the contradiction. He who runs partyism high sharpens the knife to spill his own blood either in his own person or his immediate descendants. For when partyism runs high no man is safe, neither the king on his throne nor the peasant in his hut, nor even the President of these great United States, as we have already had two memorable examples. Partyism is the cancer of society. It is the bane of nations. It is the consumption of governments. And it is no less so now than when Pericles stood on the Grecian stage, and smote upon his thighs with his hands and cried, blood! blood! and the Grecian government bleeding at every pore staggered, reeled and fell. And it is no less so now than when Caesar, incensed by an unreasonable and unjust demand, led his conquering legions back to Rome. And it is no less so now than when the incarnate God stood forth and declared openly without reservation or qualification, that "every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand." Let some great national physician arise and pour into this body politic, this seething mass of political corruption, this excited nation, breathing hurriedly and dying rapidly, bottle full upon bottle full of that elixir of national life, "equal rights to all and special privileges to none." Let him direct his faithful nurses, the reform press, to administer it by the day and by the hour, by day and by night. For it is more potent than the blood of armies. It is more potent than etherial dew, for it is taken from the great storehouse of cures for all ills—Jehovah's eternal word. And it is a compound of that consoling declaration, the Lord your God is no respecter of persons; and that great command—the king pillar on which hangs the ponderous weight of all the law and prophets, love the Lord your God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself. It will accomplish what millions of money and tons of blood have failed to do. It will solve the race problem. It will do away with party strife. It will blot out sectional hatred. It will bring national and individual prosperity and peace. It will prepare the people for the coming millennium. Do let us have no more pauperism. Let us have a government by the people. "Let us have peace."

## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

and its variations in value have not been as great since its demonetization as those commodities, indeed, being controlled by the same factors, it has generally followed them in price, except in the rise last year predicated on possible free coinage. Having a maximum price beyond which it can not go, its price fluctuates somewhat less than that of other products. Let it be understood that in the present condition of the market, four silver dollars or eight silver half dollars, can be exchanged for enough silver to coin five silver dollars or ten halves. But if coinage were free of cost to the depositor of bullion, and unlimited, by law, a silver coin would exchange for its exact metal equivalent and the price would be fixed to that less expense of carriage to the mint. Silver is traded in by speculators, as are cotton and wheat, and paid for with whatever money will buy other products.

Brethren, let us unite upon some system of terracing in this case, that when the storms and floods of 1892 come it will stand, for it will be founded upon principle.

And thus it has been with our government;

heavy floods of oppressive laws have been showered upon the masses, depriving them of their just rights, leaving them to grow up in ignorance, while the few have been accumulating their millions,

clogging the regular channels of trade to the great injury of the wealth producing class of the country. Will it remain thus?

We think not, for as the farmers found out that by terrace their lands they could to a great extent stop the washes on their farms, so we have adopted the same rule in government affairs, and propose to be fixed to that less expense of carriage to the mint. Silver is traded in by speculators, as are cotton and wheat, and paid for with whatever money will buy other products.

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## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

on even that? Take away gold's use as money and throw it all into "the arts," will not several other metals then be more costly, because rarer, and be the fashionable metals of jewelry? The editor also speaks of a gold dollar worth less intrinsically than a silver dollar. Take away their "flat" money value, and thereby their rarity, both would be little used as jewelry, and then silver has intrinsically within itself more value than gold, just as copper has more intrinsic value than silver, and iron than any of them. Again the editor says "which intrinsic value is based on the cost of producing such dollar, just as the value of a dollars worth of anything else is determined?" Has not the editor of *Spit* this estimable daily fallen into error? I take a dollar and go into market to buy food; its value is not what it cost to produce it, but the amount of food it buys. I have grain to exchange for a dollar. The value of the dollar depends not on what it cost to produce it but what it costs to obtain it after it is produced. I may discover in gold and silver in large quantities which will cost but little to secure and refine. I however put but a portion of it in the mints to be coined and put in circulation. The price of these metals thereby is not reduced, and I get a high price for what cost but little to produce.

Wheat is selling at 82 cents. Hutchinson "corners" it by buying up the most of it, and in two months it goes up to \$1.30; which represents the "cost of production," the 82 cents. No, the quantity of produce and commodities on the market are compared with each other, establish the price. This is a question upon which the royal commission appointed by English Parliament and composed mostly of "nobles of the realm" became very much befuddled.

The Times says that the value of the gold and silver dollar is based on the cost of production. What shall we measure the cost of production in?

I find a mine of gold and silver. I buy implements, tools, blasting powder and labor. I pay for them in gold or silver, or gold and silver. Then I get all that in, then what is it worth? According to the Times it is worth only its cost of production, which has been paid in gold and silver. So I, the mine owner am left without a cent profit. The account will stand thus:

Invested in labor, supplies, to work even Stephen mine, \$10,000. Obtained gold and silver in large quantities worth only cost of production, \$10,000.

By to balance—nothing. And yet senators Jones and Stewart seem to have made millions. How? Now the Times says, "just as the use of a dollar of everything else is determined." We have seen how the gold and silver miners can't make, how can they or any other producer lose or become bankrupt? I have produced many a bushel of wheat. I have sold wheat where its price was much above the cost of production, and I have sold it below cost of production. I return to home-raised my colt. He cost no more to raise one year than next, and yet he is valued one at \$75 and the next at \$60. This point which should be well studied.

buy a farm at \$20 per acre; I pay per acre each year for one, two three years, my notes bearing interest of course. Upon what do I

base my ability to meet those notes? Upon that land having cleared over and above my living and all other necessary expenses not less than five dollars per acre each year for some years. But a change comes. The quantity of money in circulation is diminished and consequently my colt will not be valued at \$75. My other products of this farm that I've bought are valued at less in the same proportion, and the land itself (only valuable because of what it will produce), is not estimated to be worth \$20 per acre. How am I to meet my notes? I can not, and yet was I not right in making the purchaser. It was not based on speculation, that is, on the belief that there would be a rise in the market. No, my belief (based on the transactions of previous years) that hard work—labor would assist nature, and labor and land together would produce enough to meet the notes. If I was wrong, in making such calculations and taking such liabilities, then away with all enterprise, all progress, away with every forward step, and let the great world stand at gaze like Joshua's moon and sun in Ajjalon.

## A Manly Declaration.

Farmers Advocate, Charleston, W. Va.

Such the Baltimore Sun styles the reply of Senator George, of Mississippi, to a committee of the Farmers Alliance who waited upon him and requested to know (since he is a candidate for re-election) his views on the Alliance demands, especially the sub-treasury plan as advocated by the Order. The Senator's opinion, it will be observed, on this important measure was not known to the Alliance of his own State, although he was a member of the committee to which this bill was referred in the Senate and by this

monopoly body pigeon-holed with his tacit consent to say the least. Now, I will leave it to the honesty of public opinion, if Senator George is the manly man as represented by the Sun, would he not have insisted upon this measure being reported by the committee to the Senate to be discussed by that body on its merits? The Senator now makes a virtue of necessity and when he finds himself cornered takes the side which by his conduct, as a member of the committee he was expected to take—the side of plutocracy and the money power.

This sub-treasury plan is the ground-work, the very shibboleth of all the Alliance demands. This measure removes the fangs (as Senator Peffer, of Kansas, in a recent speech at Annapolis so aptly expressed it) of that great red dragon, the money power—which is interest, this measure means money at cost; means more money; means money in sufficient supply to do the business of the country without sacrificing the farmers and laboring people annually, to greedy speculators and a heartless money power; means a higher price for farm produce and a lower price to consumers; means the eliminating forever of high priced money in handling the products of the farm, means the freedom from this the most crushing and wicked of all monopolies, the money power. The masses have been ignorantly heretofore of the power of money to oppress, but, thanks to the great farmers' movement, this little game of "heads I win, tails you lose," so long a mystery and so successfully played by the bankers and speculators, is discovered at last and

these people have been given due notice that they may keep their ill-gotten gains but that in future this great labor movement intends to see justice done between man and man. Three millions of farmers have almost unanimously adopted the sub-treasury plan, it is deeply rooted in their hearts and minds and there can be no compromise unless something better is substituted. Nothing has been found yet to equal it. The more it is discussed the clearer the justice of its demands appear, and we as farmers propose to stick to this plan till Senator George or some other person who think they can give us something better will do so; all of this parties until the evils of which we complain and are suffering from, are remedied; and the only remedy is to place such men as the Sun describes, with their manly declarations, just where they belong—with the money power—and let them severely alone. If we want to carry out our demands through either of the great parties, we will simply have to abandon them—a question to be much thought over between this and 1892. FARMER.

## The Demon Credit.

P. F. Levin, in Plow and Hammer.

Small wonder that the farmers of the United States are demanding a larger circulating currency when we come to reflect for a moment upon the enormous amount of business transacted annually on credit. A glance at the report of the comptroller of the currency shows that 91.04 per cent of the business transacted through the banks of the United States from July 1 to Sept. 17 was by means of checks, drafts and other substitutes for money, and that only 8.96 per cent was in cash. The same report, on page 69, shows the transactions of the New York clearinghouse association. Remember it does not include the clearing house associations of Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Cincinnati, San Francisco, or any other of the large cities. For the year ending Oct. 1, 1890, it shows aggregate clearings \$37,660,660.572 of transactions; aggregate balances \$1,753,040.145. Now for the kinds of money, and the amount of each kind in use; United States gold certificates, \$1,735,316.00; United States Treasury notes, \$6,914,000; treasury certificates for legal tender notes, \$4,995,000; legal tender and minor coin, \$5,415,145, showing 99 per cent of gold certificates used and only one and a fraction per cent of legal-tender notes or money. Stop for a moment and think of these billions of indebtedness. Then think of all the individual indebtedness in the United States, the numberless notes and mortgages and obligations of the people. All these will aggregate hundreds of millions of dollars, and all only substitutes for money. Confidence is the ground-work of our business transactions today; in fact, we are dependent upon "faith, hope and charity." If confidence is destroyed, these substitutes cannot be used for money, and consequently the country is instantly plunged in a financial crisis.

From the above report we can see what substitutes are used over 90 per cent. For every 90 cents of confidence we have 10 cents of cash with which to back it. This should not be. It is the duty of the government to provide money enough to enable the people to pay their honest debts. Money is a creation of the law, is based upon the law, and must stand

the law stands which created it. Now any measure that will offer relief should be welcomed by the people regardless of the source from which it comes. The free coinage of silver or gold, so long as it bears the stamp of government authority. The fact is that we need more money in channels of trade, and less confidence. We have too many promises to pay, and not enough cash settlements. His report Secretary Windom says: "The demand for money in this country is so irregular that an amount of circulation which will be ample during ten months of the year will frequently prove so deficient during the other two months as to cause contingency and commercial disaster, which stringency may occur without any speculative manipulations of money, though, unfortunately, it is often intensified by such manipulations. The crops of the country have reached proportions so immense, that their movement to market in August and September annually causes a dangerous absorption of money. The lack of a sufficient supply to meet the increased demand during those months may entail heavy losses upon the agricultural as well as upon other business interests. Though financial stringency may occur at any time and from many causes, yet nearly all the commercial crises in our history have occurred during the months named, and unless some provision be made to meet such contingencies in the future, like disasters may be confidently expected."

From this it can be seen that the farmer is ever a heavy loser in close times. The price of farm products is forced down because of an insufficiency of money to move the crop and at the same time pay a fair price for it. Another great item should be remembered. During the months of September and October farmers must meet their obligations. Notes are invariably drawn to fall due Oct. 1. This compels the farmer to sell whether he wishes to or not. By selling at this season of low prices the farmer loses all the profit of his farm, the money lenders reap it. Small wonder that farming does not pay when the profit is flowing into the pockets of the monopolists. The credit system gives the money lenders power to absorb all the profit of industry. An insufficient amount of money to carry on the business of the country on a cash basis gives those who hold money an immense purchasing power, which increases as the volume of money decreases. For instance, one-half of the amount of money required to carry on the business will give that amount double the purchasing power it would have if there were enough money to carry on the business. The smaller the volume the greater its power. For every dollar's worth of property or wealth the country there should be a dollar circulation, and should increase as property increased. "Inflation" is cry on every side. Bah! that cry is born thin from being used so much. There never has been a time in the history of the world when there was so much money. The amount has always been too small. All the poverty and suffering that attend it, and the misery and woe, has been caused by an insufficient amount of money to meet the needs of mankind. The world has always produced enough to feed the race, but because of an insufficient amount of money to circulate exchange millions have starved in the midst of plenty. Now any measure that will offer relief should be welcomed by the people regardless of the source from which it comes. The free coinage of silver or gold, so long as it bears the stamp of government authority. The fact is that we need more money in

and the Democratic party has refused to promulgate the principles of democracy. The K. of L. and Farmers Alliance people having been forced to organize under the veil of secrecy in order to mature a platform of principles and set forth demands for such legislation as will give to the humblest tiller and toiler the same recognition by the government as the most princely lord of wealth; having done so it remains to be seen whether or not the Democratic party will cease pandering to the whims of Wall street for boodle and take up the demands of the people as proclaimed at St. Louis and reaffirmed at Ocala, or whether people will of necessity be compelled to organize a third party. One thing is certain, the Knights of Labor and the Alliance have shaken hands on the Ocala platform and no amount of side shows or misrepresentation will cause division, weaken their faith in each other, or effect a compromise or surrender of principles.

The Financial Situation of Kansas. Export Standard.

The State auditor of Kansas reports that the railroad mileage of the State, 8,755 miles, is capitalized at \$456,719,000 of which \$229,548,000 is in bonds and \$227,171,000 in stock, but as the people are expected to pay dividends on stock as well as interest on bonds the whole burden of this capitalization rests on their shoulders the same as a bonded debt. An ex-member of the board of railroad commissioners of Kansas has informed us that in his judgment nine-tenths of this entire \$456,000,000 of railroad securities is wholly "watered," and need never have existed—it is "flat" wealth created through plutocratic legislation for the benefit of eastern and European capitalists. But it is upon our shoulders, nevertheless. To this is to be added the municipal bonded indebtedness, estimated by the state auditor at \$38,000,000.

And then comes the farm, city and chattel mortgage indebtedness of the people. The auditor estimates this at only \$90,000,000 but it is entirely reasonable to say that it is fully \$200,000,000, and this does not include bank loans not secured by mortgages on record. Total of railroad, municipal and personal mortgage indebtedness in round figures, \$693,000,000. The assessed valuation of taxable property in Kansas is given at

Lands .....	\$168,285,199
City lots .....	72,814,874
Railroads .....	57,866,232
Personal .....	48,750,913

Total ..... \$347,717,218

which is \$347,000,000 less than the mortgaged indebtedness. But it is known that the assessed valuation does not average over one-half what the property could be sold for even in this time of depressed valuation, so that we may reasonably say that mortgagees of Kansas property now own the State. Most of the mortgagees, including substantially all the owners of railroad stocks and bonds, live in the eastern States or in Europe, and are practically absentee landlords. It ought to be evident that the people of Kansas are not going to be able to pay their enormous indebtedness and own their property, railroads included, free of debt, without a very radical change in the monetary system of the country, a change that cannot be had without cutting loose from the specific redemption limit of paper currency.

The Labette County Statesman (Oswego, Kan.) says:

The platforms of the Republican and Democratic parties in 1892 will be furnished by the money power as usual, and might be constructed of one plank. The declaration outlined below will be about the right length and depth, although too truthful for public promulgation: "We point with pride to our past record, solemnly renew our pledges of unswerving fidelity to the interests of the people, and declare that we will continue to uphold the banner of the party with one hand, while reaching out with the other for all there is in sight."

**THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST**  
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE  
NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND  
INDUSTRIAL UNION.  
PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
BY THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST PUBLISHING COMPANY.  
Incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE - \$1.00 PER YEAR.

Advertisements inserted only by special contract. Our rates are thirty cents per page fine. Discounts for time and space furnished on application, stating character of advertisement required.

The publishers of this paper have given a bond in the sum of \$50,000 to the President of the Farmers' and Laborer's Union of America that they will faithfully carry out all subscriptions and other contracts.

The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the national meeting in St. Louis:

Whereas The NATIONAL ECONOMIST, our adopted official organ, has so boldly and firmly advocated our cause and defended

our principles; therefore,

Be it resolved by this National body, That we heartily approve of the course it has pursued and recommend that every member of the order should subscribe and read the paper as one of the best means of education in the way of individual freedom.

Address all remittances or communications to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

RECEIVED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON,  
D. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

## N. R. P. A.

### Official Notice.

All official organs and friendly papers interested and desiring the advancement of educational work, are hereby respectfully requested—through their columns—to notify all lecturers, subordinate, county, district, and State, and all assistant and deputy lecturers, to file their names and post-office addresses with the National Lecture Bureau. Address J. F. Tillman, 239 North Capitol street, Washington, D. C.

LET every member of the Alliance remember that since June 30, 1889, to September 1, 1890, \$36,742,759.66 has been paid out by the government as premium on bonds. This vast sum was paid as tribute to the bond owner in order to furnish the people with \$180,374,950. Would not the sub-treasury plan be an improvement on this plan? Examine closely and decide.

NATIONAL SECRETARY J. H. Turner says the State of New York had last week 239 sub-Alliances, 9 County Alliances, and about 10,000 members, and the reports were coming in every day. The State Alliance will be organized on the 22d of this month. Ohio last week reported 187 sub-Alliances, 10 County Alliances, and a membership of about 8,000, and will organize a State Alliance on the 16th of April.

RALPH BEAUMONT, Secretary of the National Citizens Alliance, will be at the great Alliance convocation at Waco, Tex., April 21.

THE fight made against the sub-treasury plan is not because it is un-Democratic or un-Republican, but plainly and simply because its provisions mean cheap money to the people and consequently higher prices for their products. It is a contest between cheaper money on the one hand and dearer money on the other. It is a fight between the producer

and the owners of money to settle the question as to how many bushels of wheat, pounds of cotton or head of cattle shall pay the interest on a thousand dollars. It is a battle to decide whether 50 bushels of wheat or less shall pay the interest on a thousand dollars, or whether the farmer shall give a hundred bushels or more as he does now. This is the question at issue, and one that must be settled first of all.

THERE is yet remaining about \$124,000,000 premium on the bonds. Until this vast amount has been paid, there is but little use to call upon either of the old parties for more money. This is too large a sum of money for the average Congress to count against.

NATIONAL Lecturer J. F. Willets having finished his tour in Maryland has gone to New Jersey. He is much pleased with the condition of the Alliance in Maryland, and predicts a rapid growth.

THE New Albany (Miss.) Gazette sees its way clear to the absorption of the Alliance by the Democratic party, if only the Alliance will abate the St. Louis and Ocala demands and accept the Democratic platform. The Gazette says:

What must be done? The Union County Alliance has adopted the list of demands upon the government, as adopted by the national Alliance at Ocala, Fla. The question now arises, does this voice the sentiments of the Alliance of the State of Mississippi? We answer that it does in part, and in part it does not. Take out the sub-treasury scheme and all have agreed. The Alliance has agreed among themselves and with the Democratic party.

The Gazette might find difficulty in proving its conclusion, that the sub-treasury plan alone bars an agreement. There is not one of the seven demands of the Alliance upon which the Democratic party has a defined policy, or to carry out which its leaders can be trusted. The Democracy is pledged to the national banks; opposed to sub-treasuries and loans to the people direct; opposed to increasing to \$50 per capita; opposed to restricting speculation in products, divided on silver coinage; frowns on the demands for prohibition of alien ownership of land; is hopelessly divided in its own construction of tariff reform, and ignores the graduated income tax demand; denounces the demand for railroad regulation as socialistic, impracticable and paternal; and has constantly disregarded the demand for election of Senators by direct vote. Can the Gazette assure the people that the Democratic party will adopt the demands of the Alliance? Certainly it cannot. Can that paper declare, admitting that the party adopts the demands as its platform, that the result would not be of a kind with the constantly repeated declarations for silver coinage, ignored when the party is in position to make them laws? Now, as the Gazette seems to favor

all the demands save one, and as the Democratic leaders will see to it that the Alliance is not permitted to present the basis for combination, would the Gazette not find it more reasonable and practicable to support the Alliance demands? The sub-treasury system now existing is of Democratic origin, and were those grand old southern Democrats, Jefferson, Jackson and Calhoun, living to-day, they would lead the Alliance financial reform movement. Meantime the true brethren in Mississippi are supporting the demands with as much persistence as though the Democratic party were at their backs.

BEN TERRELL, having completed his work in North Carolina, goes to Tennessee. Brother Terrell has been doing a great work in North Carolina, and will doubtless continue on the same line in Tennessee. Nothing succeeds better than good honest work.

BELOW is given a specimen of the methods by which the Argentine Republic has been bankrupted. It is also claimed by both the old parties to be identical with the sub-treasury plan. It is taken from the Star, as written up by one of its reporters:

I happened to meet on the street the United States minister to a South American republic, whose name I cannot repeat. He had just come from Buenos Ayres, and I asked him about the situation. "In six months," he said, "the people have passed from commercial activity and enthusiasm to depression; from happiness to misery; from confidence to despair. They have taken a Niagara plunge from which they will not recover in a generation. The worst of the scheme was that it offered irresistible temptation to bribery. It made it possible for a man who owned real estate to get almost any quantity of money if he would only swear falsely. An acquaintance of mine had a nice farm there which he valued at \$15,000. The law would give him a loan to one-half of the value—that value to be fixed by the official appraisers. He went and saw the appraisers and he obtained a loan of government money—cedula—amounting to \$250,000, the maximum loan permitted by law to one person. Think of it! And the money was disbursed by the Barings! Of course the appraiser got half of it, but the people have it to pay. And they are now in debt more than \$100 for every man, woman and child—hopelessly bankrupt. And their 'money' stands at 25 per cent, I believe."

Can any one discern where the methods of the sub-treasury plan come in? One is founded on a wrong principle and is made to serve fraud and deceit, while the other is framed upon direct methods that cannot be changed or trifled with.

NATIONAL Lecturer J. F. Willets, is doing a great work in Maryland, which will no doubt double the membership in the immediate future.

THE political press and the pretended Alliance men of the country are kicking up a tremendous dust in the face of the Order, thinking thereby, to blind true Alliance men to their best interest, by ridiculing and opposing the sub-treasury plan. But the steady gale of the Alliance sentiment will soon clear the dust away and disclose to view, who are its real friends and its real foes. This knowledge, though dearly bought, is essential to that unity which should characterize the Farmers' Alliance, and the sooner it is obtained the better it will be for the Order. Agitation purifies. We must rid the middle

of traitors ere we can make a successful campaign against plutocracy. Laugh ye friends, hurl your shafts of ridicule, but remember that he who laughs last, laughs best.

The above is taken from the Raymond (Miss.) Gazette, and speaks for itself. When the politicians and traitors attempted to destroy the Alliance, they acted without due consideration.

### SUB-TREASURY PLAN.

It is now anything to beat the sub-treasury plan. Both the old parties are hard at work concocting plans to divide the Alliance upon this question and thereby eliminate it from the demands. If this could be done, Wall street would be satisfied and the people could be deceived as they have been many times before. There can be no deception practiced upon the sub-treasury plan. When the farmer cannot take his products to a warehouse and borrow money on it at a per cent, he knows the plan is not working. There is no possible way of fooling him with the assertion it is operating, but he don't understand it. The plain fact that his borrowed money costs him from seven to twenty per cent instead of two is all the evidence needed to convince him that the plan is being trifled with in some manner.

CALIFORNIA became a State Alliance just in time to participate in the Ocala meeting. There were March 18, 362 Alliances, with a membership of 22,000 in the State, and the work being actively pushed.

THE daily papers describe a shameful scene last week on the streets of Baltimore, wherein the furniture of a poor woman was loaded on wagons in charge of a constable, seized on a distress warrant for rent she did not owe. It seems that the old English custom of leases in perpetuity, or ground rent prevails in Baltimore. While the English law upon this subject has received many modifications, in Maryland it still retains all the harsh features that have been discarded in the progress of liberal ideas in the country of its origin. Under the savage provision that a distress warrant may issue against chattles or furniture in the premises to enforce ground rent, the tenant was literally robbed of her property, being refused even time to arrange for payment, though wishing to assume the debt due by her landlord as ground rent; indeed, during her absence at work the savage process of confiscation was enforced. Here is a sample of how alien landlordism may be applied, if foreign dictation be allowed in our jurisprudence. It would be well for the people of Maryland to consider the demand for a reform in the law of the State.

THE Alliance politician is just now getting in his work, the little men are now the largest. Let no one be afraid, they will find their level in a short time. Keep in the middle

of the roads. This movement is in the hands of a power that will not see it wrecked by trickery and deception. The triumph of the ultimate truth will in the end be final and complete. Let the brethren have faith in each other, faith in the men placed at the head of the Order, and the wind may blow and the floods may come, but the Alliance will stand undisturbed.

The Alliance in Texas is taking on a new growth which bids fair to eclipse anything ever before seen in that State.

S. O. Daws, secretary of Texas State Alliance, writes that he has issued forty-five charters for new Alliances during the past two weeks. This does not prove that the Alliance in Texas is very badly divided.

THE National Citizens Alliance is being organized in the Northern and New England cities. Soon that and the Farmers' Alliance will cover the entire Atlantic seaboard. Then, no nook or corner of the nation can long escape the proselytizing power of the truth.

THE summer encampment of last August at Mount Gretna, Pa., under auspices of the Alliance of that State, will be followed by a convocation of the same kind this year. The National Council at Ocala took interest in the movement, and named a committee of three, composed of H. C. Demming of Pennsylvania, Robert Beverley of Virginia, and Hugh Mitchell of Florida, to confer and participate in the arrangements for this encampment, and these gentlemen are now together on the ground making arrangements.

THE papers are chock full of the discussion of financial questions. THE ECONOMIST receives letters daily asking for information upon the leading questions under discussion, and it appears that every meeting room of the Order is a school of economics. An idea of the range taken may be inferred by examination of this paper from week to week. The people are officially requested by the National Executive Board, approved by President L. L. Polk, to notify all State and Congressional district meetings, for other large gatherings, when call is made upon said Bureau for lecturers, or for tours or trips throughout the various States, districts and Territories. Under section 3 it is further made my duty to notify all State organs that they are officially requested by the National Executive Board, approved by President L. L. 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## APPLIED SCIENCE.

In Agricultural and Rural Economy  
EDITED BY DR. M. G. ELZEV.  
Woodstock, Md.

## THAT SAME OLD TUNE.

The New York Assembly has killed the Land bill taxing personal property at its face value, without exception for debts charged against it. The bill was strongly antagonized by business interests as involving double taxation and likely to result in driving business out of the State.

So says the Baltimore Sun. The shallowness, the falsity, the downright silliness of the plea that, including every species of property in the taxable basis "tends to drive business out of the State" might be expected to drive that stale chestnut out of use. In the first place the general proposition that all property should bear its just share of taxation, stands impregnable against every assault of sophistry and false dealing with the people. It is property and not debt which the State must tax. The State has nothing at all whatever to do with the private debts of a citizen. There are large numbers of men holding immense properties, real and personal, who if their debts were paid would not have one dollar left. Shall the immense properties held by these people, often throughout life, be exempt from taxation? No man can be found foolish enough to maintain such a proposition unless he be a crazy man or an imbecile. If A buys a horse of B and gives his note for the value, who ought to pay the tax

## PHOSPHATES.

We have a letter from a gentleman who is an experienced agricultural chemist giving his endorsement to the views here expressed by the present writer in various articles from time to time on the subject of the useless and misleading character of the reports of analyses made by public analysts and agricultural stations; nominally in behalf of the farmer. Our correspondent thinks the law should require the manufacturer to state the percentages of the valuable ingredients of his fertilizer, and also the sources of these several ingredients. This seems to be the law in England. The law is intended to prevent fraud, but if a manufacturer claims that he uses certain materials which he does not use, proof of the fraud may be beyond the power of analysis to establish. In the case of a complex formula skillfully compounded it very probably would be impossible to determine upon the data furnished by an analysis what materials had been used and in what proportions. Years ago Dr. Mallet put the matter very neatly; he said in effect, gross frauds can be established by analysis, but exact valuations can not be. The present writer was himself probably the first to reach and publicly to defend that position. That the present laws need modification is not doubtful. The English law is better than any of ours. It seems doubtful whether a law can be framed to regulate the manufacture and sale of these articles which will withstand criticism. Probably the English law is as little obnoxious to criticism as any that can be framed. That the expenses of inspection must fall upon the consumers, the farmers, is unavoidable, and they at present get no return for this additional cost. No evidence can be produced to prove that the present laws have saved ten cents to any individual. But not only is the tax on fertilizers thrown upon the farmer to protect him from frauds by inspections, but under this pretext to raise large funds out of the farmer's purse to

ducting debts against such real estate? A man of sense ought to be ashamed to address such stuff to an intelligent public. Now here in the State of Maryland the farmer pays tax on his real estate, but he does not deduct the mortgage. He pays tax on every animal old and young, every implement and every tool he uses in cultivating his land; every betterment and improvement he erects; every tree he plants; every ditch he opens. If now he takes his produce to sell from his own wagon, drawn by his own team, he is taxed for the privilege of selling. To seek the middleman to sell for him, the railroads and the middlemen combine to fleece him. Is this double taxation? In any wise the farmer is between the devil and the deep sea. If the proposition is to tax the "business man's" personality and not deduct his debts, that's "double taxation." But if the proposition is that it's "double taxation" to tax a farmer's personality and not deduct his debts, that's a wild vagary of the Farmers' Alliance. We want you "business men" to take notice that farming is "business" too; don't you understand? Hereafter "business men" must make up their minds to pay their taxes, or if they prefer to take their business out of the State, let them be gone with it.

## CHESAPEAKE OYSTERS.

The threatened extinction of the great oyster beds of the Chesapeake Bay and the consequent removal elsewhere of nineteen great packing and shipping establishments hitherto located in Baltimore is a good example of bad legislation "driving business out of the State," and destroying great taxable values. This criminal folly is wholly without justification or excuse. Gross incompetency to deal with great industrial and business questions has been for the latter half of the nineteenth century the most striking characteristic of American legislators, and here is a striking illustration of the fact. The oysters of Chesapeake Bay are easily the finest in the world, and the natural supply has been the basis of an industry employing five millions of capital and employing many thousand men whose families have been supported by it. Now fished out is the expressive term which describes the condition of this great property and this most important industry. The whole mass of legislation with regard to it has been the crudest of all crude legislative rubbish. Laws have been passed session after session, merely to gratify whims of curious persons, to subserve the interests of selfish persons, or to advance the schemes of corrupt persons. Laws conflicting with each other; in conflict with the spirit of the law in general; laws which could not be intelligibly construed, nor by any possibility successfully executed; but the attempts at the execution of which have cost heavily and have led to conflicts of authority, and even to deadly conflicts of arms with serious loss of life. These laws are the outcome of legislative bodies not dominated by clodhoppers, grangers, Alliance men, hayseeds, farmers, but completely dominated by lawyers supposed to be learned in the law, and therefore wise legislators. That the present laws need modification is not doubtful. The English law is better than any of ours. It seems doubtful whether a law can be framed to regulate the manufacture and sale of these articles which will withstand criticism. Probably the English law is as little obnoxious to criticism as any that can be framed. That the expenses of inspection must fall upon the consumers, the farmers, is unavoidable, and they at present get no return for this additional cost. No evidence can be produced to prove that the present laws have saved ten cents to any individual. But not only is the tax on fertilizers thrown upon the farmer to protect him from frauds by inspections, but under this pretext to raise large funds out of the farmer's purse to

support this, that, and the other from the machinations of political schemers, that legislative crudities proceed, not from earnest, honest, patriotic citizens, trying to do their duty to their constituents. In the matter of the oysters what shall now be done? Can the industry be restored to its original prosperity and finally carried forward to a vastly greater development than it could ever have obtained by natural fisheries however protected by law? Not a doubt of it; but if this is to be done, men of science, no less than practical men, must be called to the aid of the legislator; and the slimy lobbyist must be kicked out of his presence and the door shut in the face of the paid attorney. Let the legislatures of the States concerned jointly put an absolute stop to all modes of capturing oysters except by tongs, until a commission can be appointed composed of scientific men and practical oystermen, to make a survey of the beds and of the grounds suitable for artificial beds but heretofore barren; and then with the facts before them, a legislative committee will be able to frame a law sufficient to meet the exigencies of the case. As to the success of ordinary oyster planting, which consists in catching small oysters from the natural rocks and planting them in protected water where the small oysters shall increase in size and fatten until fit for market, nothing stands in the way of it but the lack of legal protection for the property, which under the present law is wholly inadequate. Moreover these small oysters while growing and fattening will furnish spawn for immense increase and multiplication if the proper conditions are intelligently supplied. These planting grounds need not be and ought not to be natural rocks, for unless the private ownership of them be fully guaranteed and protected legally as in case of any other private property no man in his senses will put money in such business beyond a few bushels of oysters for his own eating. The key to the solution of this branch of the problem is adequate law for the conviction and punishment of oyster thieves, without which nothing can be done. As far as strictly artificial propagation is concerned science has as yet devised no methods completely satisfactory; and it must be further said science has had no legislative encouragement to give to the matter time and study. If this matter be dealt with with sufficient sincerity and intelligence a vast industry can be erected upon these colossal ruins, and enormous values added to the taxable basis of the States concerned.

## FARMER'S BULLETIN NO. 4.

We have received from the Department of Agriculture the above document. It treats of fungous diseases of the grape and their treatment, and is written by Mr. B. T. Galloway, Chief of Division of Vegetable Pathology. The work of this division has been of the highest character and value, and is a fine example of what science applied in agricultural practice means. Those interested in grapes should get a copy of this bulletin, wherein will be found ample, simple and sufficient directions for making the fungus-destroying mixtures and spraying the vines. The author points out that the treatment is strictly preventive and not curative; hence apply it early or not at all. He says: "The man who waits until his vines are attacked, and the mildew or black

fair start, before beginning it, had probably just as well fungicides on the ground for the good they will do his vines. Is," he adds, "no longer any reason as to the efficacy of these agents, and by their use many growers are saving as much as per cent of their crop?" If the fungicides are not used there will be crop at all.

## SHEEP SHEARING, ETC.

We have before us a letter from a man in Kansas, who asks an opinion about a sheep shearing machine having seen the machine referred to as not capable of an opinion of value about it. There are machines in use for this purpose which are regarded as successful. And why don't folks advertise their wares, and do it in a way which is intelligible by those to whom the advertisements are addressed? An advertisement, if honest, should state the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; such an advertisement, however, would in fact be a curiosity. Another question our brother asks is, what to do for a small umbilical hernia in a colt? Let it alone, it will go away after a while, as ninety-nine out of a hundred of them do, if let alone. If in any case one should evidently enlarge as the colt grows, a ligature and small compress over the opening will soon reduce it, and it will disappear. If it does not obviously and materially increase, we repeat it, let it alone.

## Maryland Farmers.

The Baltimorean, Baltimore, Md.

The Baltimorean took occasion in its last issue to call attention to the growth of the spirit of political dependence in all sections of the country, and to the signs indicative of the same condition of feeling in this State. The activity shown by the Farmers' Alliance of Maryland recently, and the meetings held at various points within the last few weeks, possess a significance that is scarcely be misunderstood even those who are slowest to read portents of stormy weather in political skies. Maryland was one of the few States in which the farmers as such did not make themselves distinctly felt at last fall's elections. The result in the two congressional districts that were deemed from the Republicans as no doubt largely due to their votes, but there was no local State issue which gave them the opportunity to show their strength as a class in a way that could not be misunderstood. This is to be noted for the reason that if they had spoken at the polls as a body, they would have been masters of the situation this year, and could have forced local managers to endorse their policy platform without the necessity of making a struggle. As it was, the Republican excesses in Congress made it wiser and more patriotic not to array themselves against a party which represented popular rights and free government, but defer an organized movement till a more convenient season.

This year, however, as we have it quite clear that they do propose to remain inactive addresses at the meetings we have referred show are thoroughly aroused of their grievances.

Even if no special efforts are made, the membership of the Farmers' Alliance in Maryland will reach a formidable number before next fall's election. But it is evident that special efforts are already being made by the leaders of the Alliance to increase its membership, and the unusual activity in its ranks must add many voters to the agricultural hosts in the course of the next few months. There are farmers enough in the State to compel the dominant party to listen to them, if they choose to insist upon being heard. In fact, there are enough, with the reformers who are willing to help them, to put out of the management of the Democratic party the old political hacks who have controlled it so long, and to take possession of its organization themselves. More unlikely things have happened in other States. Take South Carolina, for instance, as an example at one end of the political line, and Kansas as an illustration at the other extreme. Was there ever a more hide-bound Democratic State than South Carolina a year or so ago? Was there ever a more radical Republican State than Kansas was until a very recent period? For years in both States the farmers had been suffering and begging for relief without avail, but without the courage or manhood to rise above party prejudices and vote for their own interests. They were docile and patient so long that they were supposed to be like beasts of burden who would never have the spirit to revolt. It had passed into a sort of political axiom, indeed, that farmers could never be induced to vote against their party, and that while they might grumble between elections, they were always to be depended upon when they came up to the polls. Partisans on both sides have now discovered their mistake, and the great effort everywhere at present is to conciliate and do homage to the agricultural vote. The farmers in other States seem to see through the transparent devices of the politicians, and we rather imagine that those in Maryland are quite as smart and alert as their brothers elsewhere. They are not green enough, we trust, to be caught again, as in times past, with chaff or mouldy corn. Something substantial must be offered them this year, and they must have such security as will bind and enforce the promise. It may or may not be wise for them to put a State ticket of their own in the field in the coming campaign. That will largely depend upon circumstances, and upon the attitude of the old parties. But of one thing they may be certain; they will receive nothing unless they put themselves in a position to demand what they want and to enforce their demands. For this purpose they should organize the Alliance thoroughly in every county in Maryland, and early in the coming summer hold a State convention in Baltimore before either of the other political conventions are held. Let them formulate their demands for presentation to the Republican and Democratic conventions, and if they do not ratify them, and prove their sincerity by nominating candidates acceptable to the farmers,

let the latter put a ticket of their own in the field. And in any event they should put forward their own legislative nominees in every county in the State. It will not do to trust wholly to promises. They should have the means in their own hands of compelling performance, and to do this they must be in control of the next General Assembly. There is no reason why the Farmers' Alliance should not elect a majority of the members of the Maryland legislature that is to meet at Annapolis next January. Let them give this subject consideration.

Farmers and the Sub-Treasury.  
(Oktibbeha Citizen, Starkville, Miss.)

The importance of this subject is such, that the limits of one article in your valuable columns does not do justice either to the subject or the writer. In my first article I set out the general situation of the industrial classes, and the extent of the present system of speculative robbery was affecting their interests (or rather their ruin). I want in this to notice first that all money invested in land is virtually out of circulation. Why? Because the general government declines to recognize it as capital by instructing its agents the National Banks from advancing on it; thus we see at once that the great bulk of wealth held by the agriculturists is virtually out of circulation and is an investment only so far as the farmer makes it valuable, to himself personally, by its products; if he does not, then it follows that it is a benefit only to the tax gatherer. Now the products of these farms are the only capital the farmer is permitted to operate on, and consequently it is a source of great interest to him how far the products represent value. Well lets see; we say a bale of cotton is worth \$40, and if A has a bale of cotton he is generally considered worthy of credit to that extent because the cotton will generally bring that amount. Well suppose by suppression of the circulatory medium, as occurred in December last, cotton goes down, say to 6 cents; well, if cotton went down to 6 cents this year, the financiers will not hereafter be willing to consider a bale of cotton as representing \$40 "because what once was, may be again."

Now in the second place we will take a trip over the sun-kissed slope of the Pacific, and suppose we owned a gold or silver mine. Well now, money invested in those mines are also out of circulation practically as the money invested in farms, and the property is only valuable to its owners in its products which represent value, as a bale of cotton represents value, but with this difference that the government recognizes gold and silver as wealth and bases its circulating medium on its possession. Then comes the inference that if gold or silver be recognized as a basis of wealth, on which the government feels secure, then why not cotton or corn? By reference to the following it will be seen that the money in circulation per capita is so small that the farmer who is denied the privilege of using his capital invested in land stands a small chance of getting even his share of this.

Editor Burkitt's Reasons.  
Chickasaw Messenger, Okolona, Miss.

We are not abusing our Senators because they do not agree with us, or we with them, for we concede them the right to think and act for themselves; we are simply trying to find two other good Democrats, worthy to represent the people in the United States Senate, who do not think the sub-treasury and loan schemes, endorsed by the representative farmers of America with re-

In 1866 the population was 35,819,281, the circulation \$1,863,406,316, per capita \$52.01. In 1876 the population was 46,284,344, the circulation 620,316,970 and per capita \$13.40. In 1886 the population was 61,685,218, the circulation 470,474,361, and the per capita \$7.63. In 1889 the population was 65,000,000, the circulation 306,999,982 and the per capita \$4.72. Then we say to the government, if there is not enough gold and silver to be had to increase the circulation to an adequate amount, which is very clear, as the unlimited coinage act would only increase the volume twenty-four millions annually, then recognize some other standard of value on which to base your promises to pay and send life and prosperity to quicken the veins of traffic. We care not what the remedy is so it brings relief whether it be to recognize investments in real property or make a standard out of any commodity, but relief must and will be had. The farmer does not ask special benefits; he does not want class legislation; he only asks a chance at the money in circulation with terrific odds that are against him taken away. He does not care for the privilege of oppressing any other industry. He only wants his rights to the benefits of a free government assured to him. He asks for an adequate circulating medium and an equal chance at the dollars. No more, no less will satisfy him. Now the warehouse system is not intended by its advocates as a scheme to borrow money from the government at a low rate of interest, but by a deposit of the cotton to furnish security to the government for an issue of money that will go into all the channels of trade and be a source of profit, not specially to the farmer but to all classes. The government does not issue treasury notes on gold or silver bullion until it is safe in its vaults. And never could it issue treasury notes on any other evidence of value unless it had such property in its possession or subject to its control, and the provision that the cotton must be sold within twelve months is because it is subject to decay and is intended to be replaced by other cotton of the next year's growth. This is where those opposed to the system are misled. They think the warehouse system is intended to specially provide for a gigantic loan to the farmers, while their request boiled down is no more than the free coinage proposed to do. Owners of mines allow the products of the fields and the products of the mines to be deposited with the government as a security for the circulation of money. All Democrats are in favor of the deposit of gold and silver, why not of corn or cotton?



power," says Lord Bacon, and so it is—a power for good or a power for evil. So then the thought forces itself upon us that whilst we realize the necessity of the education of our people we should educate them to use that power so it may prove to be a power for good to our people.

Clod Hopper (Kosciusko, Miss.) says: When a man says I am for the sub-treasury bill, but I think it ought to be amended, I think it is imperfect, etc., you can put him down as uncertain and straddle of the fence. The but is to give him a chance to get on the other side. There is a principle in it, and that is to change the manner of issuing money, and that is to issue the money to the patriots instead of the bleated bond holding, aristocratic pirates. The present plan gives an undue power to capital to force from labor its products at a lower price than would be given under the law of supply and demand. Then the bill intends to give us a flexible volume of currency. Also a greater stable quantity. Now the question is fully understood by all readers of Alliance literature and those who favor the bill should ask of candidates: Do you favor the principles of the bill? If ye, I will consider your claims; if nay, I cannot vote for you. No buts, ifs or provinces ought to be accepted, because if a candidate does not understand by this time what the bill means, and what the Alliance is driving at, he has not got sense enough to make a decent constable, or has been negligent of his duty, in not studying the question.

Dakota Ruralist (Huron, S. Dak.) says in regard to the sub-treasury bill:

Is it not time to stop that silly talk about the bill being a greenback craze for inflation? How can it be inflation when the grain must first be in the hands of the farmer and but eighty per cent of its value advanced? Just look at this rationally. Would the government advance any more money than the banks and commission merchants now advance? What do these men now send out to buy this grain with? Gold? Not a bit of it. They send out their credit. The government would do nothing more or less than these men do. It would issue treasury notes for eighty per cent of the appraised value of the grain when stored, and when the grain was consumed these notes would be retired. Study it in this light and see how plain and practical the plan is. If this be so, what is the benefit of the plan? Simply this. It will redeem the farmer from servitude. He need not sell his grain until he wants to do so. He can borrow the money which he may need direct from the government without the intervention of any man that he does not wish to have in it. The greatest benefit is the rate of interest. Under this bill the farmer can borrow all the money that he can put up collateral for at about two per cent per annum. This is the pinch of the shoe. The men who make their money by usury (the use of money) do not like this bill. Farmers Study this matter in the light of money at as low rate of interest as the national bankers are getting.

The Alabama Mirror (Selma) says:

The main issue in the election of 1892 is not tariff reform or the free coinage of silver, or both, although they are important considerations. The real question now before the people of the United States is, shall this government be run by the people and for the people, or by Wall street and the protected manufacturers. A grand national party is now being organized, composed of true and tried and patriotic American citizens of both the old parties, working at present within the old party lines, for honesty, integrity and uprightness, and for a restoration of the government to a constitutional basis. The people are tired of war taxes in time of peace, and of the useless, extravagant and reckless squandering of the revenues. If this can be stopped by gaining control of the present party organizations, it will be done. If it cannot, a third party will be organized that will sweep the country in 1892.

Industrial News (Jackson, Mich.) says: The bankers hate to let go of a good thing, and profess great fear that there will be inflation if we have gold and silver in stead of bonds as the basis of our paper money. They know, or ought to know, that all the gold and silver in the world does not equal the amount of money in circulation in the world, and that therefore, if the coinage of silver was as free as that of gold, there would still be a deficiency which would have to be made up either with treasury notes or bank paper.

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hold back the organization of Alliances, by representing that it is in the interest of some political party or other falsehoods, concerning the workings and interests of the Order. Notwithstanding this, the Farmers Alliance is growing fast, and next fall will show that Ingalls was not the only politician to mistake the signs of the times.

Alliance Herald (Montgomery, Ala.) says:

Our Catalogue for 1891 is pronounced absolutely the best seed and plant book issued, printed in good legible type, on good paper, it excited the admiration of all—604 varieties of Vegetables, Flowers, Flowering Plants, Small Fruits, Fruit- and Nut-bearing Trees, etc., are beautifully illustrated, as many as 38 of them in colors. This catalogue is mailed free to all who ordered in 1890, but the postage on the book alone is five cents, we desire all others who are not customers, to send a copy, to send us twenty-five cents in stamps for it; and in addition to sending our catalogue, we will also mail you, without extra charge, a packet of the wonderful BUSH LIMA BEANS, THE MOST VALUABLE VEGE TABLE NOVELTY INTRODUCED IN YEARS; AND A PACKET OF THE NEW MARGUERITE CARNATION, THE FLORAL WONDER OF 1891. These two packets of seeds are worth 25 cents; so it virtually means the same thing as mailing our catalogue free to all who answer this advertisement. Address

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The opponents of free silver coinage are therefore the advocates of fiat paper money. They use the word "bank" as though bank paper was an equivalent to gold coin. It is a common and coarse game played upon credulous people, but fortunately not as successful at this time as formerly.

Alliance Leader (Boliver, N. Y.) says:

In 1866 500 bushels of wheat paid the salary of an Allegany county judge. Wizard John Sherman waves his magic wand, and mingo bingo hoco poco wingle wangle gingshang presto change, and 3,500 bushels of wheat pays the salary of the judge of Allegany county, and oh! how we old party chumps do love and revere the name of John Sherman.

The Southern Mercury (Dallas, Tex.) raises issue with Senator Reagan, and has the vantage ground:

Senator Reagan asserted in his Austin speech that the sub-treasury plan, as adopted by the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union at St. Louis, in December, 1889, and ratified at Ocala, Fla., in December, 1890, is class legislation. The Mercury flatly denies that the said sub-treasury plan is class legislation. The burden of proof rests upon Senator Reagan.

Farmers Alliance, Baltimore, Md., says:

From all parts of the country comes evidence of a concerted attack on the Order by that class of politicians that the success of the Alliance would retire permanently to private life. Where the Order is strong, then the attempt is made to divide them on some public question, the sub-treasury or free coinage measures being the ones preferred, but where it is weak, then it takes the form of trying to

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PHILADELPHIA, PA.**

The Oktibbeha Citizen (Starkville, Miss.) published the following resolutions:

The Alliance (Tallahassee, Fla.) says:

The machine press and all the political hacks throughout the country are boosting Cleveland, for the Democratic nomination in 1892. If Cleveland and the plutocracy are stronger than the Democratic masses of the people, he may go there, and if he should, it will be a cold day for the toiling millions now crying for help.

The Oklahome Citizen (Starkville, Miss.) published the following resolutions:

Owing to the stand taken by the Mississippians as regards the sub-treasury plan and the fact that the said paper is the State organ of the Alliance, that said paper is not representing the Alliance, but it is serving the opposition, and trying to create discord in the ranks of the Alliance, therefore it is resolved

That the Salem Alliance, No. 92, of Oklahome county, do condemn and denounce such actions by said Mississippians as unworthy the trust of the farmer of this State, and should not have the support of any farmer in this State, and we ask the membership all over the State to at once cut their support from this, The Mississippian.

The Southern Mercury (Dallas, Tex.) raises issue with Senator Reagan, and has the vantage ground:

That we will not vote for any one to represent this county in the legislature of this State unless they pledge themselves that they will not vote for any United States Senator who does not pledge himself to endorse and work for the demands of the National Council at Ocala.

That we condemn the so-called interview of Brother Beaman in the Mississippi of March the 10th, as unbecoming, untimely, and tending to lend his influence to the opposition of the Alliance, as he is the honored Chairman of the Executive Committee of the State Alliance of this State.

Farmers and Laborers Journal (Owensboro, Ky.) says:

From all parts of the country comes evidence of a concerted attack on the Order by that class of politicians that the success of the Alliance would retire permanently to private life. Where the Order is strong, then the attempt is made to divide them on some public question, the sub-treasury or free coinage measures being the ones preferred, but where it is weak, then it takes the form of trying to

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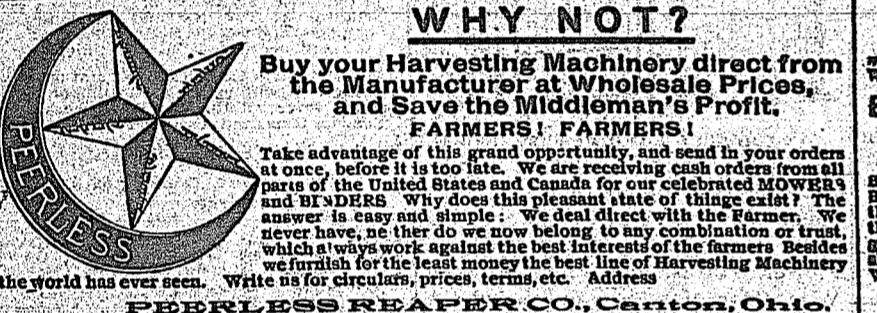
The Ocala Council took an advanced position on "Economic Education," urging the establishment in each Sub-Alliance or Assembly, of a "Circulating Library," and named the ECONOMIC QUARTERLY as a choice series of books to use as a beginning, after which such other books and periodicals may be secured as are deemed best by the membership.

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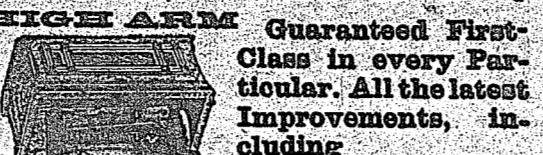
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# THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION

DEVOTED TO SOCIAL, FINANCIAL, AND POLITICAL ECONOMY.

VOL. 5.

WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 18, 1891.

No. 5.

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### ATTACKING THE ECONOMIST.

The display of bad temper, worse judgment and political desperation made by the president of the Missouri State Alliance in his recent speeches and contributions to the press need not arouse any fear in the minds of the brethren. It simply discloses the hopeless condition of partisan politics and the extent to which men will go to serve its purposes. This exhibition should serve as a warning in the selection of future officers in the Alliance and cause the brethren everywhere to be more alert in detecting unworthy applicants for membership.

In New England the discussion on Alliance principles is new, and promises to be warm. The great dailies are in arms, and active warfare may be expected. The policy of ignoring has become ineffectual.

MISSISSIPPI, Missouri and Wall street appear to be the three centers of opposition to the Alliance. Similar objections are given, similar reasons for dissatisfaction advanced, and a general similarity in methods maintained. Cannot the Alliance discover a common result anticipated? Let no one be deceived.

THE politicians are now at home busy at work spreading discontent and discord among the brethren. A few Alliance members who think more of political preferment or partisan money than the good of the Order are lending their aid in such nefarious proceedings—their season will be brief and their total destruction swift and sure.

THE cry of negro domination emanated, the balance could be accomplished easily and in detail. With that shrewdness which comes from long service, plans were laid for the destruction of the national organ. If that was out of the way, each State organ could then be attacked in detail and easily driven from the field of journalism. This aims to present the needed reforms in economic conditions in such a clear, reasonable and truthful manner that they cannot be ignored or longer delayed. It seeks not the destruction of either political party, but to reform and control them in the interest of the whole people. It aims to take the politics of the people out of the hands of the political bosses, great and small, to rid it of the incubus of dishonest and tricky politicians whose sole purpose is to perpetuate their own existence. It is these

political bosses and chronic politicians that will in the end overthrow present political organizations because they will not be able to rule them under Alliance influence to serve their selfish ends. The elements of destruction are at present almost entirely confined to the old parties themselves, and consist of those who are opposed to any and all reforms and are fighting against a purer and better government. These are the factors that will destroy both the old parties if permitted to exist much longer, and not the Alliance which seeks better laws, happier conditions, and "equal rights to all and special privileges to none." If the politician would forever destroy the Alliance let him make such laws as will be a lasting benefit to the people. If he would end this agitation that now threatens, let him remove the cause for such agitation. The purpose of the Alliance is to better present conditions, blot from the statute books unjust laws and restore the government to that condition where honesty and integrity are the necessary requirement of all legislators. This purpose will be persevered in, will be contested for upon all occasions, and defended under all circumstances, until they have become the law of the land and the inheritance of the people. Let no one mistake that fraud, deception, political chicanery, or any other unfair method, will block its progress or change its course.

WHAT DOES THE ALLIANCE PURPOSE TO DO?  
The Alliance makes its own declaration of purposes. They are clear, distinct, and no one need be mislead as to their meaning. Its purposes are not to break up either the Democratic or Republican parties, but to teach them the necessity of going back to the people once more for men and measures. It aims to present the needed reforms in economic conditions in such a clear, reasonable and truthful manner that they cannot be ignored or longer delayed. It seeks not the destruction of either political party, but to reform and control them in the interest of the whole people. It aims to take the politics of the people out of the hands of the political bosses, great and small, to rid it of the incubus of dishonest and tricky politicians whose sole purpose is to perpetuate their own existence. It is these political bosses and chronic politicians that will in the end overthrow these county papers of Mississippi will be found at the post of duty. Among the papers notable for their devotion to the cause, the Chickasaw Messenger is not to be forgotten. Its editor is

the State lecturer, and is making an active canvass for Alliance principles, and if the last current number lacks the moulding influence of Brother Burkitt's intelligent presence, it is fully compensated as an educational vehicle in a splendid letter from ex-Congressman Barkesdale, whose friends desire that he shall avow himself a candidate for United States Senator, from which the following extracts are here reproduced:

John C. Calhoun, the great apostle of strict construction, expressed his opinion as follows: "It is my impression that in the present condition of the world a paper currency in some form is indispensable in financial and commercial operations of extreme communities. In many respects it has a vast superiority over a metallic currency, especially in great and extended transactions, by its cheapness, lightness, etc. \* \* \* Why should the community be compelled to give 6 per cent discount for the government credit, blended with that of the bank, when the superior credit of the government could be furnished separately without discount, to the mutual advantage to the government and community? \* \* \* I affirm that there is no instance of a government paper assuming the form I propose, viz: (receivable for public and private dues) that ever did depreciate. \* \* \* It is within the constitutional power of Congress to use such paper in the management of its finances according to the most rigid rule of construing the Constitution."

\* \* \* \* \* Some of the objectors say they are in favor of issuing treasury notes until the currency amounts to \$50 per capita. On what do they propose to base them? Why, of course, as the output of the precious metals is not sufficient to constitute a circulating medium, and as they oppose the Alliance plan, they mean that the notes shall be issued on the credit of the Government, with power to lay a tax on the whole property of the country. But will they explain how Congress can constitutionally issue an unlimited supply of treasury notes without any tangible basis except the government's credit, and yet can not issue treasury notes on the staple crops?

Again, it is alleged that it would increase the number of officeholders. While I am opposed to enlarging the circle of those who live on public patronage, the objection does not furnish even a plausible pretext for absolving the government from performing obligations required by the Constitution and the necessities of the community. Is the post-office system to be abolished or dwarfed in its beneficent operations because it will increase the number of officeholders? I hold that under the commerce clause of the Constitution Congress should take control of the Mississippi levee system and appropriate whatever sums are needed to confine it within its banks. Am I to be deterred from the support of a measure so manifestly necessary and proper because it will increase the number of government employees? The Alliance membership has every motive to stand by the organization. It is not a vain thing they are seeking. It is to rescue the country, if not from convulsion and revolution, from appalling calamities. The farmers' movement is a contest for equal rights for all, and against special privileges for the few. It has already achieved great results. It has overthrown sectionalism and united the West and the South in the bonds of an indissoluble fraternity. Its powerful influence was felt in the late elections. It has pioneered the way for legislatures, Congresses and courts. Mr. Vance, the great North Carolina Senator, who is pledged to support the farmers' plan if the legislature so instructs, says the farmers' demand "caused the Senate to pass the unlimited coinage bill." When the demand of the farmers was first made to establish a department of agriculture, it was denounced as an unconstitutional proposition "for the benefit of a class."

It is ignorantly said that the bill provides for collecting money from one set of men for the purpose of lending it to another set. If those who have raised this objection would read the bill they would see that it does not provide for the expenditure of money which has been covered in the treasury. The bill requires that the Secretary of the Treasury shall prepare and issue notes to the depositors of the staple crops, and that these notes shall be receivable for customs and a full legal tender for all debts. The principle of taxation is not embraced in the measure. The money is to be issued directly to the people by the exercise of its constitutional prerogative upon security as good and sufficient as bullion or bonds. Other objections are urged which do not deserve

the name of argument and are too trivial for the space which would be wasted in exposing them.

It is strictly in accordance with the constitution and in the line of the teachings of its framers and expounders, and the unbroken decisions of the court of highest judicature of the Union. Its opposers have not pointed out a clause which it violates, and cannot expect the public to accept their unsupported dictum. It will provide, without perplexing and hazardous delay, a safe, flexible and elastic currency in a sufficient quantity to relieve the country from the deplorable condition in which the moneyocracy has brought it. A currency cannot be unsafe, which is based upon crops that are consumed in a year, and are more useful and indispensable to the human family than the precious metals themselves—a currency created by the fiat of the government paying for its dues, and which can not depreciate so long as the government itself is permanent.

ATTENTION is called to the eloquent and able address of President L. L. Polk found in another part of this paper. It should be read carefully by every member of the Order.

#### A MEMBER'S DUTY.

Since it has become a means of popularity with the political managers and their dupes for Alliance men to show a disposition to disorganize and neutralize the power of the Alliance

exerted through unity, here and there a misguided brother has been induced to assume a position of antagonism to the demands of the Order. This opposition has been accompanied invariably with declarations of great veneration for those purposes and demands of the Alliance that may happen to please the objector, and is always suggestive of the fact that the only obstacle to unity in his mind is his inability to make his single self into a majority of the Order. President Mann Page, of the Virginia State Alliance, has dealt with a brother of this temperament in a late letter which so clearly expresses a true appreciation of the duties growing out of the obligation to abide the decision of the majority, that the greater part is here reproduced:

In thus clearly stating his views upon the necessity for unity, which he does in the State organ, the Alliance Farmer, President Page has laid down sound Alliance doctrine, and has doubtless discomfited those hopeful aspirants to political bossism throughout the State who had apprehended that the bond of the Order would be broken.

The writer is evidently a good and sincere man, and as a member of the Farmers Alliance he is entitled to the fullest liberty and freedom of thought, nor is he required to yield his opinions to those of a majority of his Alliance brethren who may differ with him in regard to his religious or political belief, and he is correct when he says that before taking the obligation he was assured that it would not conflict with his religious or political views. The plain and simple meaning of the assurance given, is that a member is not required to withdraw from his party or his church except by his own free will. The brother is mistaken when he claims that the plan of organization submitted by the Legislative Council for the direction and guidance of county and district Legislative Councils requires him to sink his honest convictions, and he fails utterly in his conception of that clause submitted by the Legislative Council which says: "Provided no Legislative Council shall advocate any measure which may conflict with the constitution or laws of the Order or demands of the State Alliance and Supreme Council," the plain meaning of which is that county and district Legislative Councils shall not originate and promulgate any Alliance doctrines other than those that have been duly considered and approved by the Supreme Council and State Alliance. The declaration "that there is no power on the throne or behind it that can wipe out or expunge this obligation," suggests the propriety of my reminding him of that section of the "obligation" he took when he swore that he would faithfully support the constitution and laws of the Order, when he says that there were measures adopted by the Supreme Council, "to characterize with the mildest possible language, many think absurd, impractical, etc., and that he, as lecturer of his county, considers it his duty to point out to the Alliances to whom he lectures the injury they will inflict upon the Order, he certainly gets his sworn duty to render that support. In page 14 of the proceedings of the Supreme Council, held at Ocala, De-

cember last, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That we discuss freely, fully, honestly and thoroughly, all measures and resolutions presented for consideration, and that where the action of a majority has been had, that the delegates pledge our united support to them, believing when the body has spoken it is our duty to stand as a unit as to the outside world. My object in quoting the above resolution is to show my brother that it is perfectly right for all members and officers to fully, freely and thoroughly discuss all measures that may promote or injure the Alliance cause; and if the Alliances so desire they may instruct the delegates what measures to support or oppose when representing the Order in State or National Councils. But when the Supreme Council has adopted the laws, rules and resolutions, it is the duty of every true Alliance brother to act together as a unit, and yield obedience until such laws, etc., shall have been repealed. These principles are laid down not only in the obligation that every member assumes, but also reiterated in the lectures each member receives before he is introduced as a member in full fellowship.

\* \* \* I feel it to be my duty as president of the Virginia State Alliance to admonish him not to use the commission he holds as County Lecturer to instruct the members of the Alliances to whom he is called upon to lecture, in opinions antagonistic to measures that have been adopted. This admonition is not intended in the slightest degree to interfere or prevent the fullest and freest discussion by the members and officers of the Order when assembled in the Alliances—County Alliances or State Alliances, upon all subjects affecting the good of the Order, whether they be measures that have already been adopted by any and all County, State, or National Councils; but to admonish the brethren against breaking the combined influence of the Order by aiding and abetting our enemies by public speeches, and through the columns of the newspapers. In conclusion I earnestly request the members of the Order to act in accord and as a unit in support of the resolution adopted by the Supreme Council at Ocala.

In thus clearly stating his views upon the necessity for unity, which he does in the State organ, the Alliance Farmer, President Page has laid down sound Alliance doctrine, and has doubtless discomfited those hopeful aspirants to political bossism throughout the State who had apprehended that the bond of the Order would be broken.

It should be borne in mind that the plan is subject to modification and amendment. Its originators do not pretend that it is perfect, and only ask that it be passionately considered and modified, with a view not to the abandonment of the principle, but the accomplishment of the chief object, viz: An increase of the volume of currency proportionate to the urgent necessities of the country.

The Alliance membership has every motive to stand by the organization. It is not a vain thing they are seeking. It is to rescue the country, if not from convulsion and revolution, from appalling calamities. The farmers' movement is a contest for equal rights for all, and against special privileges for the few. It has already achieved great results. It has overthrown sectionalism and united the West and the South in the bonds of an indissoluble fraternity. Its powerful influence was felt in the late elections. It has pioneered the way for legislatures, Congresses and courts. Mr. Vance, the great North Carolina Senator, who is pledged to support the farmers' plan if the legislature so instructs, says the farmers' demand "caused the Senate to pass the unlimited coinage bill." When the demand of the farmers was first made to establish a department of agriculture, it was denounced as an unconstitutional proposition "for the benefit of a class."

This position is unfortunate, as it places the seal of condemnation on the actions of Senator George and Judge Lamar, who both voted for a loan to the New Orleans Cotton Exposition. The first object to accomplish, if the above be true, is the defeat of Senator George, who aided in this alleged outrage upon the properties of just government. If this loan to the New Orleans Exposition was wrong and fraught with such dire calamities that immediate steps are just now necessary, after ten years of anxious solicitude, to undo the great

wrong and thereby release the people from a perilous condition of which they were totally oblivious until the sub-treasury plan was proposed—if this must be done, of course those who were accomplices in this despotic encroachment upon the liberties of the people should first be placed in a position where further outrages of this character would be impossible. The attention of Brother Passmore is called to the magnitude of the undertaking. Every senator from every Southern State, and every Senator from every Northern State, who were members of the Senate in 1884 should be deprived of their office, as they all voted for the loan, knowing it to be such. In the House 137 members voted for it.

Among this number were Breckinridge, Belmont, Clements, Crisp, Culberson, Forney, Hatch, Hemphill, Herbert, Hewitt, Oates, Randall, Tillman and many others who are well known and have stood high in the ranks of the old parties. In fact, Congress is filled with those who voted for this loan, and everyone, so far as heard from, have stood squarely by their action except Senator George, of Mississippi, and Congressman Oates, of Alabama. Such ill-considered and illogical statements as the above will hardly find a response among the thinking people of Mississippi, and will go far to detract even the small amount of credence that may attach to the remainder of the article from which this extract is taken. As an inevitable result this venturesome brother will soon retire to the shades of oblivion, as will others who have had the temerity to contest against the plain principles of the sub-treasury plan.

#### AS TO MR. U. S. HALL.

We regret that the Charleston World has published what purports to be the inside history of the committee that investigated Dr. Macune at Ocala, as given by Mr. U. S. Hall. We regret it not because it fairly fixes any criminality upon Dr. Macune or will hurt the Alliance, because in doing as he has Mr. Hall has violated a solemn obligation, and proves himself unworthy the continued confidence of the Order he has outraged. Dr. Macune may have acted indiscreetly; but who does not? He borrowed money from Mr. Calhoun; but he gave the usual collateral for the debt. It is wholly false to interpret the recent action of the National Legislative Council as in any sense a repudiation of Macune or an endorsement of Hall. Mr. Hall is honor bound to advocate the sub-treasury bill as faithfully as Dr. Macune, and he will be compelled to advocate its passage if his State Alliance does not expell him for violation of his obligation, or if the legislative Council fails to repudiate him. One with less ambition and more discretion would never have accepted a position that involved rigorous action directly opposed to his professed views.

The above is taken from the Cotton Plant, official organ of South Carolina, whose editor in chief, Dr. J. Wm. Stokes, is the efficient president of the State Alliance. This article admits of but one construction. It goes right for the mark without qualification, and discloses a desire to treat by direct methods that is certainly commendable. It is an example that the best may follow with credit.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis removed with their family to Kansas in 1872. They settled on the open prairie two miles west of Junction City, where they carved out for themselves and family a comfortable home. Within a few months of his settlement in Kansas, Mr. Davis found himself in the harness as a public worker. In March, 1873, he was president of the first State farmers' convention ever held in Kansas. At the close of the session, by request of the convention, he issued the first address ever published in the State urging the farmers to organize



Congressman John Davis.

John Davis was born August 9, 1826, in Sangamon county, Illinois, about fifteen miles south of the present city of Springfield. The north half of the State was at that time in possession of the Indians. As Black Hawk and his braves retreated, the white settlements trod closely upon their heels. In the summer of 1830 the Davis family removed to Macon county, and settled about four miles east of the present city of Decatur. It was in this county that Abraham Lincoln and his father opened a farm and started a home about the same time, and the childhood of Mr. Davis was coeval in the same community with the early manhood of Abraham Lincoln. And the young man early learned to admire and follow the older in his great and patriotic course in life.

Mr. Davis' writings for the columns of his Junction City Tribune have been voluminous in connection with the reforms he has been pushing, and his public discussions with his pen have been too numerous to mention.

John Davis and his son, Charles S., became proprietors of the Junction City Tribune in 1875, and have at no time lowered the banner of reform, or changed front from the very first year of its existence.

Mr. Davis has twice been the candidate of his party for Congress, before the recent election. He accepted the honor on both occasions as a matter of duty and principle, with no hope of being elected, and on both occasions he ran ahead of his party ticket, showing that he is personally popular and respected. In canvassing his district on the various occasions he has improved his opportunities of making a wide acquaintance among the people. He has, also, made an extended acquaintance among the leading public men of the nation. On several occasions he has made extended visits to the city of Washington when Congress was in session. He has, on four occasions, attended the General Assembly of the Knights of Labor, in Richmond, Va., 1886; in Indianapolis, Ind., 1888; in Atlanta, Ga., 1889, and in Denver, 1890. He is a trusted friend of Mr. Powderly.

On two occasions he has been chairman of important committees, which made very able reports that were adopted by the General Assembly. One was on "The Causes of Industrial Depression;" the other on "Relief for Mortgaged Debtors." Both were in exact accord with the Alliance or People's movement.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis have reared a family of six sons and three daughters, all grow up and filling places com-

mendable with high educational qualifications.

After spending fifty-seven years of his life on a farm as a practical worker, Mr. Davis has now moved to town to be near his newspaper work. But he has by no means abandoned his farm thoughts and habits. His children were all attached to farm life, and have gone into other pursuits only because of the unfair treatment which that honorable calling receives at the hands of our law makers.

Mr. Davis is a ripe scholar, well posted on all matters pertaining to the present movement. In the matter of statesmanship he has proved himself by actual public test the peer of the ablest that have dared to cross lances with him. Physically he is scarcely past his prime, addressing outdoor audiences with as clear and strong a voice as is usual with younger men.

In politics, prior to 1874, Mr. Davis was a Republican, having grown into that party from the old anti-slavery movement in which he was a worker and voter as early as 1848. He ceased to affiliate longer with his party when it entirely abandoned the early doctrines and platform which gave it existence and power.

In 1850 was started a movement in which Mr. Davis was a prominent and successful actor. It was known as a scheme to induce the Congress of the United States to appropriate public lands for the endowment of an agricultural college or industrial university in each of the several States of the Union. It was a twelve years' fight of hard work with tongue and pen. The bill was passed by Congress in 1853, but was vetoed by President Buchanan. It was again passed in 1862, and received the signature of Abraham Lincoln. Under that law there are now in existence no less than forty flourishing institutions. The Kansas State Agricultural College, at Manhattan; the Michigan University, at Lansing; the Illinois Industrial University, at Champaign; and Cornell University, at Ithaca, New York, may be mentioned as examples.

In looking over his past life, Mr. Davis contemplates with pleasure the course he has pursued, in aiding the anti-slavery movement; and has reason to be proud of his successful labors for industrial education, but none afford him more real joy and happiness than the dawn of the approaching daylight which is now opening the eyes of men to the dangerous tyranny of a merciless money power, that great destroyer of nations and crusher of civilized institutions. It is to this work he is now devoted, hoping that men may yet see their danger in time to save our institutions and liberties, and that this grand republic, baptized in the blood of so many patriots, may escape that grave yard where lie buried all the great nations of the past.

At the election of November 4, 1890, Mr. Davis was elected against both a Republican and a Democratic opponent. He received 2,145 votes more than those of both his opponents added together. His election but enlarges his sphere of labor.

T. D. Hinckley, an old correspondent of THE ECONOMIST, has assumed the editorial chair of the Alliance Free Lance, Springfield, Ill. Success

## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

THE PROTEST OF THE FARMER.  
Address of President L. L. Folk to Citizens Alliance,  
No. 4, of Washington, D. C.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I desire to express my sincere appreciation of the honor done me, through the kind invitation of Branch No. 4, Citizens Alliance, and the opportunity thus afforded for presenting before a Washington audience some views on the great industrial and economic questions now agitating the public mind throughout the country.

We are here to discuss principles, not parties; measures, and not men. Principles come of God, and are as eternal as the throne of justice itself. Men are of the dust of the earth, and are as transitory as the dewdrop on the morning flower.

Doubtless there are those present who will live to be numbered among two hundred millions of American people. They may live to see this magnificent country, stretching from ocean to ocean, in all the glory of a higher and happier civilization than has ever yet adorned or blessed a people, or they may live to see it the bleak and desolate abode of the genius of ruin. They may live to see this, the happiest, most prosperous and most powerful people that ever figured in the annals of the world, or they may live to see our God-favored land transformed into one vast mausoleum, in which shall be buried forever the splendid wreck of our past and prospective glory, and with it the world's last hope for civil and religious liberty.

And these possible conditions of power or impotence, of happiness or misery, of glory or shame, in the providence of God, as I believe, are to be determined in these closing years of the nineteenth century. Mighty forces are being marshaled which must test our virtue, our manhood, our patriotism, our appreciation of self government and our love of liberty.

History is ever repeating itself. The march of human progress is strewn with the wrecks of empires, kingdoms, systems, thrones and governments. Many of them went down in violence and blood. We stand to-day in the midst of a great revolution—peaceful and bloodless. I pray God it may be—but the mightiest, social, industrial and economic revolution the world has ever witnessed. It has not been heralded by the flare of flambae, the beating of drums, or the thunder of cannons. The millions who are enlisting in its ranks are marshaling under no ensign of hate, of blood or of carnage, but they align themselves under a banner on whose snow white folds are emblazoned in characters of heavenly light, the words: "Justice, equity and truth," and from one end of the land to the other the battle cry of this mighty host is: "Equal rights to all and special favors to none."

In the rapid development of our advancing civilization that equipoise between the great economic interests of the country—between the prominent elements of our civilization which are absolutely essential to national happiness and prosperity and to the life of the republic—is seriously threatened with destruction. No one of these elements can dominate another with safety. Even the authority and power of civil government can not do it. Rome had this under a republic for hundreds of years. Commerce can not do it. Carthage and Tyre had this. Intellectual culture and development can not do it. Greece stood proudly pre-eminent in all this. The elective franchise can not do it. All the republics which have flourished and perished had this. Concentrated wealth with all its power can not do it. When the splendor of the Roman republic faded into night, eighteen hundred of her citizens owned the then known world. When Egyptian civilization perished from the earth, three per cent of her people owned ninety-six per cent of her wealth, and to-day the once fruitful fields of the orient are given over to the wild wanderer of the plain, and the splendors of its civilization lie buried beneath the drifting sands of the desert.

Will we, as a people, profit by the lesson of the past? How stand we to-day? To the student of industrial progress and economic development, an anomalous condition of affairs is presented. The rapid expansion of our railway system, stretching 6,000 miles all over our land and furnishing transportation equal to the demands of our protective power—the successful development of man-

ufacturing enterprise in all its varied departments—the magical growth of villages, towns and cities, the grand rumbling of trains, the inspiring scream of whistles, the ringing clatter of hammer and trowel, the musical hum and swelling din of workshops and factories, the mighty rushing tramp of our busy millions, the tinkling ring of hammer and anvil—all join to swell the grand chorus of the world's happy song of industrial progress; and yet, agriculture, "the art of all arts, the science of all sciences, the life of all life," is languishing, drooping, dying. Instead of the happy, cheerful song of plenty, contentment and peace, which should bless the home of the American farmer, we hear the dismal and universal wail of hard times all over the land.

Let us investigate, briefly, the situation and see if we may find the cause of this unnatural and dangerous condition of affairs.

In 1850 our farmers owned over 70 per cent of the wealth of the country; in 1860, about 50 per cent; in 1880 about 33 per cent, and to-day they own less than 25 per cent, and yet they pay over 80 cents in every dollar that is collected in taxes.

From 1850 to 1860 farm values increased 101 per cent.

From 1860 to 1870 farm values increased 43 per cent.

From 1870 to 1880 farm values increased only 9 per cent.

Notwithstanding this alarming decline in farm values, the aggregate wealth of the country, increased 45 per cent from 1870 to 1880, and the agricultural population increased over 29 per cent.

From 1850 to 1860, agriculture led manufacturing 10 per cent in increased value of products; from 1870 to 1880, manufacture led agriculture 27 per cent, showing a difference in favor of manufacturing of 37 per cent.

The value of the ten leading staple crops of the country in 1866 was \$2,007,462,231. The value of the same crops in 1864, eighteen years later, \$2,043,500,481. During this time the cultivated acreage had nearly doubled, the farm hands had doubled, and agricultural implements and machinery had vastly improved, and yet the crops of 1884 sold for only 2 per cent more than the same crops of 1866.

The average value per acre in yield of all our crops in 1867, was \$19, and in 1887, twenty years later, the average value was about \$9.

## WHEAT.

1860 to 1870, average price per bushel, \$1.99.  
1880 to 1887, average price per bushel, \$1.07.

## CORN.

1860 to 1870, average price per bushel, 96 cents.  
1880 to 1887, average price per bushel, 46 cents.

## COTTON.

1860 to 1870, average price per pound, 48 cents.

1880 to 1887, average price per pound, 9 cents.

So that to-day a dollar costs the wheat farmer two and one-third times as much, the corn farmer over two and one-half times as much, and the cotton farmer over four times as much as it did from 1860 to 1870.

If a farmer had given a mortgage for \$1,000 in 1870, he could have paid it with 1050 bushels of corn. Ten to seventeen years later, it would have taken, without interest, 2,702 bushels to have paid it, and so with his other crops. The farmer pays his debts with his labor. His crops cost him as much labor now as in 1870, but he receives only from one-fourth to one-half as much for them. Must we be told that the law of supply and demand regulates prices? How, then, may we explain that we produced nine and one-half bushels of wheat per capita in 1881, and it was worth \$1.15 per bushel; while we produced in 1889 only seven and one-half bushels per capita, and it was worth only 79 cents per bushel? The operations of this ancient law in trade have been practically annulled or supplanted by the more imperious law of greed as now enforced under the mandates of monopolistic combinations for the pillage and robbery of honest labor.

In the great State of Illinois the corn crop of 1889 cost its farmers \$9,935,823 more than the crop was worth after it was harvested.

The mortgages on land lots and chattels in that State in 1880, were \$204,461,334. In 1887 they

were \$416,379,068—an increase of indebtedness in seven years of \$21,917,734—or 103 per cent.

On land alone the increase was \$44,953,000, or 40 per cent.

If every surplus bushel of wheat and corn of the crop of 1889 in that State had been applied to the mortgaged indebtedness on the farm lands in 1887, there would still remain \$117,784,977 to be paid out of other crops or earnings, or it would have fallen short \$3,875,250 of paying the interest.

In the great State of Michigan, with all its diversified industries, the farms are mortgaged to the amount of \$130,000,000 at an average interest of 7 per cent. And to pay the interest on the farm mortgages for one year would require 455,544 bushels more of wheat than the entire net crop of the State in 1889.

In the great State of Iowa \$199,000,000 of mortgaged indebtedness hangs over its farms—a sum equal to \$104 for every man, woman and child in the State. And this is exclusive of farms occupied by tenants. All over the face of this broad land, the most princely heritage ever given to man, may be read the same sad, sad story; and if you would read the fearful record of the frightful ravages of money power on the industrial energies of our people, go to your Census bureau in this city and you will find piled up the abstracts of 9,000,000 of mortgages on their homes—a mortgage for every seven of our population, or averaging about one mortgage to every family in the whole union.

But this law of supply and demand is inexorable and unchanging in its effects and operation as applied to money. Scarcity of money means high-priced money; a plentiful supply of money means cheap money. The high-priced dollar lessens the price of labor products, the cheap dollar raises the price of labor products. Look at our public debt. In 1886 it was \$2,783,000,000. We have paid in principal, interest and premiums on that debt the vast sum of \$4,198,931,361, and yet, it would take more of labor products to-day to pay the remainder than it would have taken at the prices in 1886 to have paid the original debt.

Again, two farmers each had \$1,000 in 1870. The one deposited his money in a vault, the other invested in wheat and bought 500 bushels. To-day the cash farmer can buy with his money 1,500 bushels of wheat while the wheat farmer, with his 500 bushels, can buy only \$333 in money. That is to say, the capital of the one has increased without interest 50 per cent, the other has depreciated 66 per cent. If this money, lying idle and drawing no interest, can thus increase its power so alarmingly over the products of labor, what mind can grasp the enormity of the evil that is inflicted in the industrial energies of the people, when money is loaned out at ruinous rates of interest?

In 1866 we had \$52 per capita in circulation. During that year we had 632 business failures, involving liabilities to the amount of \$47,333,000. In 1889 we had less than \$7 per capita in circulation, and during that year we had 13,277 business failures, involving liabilities to the amount of \$312,496,742.

The farmer sees United States 4-per-cent bonds, which would be utterly worthless but for the sturdy blows of his strong arm, due in 1907, which were bought at 54 cents in the dollar, selling at \$1.25 to the dollar, when he knows that a mortgage on not one farm in a thousand for the same time at one-third its value, at the rate of 7 per cent interest, could be sold at its face value. He is alarmed when he sees under our financial policy the major part of the wealth of 63,000,000 people pass into the hands of 31,000 men. He sees centralized capital allied to corporate power, invading our temples of justice, subsidising the press, controlling conventions, corrupting the ballot box, dictating the platforms of parties, overriding individual rights, intimidating official authority and directing legislation, State and national. He sees the rich growing rapidly richer, and the poor growing rapidly poorer, and yet with each recurring year he continues to sow in faith, toil in hope, reap in despair. Surrounded by the most wonderful progress and development the world has ever witnessed, he stands appalled with impending bankruptcy and ruin. Is it any wonder that these suffering and oppressed millions are organizing for protection?

But we are told that all these conditions have the

sanction of law. But we know that there is no tyranny so degrading as legalized tyranny, and no injustice is so oppressive as that which stands entrenched behind the forms of law.

But the political doctors tell us we should be less indolent, less extravagant and less improvident, and all will be well. I hurl the insult back with the assertion that no class of men work so hard, or so many hours per day, or live so hard and receive such little reward for their labor, as the average American farmer. A prominent government official says that "diversification is essential to our agricultural salvation." I point him to the 145 abandoned farms in Massachusetts, to the 163 abandoned farms in New Hampshire, to the once beautiful hills and valleys of New England blooming in all the glory of profitable diversified agriculture, but now given over to the briar and bramble, for an answer to this assertion. I point him to that beautiful garden spot in American agriculture, New Jersey, and to the rich and fertile lands in Michigan, and other States where the farms have depreciated in value from 33 to 50 per cent; for a crushing refutation of the fallacious assumption. Others high in authority tell us that the meagre return for the products of our labor is due to "over production," and we are pointed to our exports of bread stuffs for proof of the assertion, when in fact, if we had used 2 1/2 ounces per diem per capita more than was consumed in the year 1889, not one pound would have remained for export. He forgets that there are 3,000,000 tramps in this country, and 5,000,000 human beings living in a state of semi-starvation. There can be no over production so long as the cry for bread from a single child in the land is heard. It is not over production, but it is under consumption—a want of a just and equitable distribution of the products of labor.

I solemnly protest, and with all reverence, that God is not to blame for our deplorable condition. I protest that it is not the fault of the farmer. But I assert and charge deliberately, that the fault is to be found in the unjust, partial, discriminating and wicked financial system of our government; a system that has imposed upon agriculture an unjust and intolerable proportion of the burdens of taxation, and has made it the helpless victim of the rapacious greed and tyrannical power of gold; a system under which, despite the admonitions of history and all the teachings of the past, despite the warnings of the ablest political economists of this and of all countries, of this and all the ages past, our currency has been contracted to a volume totally inadequate to the demands of the legitimate business of the country with the natural and inevitable result—high-priced money and low-priced products.

But again we are told that we should not complain, for "a dollar will buy more to-day than ever before." But where is the dollar? Should we not buy more with it than ever before? Does not the dollar cost us from two to four times as much as ever before? But buy more of what? Luxuries? In his terribly depressed condition the farmer aspires not to the indulgence of luxuries, but is happy if by any means he may secure to himself and family the enjoyment of the absolute necessities of life.

Let us look into this boasted purchasing power of the dollar from the farmer standpoint. He buys a dress fabric for his wife at 20 cents per yard, which twenty years ago would have cost 40 cents. The broker to whom he sells his cotton makes his usual profit, the road which transports it to New York makes its usual profit, the New York broker sells it to a New Hampshire manufacturer and makes his usual profit, the road transporting it to the New Hampshire mill makes its usual profit, the manufacturer manipulates it into a dress fabric, sells it to a New York jobber and makes his usual profit with a bonus of 35 per cent in the shape of an import tax called protection, the road transporting it to New York makes its usual profit, the New York jobber sells it to the wholesale merchant and makes his usual profit, the wholesale merchant sells it to the merchant of the farmer in the South at his usual profit, the road transporting it to the Southern merchant makes its usual profit, and the Southern merchant sells it to the farmer who produced the cotton at his usual profit. Thus we see that from the time this raw cotton leaves the hand of the farmer and comes back to him, ten separate

They have formulated and announced to the world a platform of principles which they believe will bring the greatest good to the greatest number, and will conserve the highest and best interests of all the people of this great country. Alliance men, Democrats and Republicans alike, believe that these principles embody the very quintessence of Lincolnian-Republicanism and Jeffersonian-Democracy. But we are told by presumptuous and arrogant partisans and self-constituted leaders, that farmers and other laboring classes "should not go into politics;" that we "will ruin parties and ruin the country." Who constitute parties in this

country? To whom do political parties belong: to the people, or to the few who arrogantly assume to control them? Who has a better right to go into politics than the farmers of this country? Do they not clothe and feed the world? Do they not pay from their hard earnings 80 cents of every dollar of the taxes of the country? Of the ten hundred millions of dollars expended by the last Congress, did not eight hundred millions of it come from their pockets?

Without the farmers all our mighty network of railroads would grow up in grass and weeds in ninety days; without them all progress would be paralyzed and all civilization would perish. It is not only their right, but one of their highest duties as citizens, to study politics, the science of government, that they may discharge the responsibilities of citizenship intelligently and wisely. One of the greatest needs of the times is more genuine politics and less corrupt partisanship. The organization of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union is not, nor can it be, partisan in its character, it does not and cannot interfere or abridge in any manner the most perfect freedom of its members as to their political action. It seeks to inculcate a proper conception of the great and important responsibilities of citizenship and those essential principles of free government which are founded in equity and justice, and leaves the member to follow the dictates of his conscience, and judgment, and patriotism, as to the best methods for securing the supremacy of these principles. Our Order has no more right to say that a member shall or shall not be a Democrat, shall or shall not be a Republican, shall or shall not be an independent, than it has to say that he shall or shall not be a Baptist, a Methodist or a Lutheran. But while it is not partisan, it is emphatically and essentially political in the broad and liberal sense of the term.

But if the picture I have portrayed of the condition of agriculture be not overdrawn, and if it be true that this condition is chiefly due to discriminating legislation, it is a duty he owes to himself, to his family, to his country, and to his God, to go actively and practically into politics with the determined purpose of securing these greatly needed reforms. He has appealed to Congress for relief, but his appeals have been in vain. He has been beguiled with false promises and had his confidence and his highest interests betrayed and ignored. Hundreds of thousands of farmers during the past sessions of Congress sent in their petitions and demands for relief, but all in vain. Hereafter he proposes to place his petitions, and resolutions, and demands, where they will be felt and respected—he proposes to place them in the ballot box.

In vain have the people plead for relief. In vain have they suffered and endured—patiently, submissively, uncomplainingly. Over one thousand years ago, the old Sheik Ilderim of Medina, said to certain Roman ingrates: "Do you dream that because the prophet of Allah dwells now beyond the bridge of Al-Sirat, that therefore he is deaf, dumb and blind? I tell you by the splendor of God, that a tempest is brooding on his brow—there is lightning gathering in his soul for you."

Do men dream that because the sovereign and oppressed people of this country have thus suffered, thus endured, that therefore they have become deaf, and dumb, and blind? I tell them that the friends of freedom and of liberty will marshal their forces and come forth "more terrible than an army with banners," and led by the flaming sword of the avenging angel of outraged justice, as "a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night," they will rebuke treason and hurl from power those who have thus trifled with their dearest and most sacred rights and interests.

Had the heart and pen of the immortal Lincoln been divinely inspired, he could not have portrayed in more vividly truthful coloring the heartless ravages of the money power than was given in his wonderful prophecy. "I see in the near future," said he, "a crisis arising which unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of the war, corporations have been enthroned, and an area of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the republic is destroyed. I feel at this time more anxiety for the safety of my country than ever before, even in the midst of the war. God grant that my fears may

prove groundless." We read its terrible translation on the lintels of the home of every farmer and laborer in the land, and we hear it on every breeze in the heart-rending wail of poverty and distress.

The Fifty-first Congress, but recently adjourned, was in session thirteen months. During that time it expended in round numbers one billion dollars of the people's money—a sum equal to \$77,000,000 per month, \$17,500,000 per week, \$2,500,000 per day, \$10,400 per hour, \$1,733 per minute, and \$28 per second! Let us bear steadily in mind that 80 cents of every dollar of this vast sum came from the agriculturists of the country. These suffering millions besieged the doors of the Capitol during that time, pleading for relief. They were turned away empty handed, their importunities disregarded, their entreaties ignored, and they were insolently admonished to "keep out of politics," to "live closer and work harder."

They asked for the free and unlimited coinage of silver. Democrats in the Alliance, and Republicans in the Alliance, simply asked their party friends in Congress to redeem the pledge which both these parties had made before the world, in their platforms, and in the most solemn manner. We know the result. At the dictation of Wall and Lombard streets, men of both parties stultified themselves and their parties before the world and defeated this just measure. The people asked that national banks be abolished and gambling in futures be prohibited, by issuing money direct to the people at a cheap rate of interest and in sufficient volume to meet the demands of the legitimate business of the country. They demand that an amendment to the Constitution shall be submitted to the people, by which United States Senators shall be elected by a direct vote of the people. They believe that no interest, or class, or industry, should be taxed to build up any other interest, or class, or industry. They demand that all revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of an honestly and economically administered government. From these great questions they cannot and will not be diverted. Even the protective tariff, with all its abominable iniquities, cannot supplant them.

And I would summon all the grand old heroes among the living, and the spirits of our immortal dead, and align them in her presence and ask them to join me in saluting her as the queen of the heroes of the world.

A celebrated English barrister when defending a criminal, was reminded by the court that he was extending his argument to very great length. Turning to his honor he said: "Remember, sir, that I am pleading for the life of a human being!"

My friends, if in my zeal I have transcended the proprieties of the occasion and have wearied your patience, I enter the plea in extenuation that I am pleading for the life of the republic and the liberties of the people.

In the coming contest between labor and capital, FINANCIAL REFORM must and will be, the slogan and rallying cry of the people. They want gold robbed of its power to oppress. They demand that silver shall be restored to all the rights in coinage and to all the qualities of legal tender which gold possesses.

Inscribe it on imperishable tablet! Embalm it in undying song! Let the genius of pencil and chisel embellish it with its most resplendent inspiration! Let same place it among her richest treasures in the Pantheon of Immortality, and let the time-swept harp of the ages swell in grander strain the giant anthem of its praise!

Fathers, brothers, husbands and sons, who are more profoundly interested and concerned in all that pertains to the peace, the happiness, and prosperity of our country than the noble women of the land? They are here to-night. I would be false to them, false to the occasion, false to the Alliance, and false to myself, did I fail to tender to them my profound acknowledgements for the honor they have thus done me. Proud as we are, and should be, of the splendid record of the American soldiery to which I have referred, yet in honor of her patient endurance, her devotion, her constancy and her superb moral courage, we stand uncovered in her presence. Do you ask me for a model of moral heroism? I would not go to the muster rolls of the splendid armies of a Grant or a Lee; I would not point to the waving plume in victorious battle, but I would point you to that isolated country home, with its cares and trials, its loneliness and anxieties in sickness and in health, pressed over by the queenly spirit of her whose hours of anguish through four long years of war were more trying than the ordeal of battle.

The above citations constitute the authority, by which the government at this present time purchases lands, builds warehouses, and receives deposits for storage. The appointment of agents to perform these duties is a necessary sequence.

In view of these facts, if the bill is unconstitutional it is because of that provision which requires the government to loan money. If, therefore, it can be shown that the government has loaned money, and that the Supreme Court has decided it proper and legal, further objections to the bill must be confined to its detail.

The act of February 16, 1876, placed in the hands of the Centennial Finance Committee \$1,500,000 of government funds, to be used in arrangements for the Centennial Exposition. The money was to be returned to the government out of certain moneys after the close of the exposition. A bond in the sum of \$500,000 was exacted for the performance of the provisions of the act. When the time for payment came this committee refused to liquidate the debt to the government, setting up a different construction of the act. A suit was commenced, and finally taken to the Supreme Court, where it was argued at length, Chief Justice Waite giving the opinion of the Court, (U. S. Reports, S. C. 94, Otto IV, Page 500,) which is given in part:

The favorite objection to the sub-treasury bill is its unconstitutionality, yet no one has ventured an argument upon that line. In view of the fact that this bill has been so widely discussed, more so perhaps than any matter of legislation during the past twenty years, it is somewhat strange that the proof of its being unconstitutional has not advanced beyond mere assertion. So far all objections have been confined to the details of the plan, while its principles have been entirely ignored. The main points in the bill involve the right of the government to:

1. To purchase land.
2. To build warehouses.
3. To appoint agents.
4. To receive deposits.
5. To loan money.

Upon the constitutionality of these propositions the sub-treasury bill must stand or fall. It has been said before, and it well to repeat, that the most ardent supporter of this measure desires to have all its provisions strictly within the limits of the Constitution. The right of government to purchase land, build warehouses, appoint agents, and receive deposits of grain, merchandise, and the precious metals, is so clearly and fully set forth in the system governing the execution of the internal revenue laws, the customs laws, or those of the Treasury Department, as to need no repetition at this time. No functions of government are more clearly defined or practically applied than are these, as shown by the following incident. Learning that the basement of the postoffice at Kansas City, Mo., was being used as a warehouse for whisky, THE ECONOMIST addressed a communication to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, which elicited the following response, dated July 12, 1890, from

Grant and Lee, Jackson and McPherson, Sherman and Johnston, Stewart and Custer, with thousands of their brave and devoted followers, have crossed over the River and are bivouacked under the shade of the trees, where they will rest on questions of finance, on legislation for the relief of the people, there is a higher court in this country than even our supreme judiciary. It sits enthroned in Wall street, reveling in the strength of its ill-gotten power, and levies tribute at will on the industrial energies of the people.

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, George S. Batcheller:

I have to acknowledge the receipt, by reference, of your letter of the 10th instant, addressed to the honorable Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and in reply to the inquiry therein contained relative to the authority under which the basement under the United States Customhouse and postoffice building at Kansas City, Mo., is used for warehouse purposes, particularly for the storage of whisky, I have to refer you to act of Congress approved April 29, 1878, chapter 67, page 39, volume 20, U. S. Statutes at Large, and to section 2962, Revised Statutes.

In the course of this debate the matter was at all times treated as a loan, and in nearly every instance spoken of as such. In a question to Hon. W. D. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, Mr. Bland said:

I will ask the gentleman whether the provision is in the same language as the appropriation in the case of Philadelphia? In that instance the money was only recovered by the government upon suit in the Supreme Court.

In other words, the city of Philadelphia refused to pay the money back to the government, and suit was instituted for it. And I remember that the gentleman from Pennsylvania argued on this floor that the Springer amendment did not reserve repayment of the money.

Mr. Kelley. An amicable action was entered to determine whether it was a loan or a gift.

Mr. Bland. The gentleman claimed that it was a gift. Mr. Kelley. The gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Springer] appeared before the court to argue that it was a loan. It was so decided, and the money was paid.

Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, said:

The committee, desiring to guard the interests of the government and to prevent the recurrence of the condition of affairs that happened at Philadelphia, namely, the squandering of great amounts in expensive buildings, to guard against the expenditure, say, of four or five million dollars, provides in this bill that no more than the one million which we loan and the amount which has been subscribed and might be donated should go into the buildings, and then the bill further provides to secure that no more than that amount should be expended, and that the whole assets of this corporation after the current expenses from day to day are paid, shall be held sacred to pay this \$1,000,000 to the government, and that the Supreme Court has decided it proper and legal, further objections to the bill must be confined to its detail.

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Mr. Kelley. An exhibition such as is proposed to be held at New Orleans, at which shall assemble the world in its best mechanical and commercial power, and in which convocation the American shall be the active and predominant element, will pay the American people at a minimum estimate \$100 for every dollar that may be lost, even if the government shall never receive back one dollar it may loan it.

Mr. Henderson, of Iowa. Iowa is knocking at the door of Congress to-day, and I am but voicing her feeling when I ask that the government shall loan from its vast surplus in the treasury enough to put this great exhibition grandly, solidly, and successfully upon its feet.

Mr. Sumner, of California. As I am clear in my opinion that this is a constitutional proposition, I do not hesitate, but cheerfully and eagerly improve this two-minute opportunity to commend the bill.

Mr. Lane. I do this for this reason; I recognized the propriety of the loan to the Centennial Exhibition; it was the centennial year, and was designed as a celebration of our one hundredth national anniversary. This, however, is not for that purpose.

Mr. Horr. Then we required a bond of only \$500,000. Now, the bond is fixed here at \$300,000 for a loan of \$1,000,000, which, I take it, is about equivalent to what we did in the other case, and that bond is not to secure the repayment of the million of dollars, but, as the bill itself will show, is for the purpose of securing the honest and efficient action of the people in charge of it, and a careful expenditure of the funds entrusted to them; and it is fully as large as the bonds which are usually required under our form of government for any such purpose.

Mr. McCord. I favor this bill, and I am not deterred from supporting it by the constitutional question. It seems to me that gentlemen who question the power of Congress to legislate in this way could easily satisfy themselves by finding warrants in two or three of the granted powers delegated to Congress. The one which provides for the general welfare certainly has been construed broadly enough to cover this.

Mr. Breckenridge. Mr. Chairman, in regard to the proposition now before the Committee of the Whole, it is well upon the conditions it did impose. It might also have involved the requirement of security for the repayment to the Government of this loan of \$1,000,000, and the question of constitutional power in the premises. The amendment proposed is a hard exaction; it is an unprecedented exaction. This appropriation is not only justified by precedent, but it is also, in my opinion, clearly within the purview of the Constitution and the province of the Congress. That clause about which some gentlemen here stickle so much gives Congress power to raise revenue; and what does it say you may do with that revenue? It says you may pay the public debt, and you may provide for the general welfare by appropriations of that old upon the final division of assets.

Congress might have advanced the money by loan, as well as upon the conditions it did impose. It might also have subscribed to the stock. If a loan had been made and there had been no waiver of the legal rights of the government as a creditor, this debt would have preference over all others in the order of payment. If stock had been taken, the government would have participated in the final distribution like any other stockholder. It seemed best, however, not to adopt either of those plans and another was devised, by which creditors were given preference, and the United States remitted for their indemnity to the fund which might remain after all the debts were paid. To this the corporation assented, and the stockholders can not now complain. Creditors were protected, and the stockholders not injured. \* \* \*

The decree of the Circuit Court must be reversed, and the case remanded, with instructions to enter a decree directing the payment of the sum of \$1,500,000 into the Treasury of the United States by the commercial board of finance before any division of the remaining assets of that corporation is made among the stockholders.

Mr. Bayne. There is but one clause in the Constitution which authorizes the Congress of the United States to expend the million of dollars or to loan it. The clause which authorizes Congress to levy taxes to provide for the common defense and general welfare is the source from which Congress must derive its authority to spend this money or expend it.

Mr. Money. A new set of circumstances has now arisen, and if it seems proper to this House that the government should support this great enterprise by a loan to it of \$1,000,000, I can not see any valid objection to it.

Mr. Wolford. I believe it is perfectly constitutional, and I base my belief upon the power given by the Constitution of the United States to Congress to provide for the general welfare of the United States. I agree with Judge Story that that is a distinct power, and I believe that under that grant of power the Congress of the United States has authority to pass any law that will do good, that will bless the people, that will make them happy.

Discussing this proposition Mr. Oates is on record as saying:

This is not an appropriation proper; it is a loan. While it is an appropriation in form, it is nevertheless a loan upon security for return. \* \* \* This mark you, is not an appropriation outside of the constitution. It is a loan. It is competent for the government to make a deposit, and it does it with bankers all over the country, wherever it thinks proper. That money is to be returned, and if this money is returned what harm will be done? If it is outside of the power of Congress to do this, then the action of Congress would be hampered in providing sufficient legislation.

When the vote was taken, upon the bill it was passed by 132 to 87. The yeas were as follows:

Adams, G. E. Atkins, Anderson, Barksdale, Payne, Belford, Belmont, Bennett, Bisbee, Blanchard, Boutelle, Breckinridge, Bremer, F. B., Brown, W. W., Buchanan, Cadwell, Campbell, J. M., Cannon, Clements, Collins, Crisp, Culbertson, W. W., Culver, Cutcheon, Davidson, Davis, G. R., Davis, R. Y., Dibble, Dibrell, Dorschimer, Dunham, Dunn, Elliott, Ellis, Evans, I. H., Findlay, Follett, Forney, Funston, Garrison, George, Gibson, Glasscock, Graves, Green, Hammond, Hanback, Hancock, Hardeman, Harmer, Hart, Hatch, H. H., Hemphill, Henderson, T. I., Henley, Herbert, Hewett, G. W., Hitt, Hopkins, Horr, Houk, Houseman, Howey, Hunt, Jeffords, Jones, B. W., Jones, I. H., Jones, J. T., Jordan, Kasson, Keifer, King, Lewis, Lore, McCord, McCormick, Money, Morrill, Morrison, Murphy, Neece, Nelson, Nichols, Oates, O'Hara, O'Neill, Charles O'Neill, J. J., Payson, Peelle, S. J., Perkins, Peters, Pettibone, Phelps, Price, Pryor, Pusey, Randall, Rankin, Ranney, Reed, Reese, Rice, Rogers, J. H., Rogers, W. F., Rowell, Ryan, Shelley, Singleton, Skinner, T. G., Smalls, Spooner, Steele, Stevens, Stewart, Chas. Stone, Sumner, C. A., Throckmorton, Tillman, Tully, Van Eaton, Wakefield, Ward, Wellborn, White, Milo, Whiting, Williams, Willis, Wilson, James, Wilson, W. L., Wilford, Woodward, Young.

After passing the House the bill went to the Senate. It was referred to the Committee on Appropriations, and upon its recommendation was passed with a few amendments and but little debate. The concensus of opinion in the Senate was so unanimous in favor of the bill that a yea and nay vote was not taken. The Senators spoke of it as a loan.

Senator Plumb considered it a loan, and in his remarks said:

There are chances, and I think a majority of chances, that the government will be repaid the money.

Senator Maxey. When we made an appropriation in the nature of a loan to the Centennial Exposition in 1876 we gave \$1,500,000 and there was no objection to that.

Senator Garland. The bill has undergone the scrutiny of the entire Committee on Appropriations, and long and tedious investigation, and the Senator from Missouri [Mr. Cockrell], who is acute and alert as to these matters, has given it his careful attention, and he reports that it is perfect in this respect. The United States is in no danger in reference to getting back this million of dollars.

Senator Maxey. I suggested to the Senator from Kansas [Mr. Plumb] when he was on the floor that we had loaned to the Centennial Exposition \$1,500,000.

Senator Frye. I would be for it if I knew the exposition would not pay a dollar back.

Senator Miller. I would rather wait for the bill as it stands, loaning \$1,000,000, than to vote \$500,000 as a gift.

Senator Allison. We have restricted, so far as it is possible to restrict, the expenditures preparatory to this exposition to the amount of this loan.

Senator Allison. I move to amend the title so as to make it read, "A bill to make a loan in aid of the celebration of the World's Industrial and Cotton Exposition."

The opponents of the sub-treasury plan have assumed that it was visionary, impracticable, and unconstitutional. The friends of the measure have endeavored to show the reverse as being true. That it was well considered before given to the public is no longer denied. That it is practical, or with some modifications as to detail can be made practical, is being discussed in a manner that leaves no room for doubt upon that point. As to its being strictly within the limits of constitutional law, the amount and character of the evidence given in this article upon that portion of the question must be considered by all fair minded persons as absolutely conclusive.

What more can friends of this measure do to obtain the assistance of those Senators and Representatives who profess and no doubt feel an interest in their farmer constituents? The last valid objection is now removed, and nothing but details remain. It is earnestly hoped and expected that all capacious objections will cease, and an honest effort be made to give the measure a fair trial.

**THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST**  
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE  
NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND  
INDUSTRIAL UNION.  
PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WASHINGTON, D. C.  
BY THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE - \$1.00 PER YEAR.

Advertisements inserted only by special contract. Our rates are thirty cents per page line. Discounts for time and space furnished on application, stating character of advertisement required.

The publishers of this paper have given a bond in the sum of \$50,000 that the members of the National Farmers' Alliance of America that they will pay all debts due out all subscribers and other contractors.

The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the national meeting in St. Louis:

Whereas THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, our adopted official national organ, has so boldly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles; therefore,

Be it resolved by the National body, That we commend to the counsilit that every member of the order should subscribe and read the paper as one of the best means of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Address all remittances or communications to

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON,  
D. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

## N. R. P. A.

### HON. CLARKE LEWIS.

The following is taken from the Clodhopper, Kosciusko, Mississippi: We would feel perfectly at ease, in saying to Mr. Lewis, that if he will consent to allow his farmer friends to put his name forward as a candidate for the United States Senate, he would be sure of Attala's vote, and if he would defend these views over the State, we believe he would capture the prize. The farmers must put these demands into effect or the

Alliance had best to quit and turn themselves over to the element inside the Democratic party, that always has and always will oppose them. Can the Hon. Clarke Lewis be induced to let his name be used as a candidate for United States Senate?

The above is supplemented by a letter in the Mississippian from Noxubee county, of which the following is an extract:

The democracy of this district offer their Congressman Hon. Clarke Lewis, to the democracy and alliance of the State as a suitable man to represent us in that august body. Hon. Clarke Lewis has just finished his first term in the lower house and has been re-elected without opposition in the Democratic ranks to succeed himself. Mr. Lewis has taken a high stand among our national legislators, and deservedly so, for he is eminently well qualified for such a position.

The above shows that Hon. Clarke Lewis has been asked to enter the race for Senator in Mississippi. Mr. Lewis is a safe, conservative, strong man. He is a member of the Alliance and stands squarely upon the Ocala platform. These are qualifications that should recommend him to the consideration of all true Alliance men, and should bring to him that

support which such a position amid

the present political trickery and corruption richly deserves. He is unqualifiedly in accord with the doctrines of the Alliance and will make his contest upon these principles.

While in Congress he introduced the following bills, which had they been enacted into law would have saved an already tax-burdened people millions of money. The first was a bill to prohibit the further anticipation of the payment of the interest on the

bonded indebtedness by which the bondholder is paid his interest one year in advance. This would have kept in the pockets of the people a large sum each year. The other was to prohibit the further purchase of bonds for the so-called sinking fund, which would have saved the people over \$30,000,000 that has been paid as premium on bonds during the present year.

In this Brother Lewis showed that he knew where the root of the difficulty could be found, and plainly pointed out the means by which it might be eradicated. Had these two bills become law they would have brought more prosperity to the people than all the acts of Congress during the past ten years. He aimed in these bills at the very vitals of plutocracy and the money power of the land. He has displayed good sense and judgment during his term in Congress, and always manifested a deep interest in the welfare of the people. He was ever kind and obliging, easy to approach and sure to listen with attention to any requests or suggestions. For these and many other reasons THE ECONOMIST would gladly welcome Clarke Lewis as a Senator from Mississippi.

Quite a number of newspapers are worrying over Senator Peffer's expressed ideas upon economic questions. The Alliance brethren need have no fears; Senator Peffer is not only perfectly able but kindly disposed to take care of himself. There is no doubt that he will give these papers more cause for worry in the future; meanwhile the Senator is enjoying three meals a day.

The results and conclusions of the recent meeting at St. Louis of the leaders of the retrograde movement in the Alliances in Mississippi and Missouri will doubtless begin to develop in the near future. The recalcitrants are making considerable noise, and no doubt had a very satisfactory meeting. If arrangements were perfected with the newspaper as proposed, a large edition of bile and bad blood may be expected soon.

Just as every one expected. The Democratic leaders have gone back on free coinage and are ready to shout for Cleveland and tariff reform. Such a course has been predicted all the time and, it will now be in order for the people to make their choice.

If any one doubts that partisan politics is at the back of all those efforts of the President of the Alliance of Missouri, let it be understood that almost every partisan paper has published his alleged explanation, with comments as to its effects on the Alliance, looking toward its destruction; and also that it has been printed in circular form and sent broadcast all over the country. Who is doing this? What is being done for? and what are the objects? should be the inquiry

of every honest Alliance member. Persecution may succeed for a time, but in the end will always turn to destroy its inventors. This is a case of malicious persecution pure and simple, and in the end will result in the triumph of truth and justice.

The Herculean efforts of the two old parties to make the tariff an issue for 1892 to the exclusion of all others has so far proved a flat failure. One hundred years of discussion in regard to this question is quite enough when other and more important questions are challenging the attention of the people. Never again will the farmers be drawn into a political campaign where the tariff is the only issue until after the questions of land, transportation and money have been disposed of. No amount of political demagog can force the people into it. Politicians, please take notice.

the reckless expenditure of the people's money in the construction of warehouses for the farmer's products, that body saw no impropriety in providing over two-thirds the number of buildings specified in the Pickler bill, and one-fourth as many as can possibly be called for under the widest possible extension of the sub-treasury plan. If the money to construct the warehouses must first be taxed from the farmers, who pays for the 600 buildings already voted? Pah!

### N. R. P. A.

Several correspondents have asked for the significance of the letters, N. R. P. A., at the head of the eighth page of this paper. It translates "National Reform Press Association" and signifies that THE ECONOMIST is a member of that organization perfected during the jaunt of the Alliance delegates through Florida last December.

It was thought that by organizing in this manner a more satisfactory understanding could be disseminated throughout the press favorable to the purposes of the Alliance, and a more general recognition of amenities of journalism would be promoted. It was agreed that all newspapers becoming members should carry this superscription in their editorial columns.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Lancaster (S. C.) Review, who is ashamed to father his effusion and signs "Civis," makes a most ungentlemanly attack upon THE ECONOMIST, discrediting a quotation from the London Times of February 16, 1849. The extract originally published was taken from a book published in London in 1873, entitled "The Bank Charter Act and the Rate of Interest," which ran through two or more editions, and which is quoted authoritatively by many writers on finance. The article quoted from is the leading editorial in the London Times of the date given, and is written, as it avows, with the intention to recognize the great service of Count D'Argout, president of the board of managers of the Bank of France. Civis may not remember, as the friends he consulted perhaps will not, the fact that February 24, 1848, the system of government had been changed in France. For the student of then current events no better history has ever been written than a file of a great paper like the London Times, and fortunately for the people to make their choice.

THE Mississippian has tendered its resignation as the official organ of the State of Mississippi because it could not support all the Ocala demands. Such action was eminently proper and honorable under the circumstances, and places that paper in a position where it can act independently without being charged with unfairness to the Order. There is one other State organ that, having less respect for the Alliance and far less sense of honor, should be compelled to follow the above example of propriety.

THE Washington Critic notes the fact that Congress has provided for 600 public buildings, the plans of which are yet to be devised or accepted by the government architect. There are certainly not more than 2,400 distinctively agricultural countries in the United States, so that it appears that while the members of the Fifty-first Congress were contending that they would never, no never! vote for

men; it had also discounted to the amount of \$43,000,000 in the branch banks of the great provincial towns, and endeavored everywhere to prevent the impending failures of the great mercantile houses in France. On the 15th of March alone 10,000,000 were paid out in cash in Paris, and on the evening of that day the funds remaining did not exceed 59,000,000. In a few days more the run must have exhausted the whole resources of the establishment.

As mere commercial speculation with the assets which the bank held in hand it might then have stopped payment and liquidated its affairs with every probability that a very few weeks would enable it to clear off all its liabilities. But this idea was not for a moment entertained by M. D'Argout, and he resolved to make every effort to keep alive what may be termed the circulation of the life-blood of the community. The task was overwhelming. Money was to be found to meet not only the demands on the bank, but the necessities, both public and private, of every rank in society. It was essential to enable the manufacturers to work, lest their workmen, driven to desperation, should fling themselves amongst the most violent enemies of public order. It was essential to provide money for the food of Paris, for the pay of the troops, and for the daily support of the ateliers nationaux. A failure on any one point would have led to a fresh convulsion. But the panic had been followed by so great a scarcity of the metallic currency, that a few days later, out of a payment of 26,000,000 fallen due, only 47,000 francs could be recorded in silver.

In this extremity, when the bank alone retained any available sums of money, the government came to the rescue, and on the night of the 15th of March, the notes of the bank were by a decree, made a legal tender, the issue of these notes being limited in all to 350,000,000, but the amount of the lowest of them reduced for the public convenience to 100 francs. One of the great difficulties mentioned in the report was to print these 100 franc notes fast enough for the public consumption. In ten days the amount issued in this form had reached 80,000,000.

No sooner was the bank relieved from the necessity of paying away the remnant of its coin than it made every exertion to increase its metallic rest. About 40,000,000 of silver was purchased abroad at a high price. More than 100,000,000 were made over in dollars to the treasury and to the executive departments in Paris. In all, taking into account the branch banks, 506,000,000 of five franc pieces have been thrown by the bank into the currency since March, and her currency was thus supplied to all the channels of the social system.

Besides these strictly monetary operations the Bank of France found means to furnish a series of loans to government—\$50,000,000 on exchequer bills on the 31st of March, 30,000,000 on the 5th of May, and on the 3d of June 150,000,000, to be paid up before the end of March, 1849; of this last sum only one-third has yet been required by the State. The bank also took a part in the renewed loan of 250,000,000, and made vast advances to the city of Paris, to Marseilles, to the Department of the Seine, and to the hospitals, amounting in all to 260,000,000 mohr. But even this was not all.

To enable the manufacturing interests to weather the storm, at a moment when all the sales were interrupted, a decree of the National Assembly had directed warehouses to be opened for the reception of all kinds of goods, and provided that the registered invoice of these goods, so deposited, should be made negotiable by endorsement. The bank of France discounted these receipts. In Havre alone eighteen millions were thus advanced on colonial produce, and in Paris, 14,000,000 on merchandise; in all, 60,000,000 were thus made available for the purposes of trade. Thus the great institution had placed itself, as it were, in direct contact with every interest of the community, from the Minister of the Treasury down to the trader in a distant out-port. Like a huge hydraulic machine it employed its colossal powers to pump a fresh stream into the exhausted arteries of trade, to sustain credit and preserve the circulation from complete collapse.

In citing this action of the French government in coming to the relief of a distressed people, an instance was given of government relief which

harmed no class. That the essential and salacious principle underlying the sub-treasury plan was the remedy is a strong subsidiary support to the conclusiveness of the Alliance committee which proposed that plan. Civis acknowledges his ignorance and that of his friends. It is idle to waste time upon the effusions of a man who hides behind a fictitious personage. It is like throwing bootjacks in the dark to still the singing of cats. But when a man who is referred to as the authority quoted, and that authority standard and specific, gives as his reason for doubting the correctness of the reference that he and his friends know nothing about it, then it is odd that a reputable newspaper should open its columns to the charge, coming, like the shot of an assassin, from the dark. A crying evil of the day is the anonymous in

newspaper literature. The writer who refuses the use of his name loses all credit for good intent, and the paper allowing its columns to an anonymous slanderer disregards a plain amenity of journalism.

C. W. MACUNE, Chairman.  
J. F. TILLMAN, Sec'y.  
A. WARDALL.  
Approved and accepted:  
L. L. POLK, Pres.

J. H. TURNER, Sec'y.

**APPLIED SCIENCE**  
In Agricultural and Rural Economy  
EDITED BY DR. M. G. ELZEY.  
Woodstock, Md.

### THE SEASON.

The locality of the Middle States, and indeed all over the grass and grain growing region, farm work has been put back to a disastrous extent. During a greater part of February and the whole of March it has been impossible to do out door work of any kind. Even if there now comes an entire change it will be in most places near the middle of April before a plow can start. The sowing of oats and grass must of consequence be so delayed as to imperil both a crop of oats and a strand of grass. Corn planting must be both curtailed and delayed. The almost continuous easterly gales which have prevailed for weeks past have driven vast masses of vapor far inland, and it is likely to result in heavy precipitations a little later when winter, without the intervention of spring, is suddenly and rapidly succeeded by the violent heat of summer. All these things portend storms at a time when wheat and hay harvest are likely to be interfered with. Spring is opening late, and wet, and cloudy; fruit is endangered, early gardening and trucking prohibited, and everything stands still. As might have been expected such a season has been characterized by pneumonias, neuralgias, bad colds (now commonly called "grip") bronchitis, rheumatism. Such weather is always highly unfavorable to chronic disorders of every sort, and the aged are unusually exposed to violent disorders. Hence the mortality has been unusually large, and physicians' bills, and yet more to be dreaded, apothecary's bills must be added to lost time. Take it all in all the year opens gloomily. And the short crop will make cereals high, and the bread and meat of the people scarcer and dearer. Gold is going out of the country and money growing scarcer and scarcer among the people. Ugly conflicts between labor and capital have already characterized the opening year.

Lectures begin at 11 o'clock, and will be public except the second days at District Alliances, to which all entitled to explanations of the unwritten work are invited, especially lecturers of the Order.

THE Farmers Vidette, of Alexandria, La., reports fine progress in the

Order in that State. The Vidette reminds its readers that—

The farmer must educate himself. He must familiarize himself with everything that goes to constitute government. He must take an interest in his surroundings. He must awake to the fact that duties and obligations as a citizen require a knowledge how to perform and discharge these in an intelligent manner. He must, if he wishes to prosper, cease to think by proxy, and do so himself. He is a man, a being who moves, lives and feels, and not a machine who is set in motion by he who desires to do so. He is not the docile beast of burden that some men would make him. He needs education, and should drink deep at the fountain of knowledge. It is in his reach and he should avail himself of it. He must do his own thinking, work his own salvation, thus be in fact, that which he is now only in name—A MAN.

THE ALLEGED OVER PRODUCTION OF COTTON.

Speculators insist that the low price of cotton is due to the large crop of last season. That this is one of the causes is doubtless true, and a curtailment of the crop to be planted this spring may enable the planters to get more money for a smaller crop area this year. Some planters may very wisely grow, next season, more corn and less cotton. In some places a part of the land may go into oats; another portion may be sown to field peas and lie fallow with advantage; in other places German clover may be sown. More live stock may be

kept. But the general fact remains that in good corn seasons for the great corn growing area, the corn grown in a great part of the true cotton belt will cost more to grow it than it could be bought for. That the contracted condition of the circulation of all countries is the chief cause of low prices need not be doubted. It is difficult, if not presumptuous, for any writer not on the spot, to offer advice to a person face to face with such difficulties. This writer has himself been at one time a Louisiana planter, and knows by practical experience that under normal conditions cereals can be bought cheaper than they can be grown throughout the greater portion of the true planting area. The cultivation of the crop very seriously interferes with the culture of the cotton or sugar crop at a very critical time. At best the yield of cereals in the sub-tropical countries is small, precarious and disappointing. To attempt to force cultivation of any crop out of its proper latitude is to work against nature, and is unscientific and unwise. The substitution for a good crop of cotton or sugar, of a poor crop of corn is to lose money in a very great majority of cases, under normal conditions. This writer has no belief in any statement that more cotton has been grown in any year than the people would want if their ability to purchase had not been largely reduced by false legislation, the whole force and trend of which tends to impoverish the great mass of consumers. Reducing the cotton crop of the next year may prove effectual to a certain extent, but a considerable advance of price in the face of the present monetary conditions must need result in further large reduction of ability to purchase, and after a temporary advance a final still further decline of prices. The proposed remedy will certainly put multitudes of poor people in ragged shirts, and compel them to sleep between ragged sheets, if it temporarily advances prices. On the other hand a full crop of corn in the corn surplus States, will greatly reduce the value of the increased acreage of the cereal at the South, and only increase the difficulties of the farmers of the upper Mississippi valley. To attempt to enhance the price of cotton in the face of the present financial situation by large and systematic curtailment of the area planted is not a promising remedy. It resembles the practice of these unskilled physician who without recognizing disease are content to treat symptoms. This device will draw off attention from the true disorder, it is to be feared. The trouble is beyond all doubt to be found in the insufficiency of the volume of currency to sustain values, and all attempts to better the situation without restoring the normal volume of the currency will prove abortive. The first thing to be done is to put silver on an absolute equality with gold in every respect, with free coinage of the metals, and then by a sound paper currency to increase the money supply to a volume sufficient to meet the modern requirements of business, not forgetting that the daily transactions of the common people constitute the great bulk of the business of mankind. The unsolved part of the problem is evidently to get this money into the hands of the people and keep it there in spite of the opposition of money mongers, gold bugs and usurers. And the very serious problem is to give to the vol-

ume of currency that flexibility which it has always lacked, and which it has become evident is absolutely essential to approximate stability of price. These problems solved, there will be nothing further heard of over-production of the prime necessities of life. The writer does not undertake to say that less cotton should not be planted this spring. He does not undertake to say the planters will not receive more money for a crop shortened by one, or two, or three millions of bales. He does venture the opinion that this can only be a temporary expedient. Our brethren of the South must not forget to take into their councils their brethren of the Northwest. There can be no permanent nor substantial prosperity of the one without the other. If New England by the persistent and devilish selfish policy of her leading men chooses to isolate herself, as she makes her bed, so let her lie. The writer believes that in the expansion of animal industries the South will find her safest methods of supplementing her planting industries, because this will be the scientific method of getting the cotton seed back on the land producing the cotton crop. In his inaugural address recently delivered, the present Agricultural Commissioner of Georgia stated that the amount of commercial manures used in that State, and mostly purchased outside of the State, aggregates 300,000 tons; and that notwithstanding this, the productive capacity of the soil is steadily declining. It is the same error which has proven so disastrous to the soils of the food producing States. This reliance upon chemical compounds has depleted the lands of organic matter. The substitution of cereals for cotton and sugar will increase, and not diminish this depletion. Stock feeding and grazing as far as may be, with green crops turned under, will restore the organic matter. It need not be doubted that thereby a very large part of the prodigies outlay for commercial manures can be saved, and a large part of the cost of producing cotton eliminated. A large yield of cotton sold at a less price per pound would then prove more profitable to the planter than a smaller yield at a larger price. The crowning glory of this policy would be a restoration of shirts to the shirtless poor, and a restoration of sheets to their sheetless beds. It is wiser; it is more humane; it better accords with all the teaching of Him who spake as never man spake, to seek an increase of consumption, and not a decrease of production, of the prime necessities of life.

#### HORSE BREEDING.

Horse breeding has received an extraordinary impetus within the last year or two; especially has this been marked in standard bred trotting horses. Last year something like 1,000 new horses entered the 2.30 list. The stories which have become public about extraordinary prices paid for standard bred horses of great reputation are to be received with many grains of allowance. Undoubtedly great prices have been realized; very much greater than any horse ever was or ever will be worth. That very many enthusiasts are rushing into this business who are not in any way qualified for it is perfectly clear; it is not to be doubted that big money is going to be lost by some of them. If anybody expects good results in the long run, they must look to a demand for horses so bred for common uses,

especially the gentleman's driving horse, and even the business horse. That the time is not far off when turf uses cannot absorb half the standard bred horses produced is not in the least degree doubtful. Such breeders as fail to look to the intrinsic value for common purposes of the rank and file, no less than to the few flyers as sources of profit, are going to lose money, and the time is not far off when they will begin to throw up the business and throw their stock on the market; then will be the time for breeders of skill and experience to select what they want at their own prices. It may be laid down as a rule, that the breeding of turf horses is not a business for farmers, but for breeders. Farmers will do very well to keep such a class of mares for their farm work as breed to fine trotting stallions may produce a colt that when well broken at four years old, will bring \$250 to \$350, being good harness horses for business use, with good looks and useful qualities. They may do well enough also to use half-bred mares for farm work, and raise colts of some of the heavy breeds, which will bring at three years and a half, \$150 to \$200. It is even possible for the farmer to keep such mares and to breed them as to produce good carriage horses from the mares of the farm team. Unfortunately there is no distinct type of agricultural horse recognized, and no reliable market for horses for farm use. As a rule the handling of pure breeds should be left to professional breeders, and farmers should, above all things, avoid the fast horse business in any of its lines.

#### THE BEST GRASSES.

We have several requests for an opinion through these columns of the several grasses named by writers from several localities. Japan clover is of no value in the Middle States, and here at its northern limit of growth, except to occupy waste land lying out of cultivation. In comparison with our best well-known old sorts, on improved land, it is practically worthless. The fear that it might root out the better sorts is not well founded, they will root it out when the land is good. Neither need there be any fear that it is going to be a pest in the trucking region, for it is easily destroyed by cultivation. It is an annual plant of late summer and early fall growth. Orchard grass is in our opinion the most valuable of all grasses. If intelligently managed it makes as good hay as any grass that grows. It must not be allowed to stand after the pollen begins to blow off the blossoms, for it is astonishing how much the hay will deteriorate every day; and within a week it will be little better than dry sticks. If cut at the right time it cures soft and bright, and makes sweet hay much relished by stock and fully nutritious as the best timothy, to which it is in no way inferior. It is ready for the scythe about one month earlier than timothy. No grass yields an equal aftermath. This may be cut once or even twice, or stand constant grazing until late in the fall. The aftermath cures easily, bright and green, but does not keep well in stack. If put into the barrack or barn it keeps beautifully, and no feed is so good for a fine flock of sheep; there is none they will eat so well. It is also the best forage possible for weaning colts and yearlings. It is a pity that this most valuable grass has been discredited by

those hasty writers who without sufficient experience have condemned it upon results due to their own mismanagement, or from hearsay, only adopting and repeating the say so of those no better qualified to express an opinion than themselves. No pasture grass is more relished by all kinds of stock, and no other will pasture as much stock on a given area throughout the season. No grass so well withstands drought. It will doubtless thrive well further south than timothy or blue grass, and it is strongly to be recommended for trial along the northern border of the true cotton belt, extending its culture as far south as it may be found practicable to grow it. It takes two bushels of seed per acre. It does not, nor does any grass seed, bear much covering of earth. It should be sown on land in good tilth and well-fired, and a roller should follow the seed. April is the best month. If sown with oats or other grain, the best way is to sow the grain and cover it, then sow the grass seed and roll the land.

#### DISEASES OF HORSES.

A friend from Southern Maryland describes parasites infesting his horses and asks an opinion as to a remedy. The parasites are evidently a species of bot; the remedy, leave them to nature. They to some extent infest all horses. There are several sorts of them. The flies deposit their eggs in late summer and early autumn on the hair of horses; they being licked off by the horses, or when the hair is shed getting in among the food, are swallowed and hatch almost immediately. They are attached by a pedicle to the membrane of the stomach, often in great numbers. They are also attached to the mucous membrane of the throat and posterior nostrils sometimes. They do little harm unless they so accumulate as to obstruct the passages, especially the entrance of the stomach by accumulation in the lower esophagus and at the cardiac end of the stomach. Drugs which are safe to administer have little effect on them until they are ready to be detached naturally, that they may form grubs and bury themselves in the earth, whence in August they emerge as flies. The eggs should be removed. This is easily done by wiping them over with a sponge moistened with coal oil and then scraping with a knife blade.

The other disease described by our friend is a virulent and contagious sort of scratches. First clean out stables and yards and apply air-slacked lime freely. Then wash off the legs and feet clean with carbolic soap, or common soap and water to which add pure carbolic acid 2 per cent. Bandage the legs until dry and then with sharp shears clip the hair close. Now apply white lead paint with a good soft paint brush, keep the horse in a clean dry place and in two or three days reapply the paint, keeping the horse in a clean dry place, or turned out on a dry firm turf. This is a plan the writer has often seen effect a speedy cure. All persons owning horses would do well to get a copy of the work on that subject lately issued by the Bureau of Animal Industries, National Department of Agriculture, which is a very valuable work, and the articles characterized to a remarkable degree by plain good sense and language "understood of the people." We do not intend to allude again in this place to

the political criticisms of this excellent work in the United States Senate, which were not happy. In a spasm of stinginess the number of copies to be published was reduced, but the money they would have cost went doubtless to some object much less worthy.

#### Signs of the Times.

BY R. B. CARL LEE, ENGLAND, ARK.

But freedom's battle once begun,  
Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son,  
Though often lost is ever won.

The fight is joined. No earthly power can stay it, and there is no middle ground. From now on it is battles lost and won.

Corporate power now occupies the place of the lords of the middle ages, and must be destroyed, or the property of the people will be absorbed by them and liberty lost in the ocean of wage slavery. Corporation agents have declared that "they have 2,000,000 muskets, and men to use them."

They sustain the Pinkerton army,

which is estimated to be over 20,000 men. Many murders have been committed by them, and so far there has

been no conviction. They swear for each other, and no matter what the crime is the accused is discharged.

United States Senator Tabor, a railroad magnate, declared "that before the capitalists would suffer a change in the existing state of affairs they would plunge the country into civil war."

Other plutocrats have threatened the country with war if the common people dared to protect themselves from their plundering by legislation. Vanderbilt expressed his contempt of the people by saying, "the people be d—d." Gould has

no politics but his interest, and testified to spending several millions in procuring favorable legislation.

The New York World says, "the working man must be content with less wages."

The New York Tribune says, "the small farmers must sell their farms to

large land owners and become tenant farmers." The New Orleans Times-Democrat says the railroads are collecting \$300,000,000 a year on fictitious bonds and stocks, and that there is no remedy to stop the wrong. Wm. L. Scott, the great coal baron, says the way to control labor is "to make them eat to-day what they earn to-morrow."

The organs of national banks asserts that "the banks can in twenty-four hours' notice so act as to nullify and defy any act of Congress."

Corporations simply or combining,

can and often do, require all their employees to withdraw from labor organizations or be discharged, and it is lawful.

If laborers ask for an increase of wages and are locked out, and they try and persuade other men

from taking their places, that is a conspiracy, and they are punished for it.

Plutocrats have increased the capitalization of railroads, express companies, telegraph companies, and most of the city franchises, to three,

four, and in some instances eight times their actual cost, and collect interest and dividends that amount to 25 per cent or more upon what the properties cost.

When it is remembered that the gifts of the government, individuals and subscriptions by States, counties, cities, and towns,

have amounted to more than enough to build and equip the roads, and

most of them have been swindled out of every cent put in the roads, the

fictitious capitalization outrage is

nearly unbearable. Not half the

villainy and robbery committed by

railroad manipulation will ever be

known. They defy the public and

courts, and refuse to produce their

books in the courts. There is con-

stant legal warfare between the

citizens and the roads, and it takes

years to get a decision.

They are constantly increasing

their debts, and even such a

judge as Gresham allowed a receiver

\$75,000 for less than two years work.

They have filled the United States

Senate and Congress with their officials

and attorneys, to the great detriment

of the general welfare.

The plutocrats are

against any change, and threaten

war.

Labor demands that tariffs shall

be reduced so as to furnish only a

gent organization and is pushing its legitimate interest upon the actual value of the properties, which is what they can be built for now, and if this cannot be done, then the government shall, by the right of eminent domain, seize the roads and other properties connected, and operate them for the welfare of the people, as the postal system now is.

Others reforms are demanded by the Alliance, but they are not essential to the continued liberty of the people.

Thus there is an irrepressible conflict between the people and corporate power. It cannot be compromised or poohed away. So far every conflict has resulted in victory for the corporations. Ex-Attorney General Garland declared to a party of visiting friends that "the government was gone, and that the party that won in 1892 would obtain perpetual control." This view would probably be correct if the people were compelled to choose between the parties that Governor Garland had in view.

The Alliance ideas are certain to obtain the power to enact them into law, and it does not matter what the name of the party may be that they win under. Senator Carlisle says they will throw the election of the president into the House of Representatives; this is an admission of an Alliance enemy. Oh, the glory of the coming time when the Alliance idea in power and justice is done the country. Suicide and insanity will well nigh disappear. Crime of all descriptions will be greatly lessened; houses will take the place of the hovels; content and happiness will be found at every fireside; debt with its train of sorrow will vanish; schools will be established acceptable to every child; public libraries will abound; cotton mills will dot the South and the crop be manufactured where it is raised; the busy hum of industry and enterprise will stir the great North and West; American ships will navigate every sea; peace, plenty and prosperity will be found in every home; railroad travel will be so cheap that every one can go health seeking if necessary, or to view the great wonders of nature, and the greatest good to the greatest number will be done. The Alliance movement is the hope of the world.

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Labor demands the free coinage of silver. The plutocrats ask for silver demonetization.

Labor demands the abolition of national banks. The plutocrats demand the perpetuation of the national banking system.

Labor demands the issue of full legal tender treasury notes, and loaning them to the people on their lands and imperishable products, in sufficient volume to transact the business of the country for cash. The plutocrats demand that the treasury notes now in circulation be bonded for national banking purposes, and that the government shall not issue paper money.

Labor demands that no alien shall be allowed to own land, and that no syndicate or corporation shall be allowed to own land in excess of that needed for their houses and shops.

Plutocrats oppose any change from the present state of affairs.

Plutocrats have increased the capitalization of railroads, express companies, telegraph companies, and most of the city franchises, to three, four, and in some instances eight times their actual cost, and collect interest and dividends that amount to 25 per cent or more upon what the properties cost.

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Labor

for the education of the agricultural class in the science of economic government in a strictly non-partisan spirit." After mature study and full discussion we find out that the present methods of government are not "economic," we find that the producers who constitute 70 per cent of the population, own only 25 per cent of the wealth, but have to pay 80 per cent of the taxes. Something must be wrong when such a state of things exists. Looking for the cause we find that it arises from unjust taxation, and from the fact that the government is controlled not by the people, but by the money power. We fully and firmly believe that we have found the cause of why producers are getting daily poorer, while non-producers are getting richer. Feeling and believing thus, we as, said before, embody our ideas in our demands, and call for certain measures which we think will bring relief. How are these demands met? The leaders of both political parties ignore them, telling us that we are not capable of knowing what is best for us, tell us to attend to our farming operations, and that they will attend to political matters; that producers have no right to meddle with politics; in other words, they say "Go, you wretched serfs, cultivate your lands, do what work we give you; be content with such wages as we see fit to pay you; do not attempt to dictate or think for yourselves; you belong to us body and soul, be thankful that we allow you enough food and clothes to enable you to work for us; down! slaves down! or we will starve you into submission." This is no overdrawn picture, it is the actual language of both political parties toward the producers. Well, we have presented our demands to the Republican and Democratic parties, they tell us that we cannot belong to them if we dare to think for ourselves; that they will have nothing to do with us; they shut the party door in our face, and we, the producers—the people—are left out in the cold, homeless and deserted. What is the natural consequence? Men are gregarious. Shut out from both the great parties where we had previously found shelter, we are forced to build a house for ourselves, and thus a "third party" is formed, having for its foundation, "equal rights for all, special privileges to none," and the bond of brotherhood is "in things essential unity, in all things charity." We are agreed as to what things are essential. They are "abolition of national banks; government loans on land and on non-perishable products; removal of all unjust taxes, under whatever name those taxes are collected, be it tariff, or any other name; free coinage of silver; graduated income tax; but I need not here repeat them; they are contained in the Ocala platform. I ask all thinking men who forced a "third party" to be formed, if it is ever formed? I think not the labor organizations, but the G. O. P. who have turned a deaf ear to the pleadings of the people. The same state of matters in a great measure exists today as existed when the people of this country threw off English rule. England's king refused to listen to the peoples cry, and the result was revolution. The Declaration of Independence says "it is a self evident truth, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by the creator with certain inalienable rights, and among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure

these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive to these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundations on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness." Again it says "prudence indeed will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; but when a long period of abuses and usurpations pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a desire to place them under absolute despotism; it is their right, it is their duty to throw off such government and to provide new guards for their future security." Can any one deny that the trend of both the G. O. P.'s has been one of "abuses and usurpations tending to absolute despotism;" that the people's cry is unheard, or if heard ignored? That the party has become the master instead of the servant of the people; that each day rivets our fetters firmer. Seeing this, the question confronts us, "what can we do to be saved?" Has not the time come when it is our right and our duty to abolish such government, and establish one which we think will provide safeguards for our liberties in the future? The G. O. P.'s refuse to have anything to do with us, have driven us from them. They force us to join together in defense of our lives, our liberties, our homes, our children. If the people determine that the time has come to establish a new order of things, then I ask them how are we to obtain our objects? Certainly not through parties that will have none of us; will not listen to us, are arrayed against us. How then, wage-workers? I ask you again, how? Let the answer come clear and unmistakable, resounding from North to South, from East to West. In union there is strength, we demand our rights, we are brothers in the fight for our liberties, for our homes, for our happiness; parties are swept away, no North, no South, no East, no West, we stand shoulder to shoulder, we are the people, and the government must be and should be "by and for us—the people." No party, only the people shall rule.

#### The Situation.

BY J. B. GAY, COLUMBUS, TEX.

To-day the minds of men are perplexed. The leaders of the common people have espoused them, and now the question is, what will they do? The jostling crowd are on guard in masses, and will by a small majority, for they are all not posted alike, follow the gleams of the greatest light; the swaying masses will follow with the make-up of their subsidiary teachings. In this storm-tossed conditions of the public mind, the national officers of the Farmers' Alliance have the hardest time to fit themselves, in public opinion, and why is this? Because there is no place in thought between the educated and the uneducated. The Alliance is in one of its features simply a school in politics; the people, children, without parents, and the officers are our best teachers. As soon as a man is educated, he becomes so enraged at his past ignorance, and feels the necessity of strong help, that he wants the teacher to quit school and become

one of his partners in his new line of thought. If he did this the uneducated would lose confidence in the teacher, and the graduate and teacher would suffer alike for support. The Alliance school is non-partisan in politics, and partisan men are only half-educated in economic government, hence the necessity of keeping the teachers as much as possible out of party politics. Party is, and ever will be, the bane in the education of political economy. If a principle is in error, it is then partisan, but when it establishes "equal rights to all and exclusive privileges to none," it cannot in any sense be partisan. Right disposes of party, and wrong makes it, and it is to be righted that to-day the party has to be used in executing the Alliance demands. To be non-partisan and still believe in principle, is a stunner to old line politicians; they do not rise above selfish views, and the idea of a man from the Alliance non-partisan school taking a hand in politics makes them want to call him on "Alliance party man. They can not distinguish between the school and the education.

#### Time to Awaken.

(Weekly Budget, Manchester, N. H.)

Hon. Jerry Simson, of Kansas, visited our State last week. Precious little welcome did he get from the newspapers of the State. The message that he bore was not suited to their tastes. But he set the people to thinking, and scores of those who heard him went away saying under their breath, "Jerry is right."

The past week has seen events that confirmed those people in their belief. The Supreme Court of New Hampshire, responding to the queries of the Legislature, has issued the dictum, almost in so many words, that the railroads have succeeded in defrauding the State of its interest in the Concord railroad. The Legislature of 1889, as it was generally understood, contemplated no such result. Not an advocate of those bills by which railroad consolidation, stock watering to large amounts, and a revival of old and dead stock were permitted, ever dared to suggest that the people were surrendering any rights they possessed in passing the act of 1889. But the court has said that they did it. That right which so sagacious a man as Austin Corbin was ready to pay \$500,000 for it in 1889 and which he considered worth \$1,000,000, this year the court in effect declares has been waived, given away, utterly lost. And how? With their eyes wide open? No! With an understanding of what was being done? No! But through subterfuge and chicanery. The act of 1889 pretended to secure the people in their rights, but the court does not hold that it did so. On the contrary, it coolly informs the people, by implication but not set words, that the reservation of rights in that statute was a delusion and a snare, void and of no effect. The act of the court in that regard has been followed up by another in the same direction—the issuing of an injunction by Judge Blodgett preventing the laying of the rails on the old road from North Weare to Henniker. This last act of railroad arrogance is the last straw to break the back of the long-suffering patience of the people of New Hampshire. It is a reassertion in an aggravated form of the Vanderbilt creed, "The people be d—d." And if the people do not resent it they deserve just that fate and nothing better.

#### Senator Reagan and the Sub-Treasury.

Southern Mercury.

Senator Reagan in his recent address in reference to the treasury, said: "Many of our friends in the Alliance want more money circulation as a means of relieving

their distress, and they want the adoption of the sub-treasury plan under which they may deposit their farm produce and draw out money furnished by the government. However sincere the motives and convictions, and however honest and earnest the purpose of those who advocate such measures, I will warn them that whenever this government becomes a money lender, that very day you have adopted that which will wreck and ruin the American system of free government."

Again, the United States loaned a corporation, known as the Centennial Exposition, \$1,500,000, the World's Cotton Exposition \$1,000,000. In fact, Congress has all along loaned money to corporations individuals and no one has been heard to raise the howl that loaning money would "wreck and ruin the American system of free government" till the farmers requested Congress to do as much for them as they had done for any other class of its citizens. This demand waked up Wall street and their aids and abettors to the fact if the sub-treasury system were established by law, their cold, merciless grip on the earnings of the people would be at end, hence all this howl about class legislation, paternalism, etc.

The venerable Senator does not appear to be familiar with the history of the United States government, although he has been in Congress off and on for nearly a quarter of a century. If he does know its history, then he misstated the facts. The Mercury is constrained to throw the mantle of charity over the short-comings of the venerable Senator and say he is honestly mistaken.

The government of the United States has, almost from the date of its foundation, loaned money to a favored few of its citizens, and it does not appear to have "wrecked and ruined" it either. About the year 1791 the first United States bank was chartered with a capital stock of \$10,000,000 in shares of \$400 each. The United States, through the President, subscribed for one-fifth, or \$2,000,000, of this stock. By 1802 the United States realized a clean profit of \$573,580 out of this bank, and every dollar of the original \$2,000,000 returned to the United States Treasury.

Again the second United States bank was chartered in 1816. Under this charter the government, as before, entered into copartnership with individuals, forming a corporation to carry on a banking business. The capital stock of this second United States bank was \$35,000,000. As before, the United States government subscribed one-fifth, or \$7,000,000, of the capital stock, and by act of Congress this bank was permitted to advance money on "goods or produce of the land pledged," and was permitted to receive 6 per cent per annum interest on all loans. At the end of thirteen years the United States sold out its interest in this bank with the following results:

#### RECEIPTS.

Bonus.....	\$1,500,000.00
Dividends.....	7,118,416.29
Sale of bank stock.....	9,424,750.78

Total receipts..... \$18,043,167.07

#### CONTRA.

Stock subscribed.....	\$7,000,000.00
Interest 13 years at 5 per cent.....	4,550,000.00

Total outlay..... \$11,550,000.00

Showing a net profit of \$6,493,167.07

Thus we see by actual figures that in this venture the government of the United States received from the people, on the people's own money, \$4,550,000 in the way of interest, besides a net profit of \$6,493,167.07 by advancing money on "goods and produce of the land," while, as a matter of course, the individuals who were joint partners and who owned the balance of the bank, pocketed over \$50,000,000 as their part of the venture. Pretty safe business, it seems.

It also appears that the American system of free government was not recked, or ruined either. The worst feature in the matter was that the government permitted a few parties, under its protection, to the people to such an enormous extent. Yet it proves that advancing money on "goods and farm products" is a safe business, and the vote upon the bill in Congress shows that staunch Democrats were its strong advocates. If it is safe for the United States to go into copartnership with individuals and loan money to the people, why can't the United States do it on its own hook?

The Knights of Labor were organized in this State for one purpose, the securing of a ten-hour law. When that was secured its members ceased from their labors. Is it not time, men and brethren, that the people rose in their might and demanded some things for themselves? Let the record of the Legislature of 1891 answer. Its first business almost was to pass, absolutely without amendment, bills injecting millions of dollars of new stock into two railroad corporations and presenting to their fortunate stockholders gifts of millions of dollars which must eventually come out of the people's pockets. It has followed it up by voting down in the Senate the only measure in the interest of the poor man that the House could be induced to pass, viz: the bill allowing the poor man's five dollars to buy an equal proportion of transportation over its lines with the rich man's twenty dollars. The same Senate is relied upon to thwart the will of the people in the matter of the construction of the Weare-Henniker road as authorized by the House of Representatives. The exactions and extortions of the railroads of Kansas were at the bottom of the Farmers' Alliance movement in that State. Have the farmers and citizens of New Hampshire less manhood than they?

The Southern Alliance Farmer (Atlanta, Ga.) reports:

We have authentic information that Senator John B. Gordon has no sympathy with that star-chamber caucus. Let us give him a fair trial. He can do us great good in the Senate.

The Independent (New Britain, Conn.) says:

Organized labor is advocating industrial reform. Industrial reform does not contemplate the abrogation of the rights of any individual. What it does seek is to deprive a few individuals of special privilages by which the rights of the majority of our citizens have been wrested from them.

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The Farmer also paragraphs:

There are a great many office-seeking wolves now trying to beat like spring lambs around the Alliance lodges in Georgia. Brethren, take your yard stick and the very hide of these unnatural varmints.

The Peoples' Journal (Anderson, Ind.) is a new venture, fully up to the standard as a reform teacher. It reasons it out thus:

If you are an Alliance man you believe in Alliance principles. If you believe in Alliance principles you are opposed to the money power. If you are opposed to the money power you are an enemy of the parties that protect this money power. The power that controls the national banking system—the power that prevents legislation in the interest of the farmer and laborer—is the power that is the money power. How does it suit you?

The Kansas Commoner (Wichita, Kan.) asks:

Brother, are we ready for one of the hardest fights ever recorded in the history of our country? If not, we should prepare. The foe, monopoly, has his batteries turned on the Alliance tenting field, and they are filled with slime, falsehoods and slanders.

The Alliance Advocate (Louisville, Tenn.) is but partly right, as the farmers propose to bear all expense of deposit, while the government bears the expense of keeping the bonds:

The sub-treasury is but the virtual extending of the rights of national banks to the farmers, except that the farmer is willing to deposit actual value for money received from the government, while the deposit of the bank is of mythical value.

The Farmers' Alliance Journal (Baltimore, Md.) notes the national lecturer's work in Maryland:

Hon. J. F. Willets, national lecturer, has been giving to the farmers of Maryland some sound Alliance doctrine the past week. Notwithstanding rain, snow, and bad roads proved an obstacle to travel, good audiences greeted the distinguished gentleman at different points in the State. At Salisbury, Chestertown, Hagerstown, Cumberland, and Westminster the people pushed their way through mud and storm to hear this faithful and able apostle of reform, and none were disappointed in hearing burning truths from an honest man. Mr. Willets is the right man in the right place. Being a practical farmer and thoroughly conversant with the conditions and needs of his toiling brethren and the economic questions of the day, makes him eminently fitted to the requirements of his important position. The national lecturer is a walking cyclopedia of Alliance information, and his style is such as to win and hold his hearers to the end. It is to be hoped Brother Willets will pass this way again, and help remove from the body politic of Maryland the same incubus that he so effectively overturned in his own State of Kansas.

The Signal (Manhattan, Kan.) says:

As the sub-treasury plan becomes better understood, opposition to it diminishes. We all know that the bulk of farm products are ready for market at the same time. Immediately after harvest everybody is wanting to sell grain, and in fact a great many are compelled to dispose of it, no matter how low the price received. The sub-treasury plan proposes that the government establish warehouses in each county in which to deposit the farmers' grain as a security for a loan of 80 per cent of its value at 1 per cent interest. The farmer still owns the grain and can dispose of it at any time during the year and receive the current price, less, of course, the advance he has already received. This would effectively do away with grain gambling and insure a uniform price.

The Midland Journal (Rising Sun, Md.) says:

Sugar appears to be the only part of the McKinley tariff that is receiving any attention at present, and both political parties' papers are whooping it up. The Republicans point with pride to sugar and say "we told you so, that the McKinley tariff would lower prices."

The Democrats say that is the free trade part of the bill and the people want more of it. The English of all this "fuss and feathers" among the professional politicians is a

## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

### THE REFORM PRESS.

The Discussion of Current Topics in the Organized States.

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Organized labor is advocating industrial reform. Industrial reform does not contemplate the abrogation of the rights of any individual. What it does seek is to deprive a few individuals of special privilages by which the rights of the majority of our citizens have been wrested from them.

The Southern Alliance Farmer (Atlanta, Ga.) reports:

We have authentic information that Senator John B. Gordon has no sympathy with that star-chamber caucus. Let us give him a fair trial. He can do us great good in the Senate.

The Farmer also paragraphs:

There are a great many office-seeking wolves now trying to beat like spring lambs around the Alliance lodges in Georgia. Brethren, take your yard stick and the very hide of these unnatural varmints.

The government issues part of the paper money of the nation. And there is no good reason why it shouldn't issue all. Let the banks be abolished as banks of issue. That was what Jefferson and Lincoln said, and we ought to take their advice.

The Industrial Free Press (Winfield, Kan.) says:

Here is one fact in our financial and business relations that stands out in bold relief and ought to be plain to every one who thinks. It is that, it is an utter impossibility to pay 10 per cent debts out of a 2 per cent business. Nor is this alone the case with the farmer, but the merchant as well. They too are unable to do a profitable business. The laborer also works for starvation wages and all are suffering in a great degree from the high rate of interest and the dear dollar. We are compelled to use money, and the greater its purchasing power the more of the products of labor it will purchase. The higher the rates of interest we have to pay, the less the profits in business, and the remedy for such evils is for the government to use its proper authority to coin money and regulate the value thereof and furnish it in sufficient quantity to do the business of the country on a cash basis and at a rate of interest that will cover its cost of issue only and money will then revert to its proper use, a medium of exchange. This would stop gold gambling and effectively settle the money question. But we are told this is inflation doctrine. Well, what of that? Can we have too much money? No, not if it is good money, and a money secured by all the wealth of the nation is good money. How could we have too many postage stamps? They are the fiat of the government and are good for their purpose always. Suppose the government would make a billion stamps in a year more than was needed, or any like sum, they would simply be laid away until needed, then they would be good, they would not be in circulation only as demanded; and they would never depreciate in value. So with a public credit money, it would bear the fiat or stamp of government and would be good at face value when needed. Give us cheap money based on the entire wealth of the country and most of the financial ills from which we suffer will disappear as if by magic.

The Signal (Manhattan, Kan.) says:

As the sub-treasury plan becomes better understood, opposition to it diminishes. We all know that the bulk of farm products are ready for market at the same time. Immediately after harvest everybody is wanting to sell grain, and in fact a great many are compelled to dispose of it, no matter how low the price received.

The sub-treasury plan proposes that the government establish warehouses in each county in which to deposit the farmers' grain as a security for a

compel you to borrow; you borrowed the money of your own accord and if you made a mistake the loan company should not be held responsible," etc. We will not dispute that there are men who have borrowed money who might have done as well or better without it. Neither do we dispute that there are men who made false statements to get more money than the property was worth. But we do dispute that the majority of men obtained loans until it was apparently necessary for them to do so.

But there is another side to this question that we seldom hear any reference made to. The companies didn't have to loan their money. There is no way to compel men to invest their money. We hear that every day from the opposition side. Then why did they make these loans? Is it not a fact that when they made these loans they firmly believed they would make money in the transaction? Who compelled the eastern loan companies to locate all over Kansas? It was not the people. Is it not a fact that when these loans were made both the borrower and the lender went into the transaction from a purely business standpoint? If such be the case and such is unquestionably the case why should the borrower be compelled to stand between the lender and all dangers? Why should the one be asked to indemnify the other from all loss by shortage of crops, drouths, floods, fires and the thousand and one other contingencies incident to life? We fail to see the justice in it. While we believe that the farmer in common with all men should pay his honest debts, we also believe that in case of unavoidable disaster the lender should take some chances along with the borrower. In ninety-nine cases out of every hundred the loaner was as highly pleased at making the loan as the borrower was to get it.

The Dakota Rivalist (Huron, S. Dak.) says:

We see that the federal officers are deciding that a very big slice of the appropriations for payment of the war tax and claims for Indian depredations belongs to certain parties who have lobbied the bills through. This is a mighty wide step when the federal government proposed to support a third house on the commission plan.

The Great West (St. Paul, Minn.) says:

The number of families in the United States is estimated at 12,000,000. Of these 9,000,000 carry around with them a bleeding ulcer. It is called a real estate mort-gage. Those are census figures, so we may calculate that about 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  millions have the disease.

Alliance Sentinel (Lansing, Mich.) says:

The money boss, on January 1, this year, owned 3,540 national banks with 650 millions of capital, owning 310 millions of dollars of profit and surplus, 122 millions of circulation, that cost 1 per cent. In addition to this they had 1,565 millions of deposits. Besides this there are 2,618 private banks, not including savings, with a capital of 500 millions and 1,684 millions of deposits. It will then be seen that the banks have money enough, but the farmer has not.

The banker wants to inflate interest bearing obligations, while the farmer wants non-interest bearing money to pay his debts and make his purchases without patronizing the money loaner. This is the great battle now to be fought between the people and the money power.

Arkansas Economist (Searcy, Ark.) says:

A billion dollars! A sum so stupendous that we cannot comprehend it! Ten hundred millions of dollars! Enough to buy all the real and personal property in the States of Arkansas, Colorado, Nevada and Delaware. And yet this sum, vast as it is, was appropriated by the late Congress. Little wonder the farmers, who pay 80 per cent of the taxes necessary to provide this sum, are growing restive under political legislation and partisan robbery. Five hundred millions of dollars per year to run the government! Eight dollars per year taxes on every man, woman and child in the land! This is the record of the Republican Congress. How much better was the record of its predecessor, and how much better will be the record of its successor?

The Oxford (Ala.) Voice says:

Who is it that complains? Not the vicious classes of the cities who live in the slums of desolation. But it comes up from the decency, the virtue and the intelligence of this country, from the farmers and the hard-handed industrial classes.

And not without cause. They are dissatisfied and restless on account of the low compensation which they realize from their farms and the limited circulation of money which occurs because the amount of money in the country is too small for the business transactions that cover our trade and commerce.

This is the trouble, and it is one that must be remedied. The farmers are in for it; and our legislators must come to time and so legislate as to bring relief. Anything short of it will not do. Be assured the agitation will go on until relief comes.

Cotton Plant (Orangeburg, S. C.) says: "Shibboleth of the Farmers Alliance.—Union, harmony, concession. Everything for measures—nothing for men."

The Perkins (Oklahoma) Plaindealer says of the sub-treasury plan:

Like the various other methods proposed by the farmers to alleviate their financial condition, this is receiving the execrations of the subsidized press. It is said that to enact a law establishing government warehouses would be to inaugurate class legislation. Without attempting to evade the truth, it might not be impudent to ask whom it is that has taught the farmers to seek class legislation. Twenty-five years of class legislation has placed the east where it is, would it not be fair to turn the tables for a while, and then thereafter establish laws that would be just, honorable and fraternal?

The center of population of our country has drifted well toward the west—so far in fact that the power to legislate as we choose is within our grasp if we have the intelligence to use it. Let us give the East to realize these words of Lincoln, "That you may fool all the people a part of the time; a part of the people all time, but you can't fool all the people all the time."

Cottage Home (Texarkana, Ark.) says:

It seems that the nations are slowly but surely approaching the economic brotherhood of the human race; and it may be that some now living may see great strides taken toward the realization of the great principle of Christianity, and of the Farmers Alliance which is expessed in the words, "Peace on earth and good will to ward men."

Cottage Home (Texarkana, Ark.) says:

The sub-treasury plan will not down; there is something in it; and the politicians might as well begin to look into it thoroughly. The farmers ask that a small percentage of the pension steals, railroad gifts, subsidy appropriations, and ship-canal robberies, should be deflected into the inauguration of a system of commercial depositories for staple agricultural products, in order that these may not glut the market and reduce the prices below the nominal standard of profit; but if the government will back up such depositories by the issuance of legal tender notes, the farmers will not, for a time, attempt to interrupt the wild and mad career of the government concerning expenditures, any further than to insist upon proper economy and equal justice to all the citizens of this great republic.

The Alliance Tribune (Topeka, Kan.) makes a political forecast:

We predict that all of the capital combinations in this country will boom Cleveland for President in 1892, and that Harrison is not "in it." Cleveland will run upon an anti-free silver platform, and all capitalists will support him regardless of past or present political affiliations. Will they do this? No, they haven't got the backbone to tackle Wall street. Such a measure will be introduced, and if it does not die in the committee room, when it comes to a vote there will be more Congressmen sick and absent than there were when the bill to recharter national banks passed. The currency question is the all-sorbing one. It is the most important of any contained in the Alliance demands. Watch your Congressman and see how he stands on this. Put the question to him direct and require him to answer it, "Yes," or "No." See what kind of a record he makes on this question. Press this issue to the front.

The Washington (Kan.) Republican puts out a suggestion:

Do you want to see land values go up your farm double in value? That time will come when agriculture again becomes profitable. It will become profitable when farmers vote for their own welfare by sending enough men to Congress to make laws in the interest of the whole people—for the masses, not the classes. We deny that a single measure that is being urged by the Alliance is a class measure.

Workman and Farmer (Dayton, Ohio) says:

An exchange says that leading politicians on the Democratic side of the fence, and many of their organs claim that their party is in line with the Farmers Alliance on everything except the sub-treasury plan. Well, let us question them a little and see if they are. Are they in favor of abolishing national banks and issuing legal tender treasury notes in sufficient quantities to make a volume of currency

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Midland Journal (Rising Sun, Md.) says:

An exchange says: "It would seem from the tendency of the times that a large number of people in this country imagine that they can get rich by legislation; in other words, they can sit still and fold their hands and have laws enacted that will give them all the money they want without giving anything in return." Strange as this may seem, this has happened, as any one having common sense and an ordinary share of intelligence may readily learn by referring to the census reports being published, and other statistics bearing on this method of getting rich. This is not a matter for the play of the imagination, but solid facts.

Industrial News (Jackson, Mich.) says:

The money power and Wall street sneaks are getting alarmed about the growth and importance of the Alliance movement. We have it from good authority that secret agents and emissaries are to be sent out to disorganize and split up this good peoples' movement. Brethren, beware of any men who come into your meetings and speak against the Alliance principles and the Alliance platform. The sectional feeling will be tried, and Northern and Southern Alliances maintained. This is only a trap, as all Alliances are united on the Ocala platform.

Gibbon (Neb.) Reporter says:

It will be but short time until all the leading politicians will be heard loudly advocating the principles of the Alliance.

This will be a matter of policy, however, as they are not sincere in their professions of love for the Order. As the Alliance grows in strength these men will be shamed.

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charge of the government they would be used to oppress the masses of the people. The same principle that actuated the government to reserve the rivers should prompt the government to own and reserve the roads to the people.

Peoples' Paper (Buffalo, Mo.) says:

Money is power. Concentrated wealth is concentrated power. The centralization of power in the hands of a few is not right, and is dangerous to the liberties of the people. The wealth of the United States, under the present financial system, is being concentrated more rapidly than was ever before known in any nation. Is there patriotism enough among the people to arrest this rapid centralization of wealth and power?

Midland Journal (Rising Sun, Md.) says:

An exchange says: "It would seem from the tendency of the times that a large number of people in this country imagine that they can get rich by legislation; in other words, they can sit still and fold their hands and have laws enacted that will give them all the money they want without giving anything in return."

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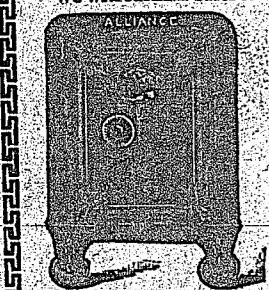
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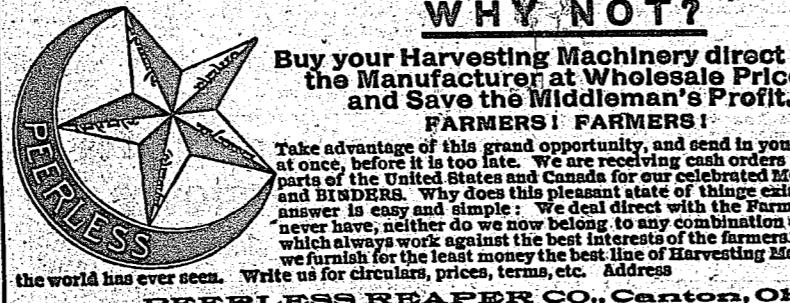
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# THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

DEVOTED TO SOCIAL, FINANCIAL, AND POLITICAL ECONOMY.

VOL. 5.

WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 25, 1891.

NO. 6.

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of such means of communication and transportation.

Will either party work for the abolition of national banks? No, their past record proves that. Will they vote for government loans on land?

Certainly not, the bill was reported adversely. Would they vote to

increase the volume of currency to \$50 per capita? No, most emphatically. Would they vote to stop gambling in futures? No, or the Butterworth bill would have been passed.

Will they vote for free coinage of silver? No; that idea has been abandoned by both parties. Would they vote against alien ownership of land? No; they both voted in

favor of it during the last session. Will they vote to reclaim the land now held by syndicates and railroads, as demanded? No; they have been continually the other way. Will they vote to the tariff from the necessities of life? No; they have been quarreling for a hundred years over that point and are no nearer a settlement now than when it was first agitated.

DANIEL WEBSTER said, "When all our money is made payable in specie on demand, it will prove the most certain means that can be used to fertilize the rich man's field by the sweat of the poor man's brow."

ALBERT GALLATIN, who was twelve years Secretary of the Treasury, says, in Vol. III, page 429, of his works, that "The right of issuing paper currency, like that of gold and silver, belongs exclusively to the nation, and cannot be claimed by or delegated to individuals."

FROM indications which any man should be able to discover, it is safe to predict that the impending revolution will take more active shape within the next eight months than at any time in the history of the reform movement. By the time of the meeting of the Grand Council next November, the Alliance will have got together, and will be in active cooperation with kindred associations of wealth producers. Then the work will be easy.

5. Believing in the doctrine of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, we demand that our national legislation shall be so framed in the future as not to build up one industry at the expense of another. We further demand a

right to obtain all lands now owned by aliens and foreign syndicates, and that all lands now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of such as is actually used and needed by them, shall be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

6. We condemn the silver bill recently passed by Congress and demand in lieu thereof the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

7. We demand that Congress shall pass laws prohibiting alien ownership of land, and that Congress take prompt action to devise some plan to obtain all lands now

owned by aliens and foreign syndicates, and that all lands now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of such as is actually used and needed by them, shall be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

8. Where, then, is the single demand made at Ocala that either the Democratic or Republican parties will take up and enact into law? There is absolutely not one. Let the Alliance

papers and speakers throughout the country turn the tables and demand of the politicians definitely just what

portion of the Ocala demands they will support; follow this up closely and energetically, and the truth will soon be disclosed that not a single demand among them all will be or

can be honestly considered and adopted by either of the old parties. They may point with pride to the platforms adopted in the past, but the provisions of law relating to the duties and business of distillers, and shall pay all penalties incurred or fines imposed on him for a violation of any of the said provisions; and that he shall not suffer the lot or tract of land on which the distillery stands, or any part thereof, or any of the distilling apparatus, to be incumbered by mortgage, judgment, or other lien, during

## GOVERNMENT STORAGE OF WHISKY.

Senator George in his comparison of whisky distilleries with the sub-treasury plan, makes a very able and adroit defense of that species of business, but a very lame showing of the point at issue. He says,

I answer first that no certificates or receipts or other paper issued by the keepers of these warehouses are ever used or can be used as currency or money.

Here is an assumption of ignorance on the part of the advocates of the sub-treasury plan that, to say the least, is amusing. Does Senator George really think there is a member of the Alliance so ignorant as to believe

that the government makes these certificates of whisky deposit money? If so he had better go out among his constituency and learn differently.

There is not a single Alliance man in Mississippi to whom the above answer is applicable, and it was only given to give color to the remainder of his interview.

The very fact that they are not made legal tender is the only difference in principle that exists between the present system of internal revenue as applied to whisky and the proposed sub-treasury plan. His whole interview is misleading and unworthy of a Senator of the United States. No one has claimed that the details of the two systems are the same, and it is unfair for him to

make such application. The only similarity affirmed is the principle involved.

An examination of the facts, without an attempt to mislead or deceive, will prove this statement. In

the first place it has been stated, and is no doubt susceptible of proof, notwithstanding a denial has been entered, that liquor has been stored in government buildings, built at government expense.

Be that as it may, the following is the law covering the construction of these warehouses:

Sec. 326, as amended by section 1, act of May 23, 1880. (2d Stat. 145.) Every person intending to commence or to continue the business of a distiller shall, on filing with the collector his notice of such intention, and before proceeding with such business, and on the first day of May of each succeeding year, execute a bond in the form prescribed by the commissioner of internal revenue, conditioned that he shall faithfully comply with all

the provisions of law relating to the duties and business of distillers, and shall pay all penalties incurred or fines imposed on him for a violation of any of the said provisions;

and that he shall not suffer the lot or tract of land on which the distillery stands, or any part thereof, or any of the distilling apparatus, to be incumbered by

mortgage, judgment, or other lien, during



I note that certain New England farmers are not in favor of the Alliance. I do not know who they are, but I venture to say they have not studied the principles of the Alliance for themselves, or their greatest interest is not in farming. As Senator Vest says: "A farmer is one who tills the soil for a living; an agriculturist is one who owns a farm, lives in a city, and goes out now and then to see if jack-pots are ripe." May not some of those New England grangers be agriculturists?

The impression is sought to be conveyed that there is antagonism between the Grange and the Alliance. This is utterly and totally false so far as I know; and I have been a granger for fourteen years, and I am also a member of the Alliance. I am sure that every honest farmer hopes to see the Alliance succeed and accomplish all the good possible for the struggling and oppressed husbandman. The Grange has accomplished and is accomplishing a great and good work by its educational, co-operative, and social features, and to-day it is a strong organization for these purposes. The principles of the Alliance are identical with those of the Grange; both organizations are seeking to place the farmer where we all should stand, in this country, upon a platform of equal and exact justice. The Alliance goes a step further than the Grange and proposes to make the influence of the farmer felt in the halls of our State and national legislation to the end that equal and just laws shall be passed for the welfare of all classes of our people. As farmers we ask no more, and we will be satisfied with nothing less. The Grange hoped to accomplish all the legislation we required as farmers by petition; but we have found that a forlorn hope and we clearly see now that active participation in legislation by men of our own selection, where that is possible, is the only hope the farmer has of regaining his lost political rights. Of course he can never hope to recover what has so long been quietly but surely abstracted from him in the way of unjust taxation, and gradual depreciation of all that he owns, but he can by united effort stop the further unjust class legislation which is enriching others at his expense.

The great political battles of the future will be the organized masses under the banner of "equal and exact justice to all, of whatever State or persuasion, religious or political," against organized and consolidated wealth backed by a lying subsidized press. Such will be the conflict of the future, and patriotism, honor, self-preservation, justice, all demand that the people should act as a unit in resisting every encroachment, great or small, open or insidious, upon their constitutional rights that they are entrusted with to transmit to future generations.

Surely the farmer and all industrial classes must realize that it is time now not only for him to "talk out" but to walk out and act in the same vigorous manner that he talks, and it will not be many years before we can again feel that this is "a government of the people, for the people and by the people."

#### For a Land Currency.

BY J. H. ROBERTSON, MT. VINCO, VA.

No one who possesses for a moment the power of contemplation can consider the condition of the landed

property all over the United States at the present time without the gravest apprehension and alarm. The States in the West are universally reported to be covered with mortgages to almost the full assessed value of their lands. The State board of assessors, in their report to the New York legislature, states:

Everywhere we are confronted with the statement that farming lands are depreciating; that sales are infrequent and the industry continually growing less profitable. In many instances mortgage liens upon farms represent their full value, and unencumbered farms are unusual and exceptional.

In Pennsylvania the condition is the same; in the far South it is no better, and here in the best sections of Virginia in many localities 75 per cent of the farms are mortgaged, and the situation grows no better; indeed, but few of the debtor farmers are able to meet their yearly payments of interest. The young men are drifting to the cities and the farms are growing less and less productive, owing to the incapacity of their owners to expend upon them the amounts necessary to keep them in condition. When farms are offered for sale, as at every court day some are, there are no purchasers, save the money lenders who buy them for their debts, and the weaker of these money lenders in time are obliged to let them go for some consideration to those more able to carry them. In many parts of the country the mortgage holders are loan companies who represent immense wealth, and these are rapidly taking in and destroying the homes of the people. In consequence, already, in many localities may be seen residences which once were the happy and comfortable homes of people of refinement and intelligence and independence, now entirely uninhabited, or only occupied by those who can afford the amount thus issued to the present circulating medium, less the bank notes retired, and the amount so added would be as good as national bank notes, for being based upon the credit of the government is all that makes them good. Then the government, and of course through the government the people, would be saved the annual interest on that amount. Thus would the circulating medium be increased from about \$300,000,000 to say \$900,000,000. We should then lack about \$2,200,000,000 to bring the circulating medium up to \$50 per capita, where it must come ere justice can be done either to the government as a debtor or to the individual debtors of long standing; and even then justice can never be done them, for they have endured years of suffering and many have gone down to their graves driven by debt and privations which they could never have known but for this most criminal contraction. Many innocent, hopeful youths of both sexes have been driven to the depths of despair in the slums of degradation; and it is the cause of many a hopeless, comfortless old age to-day.

Think of the immense political power in the hands of these immense wealth backed by a lying subsidized press. Such will be the conflict of the future, and patriotism, honor, self-preservation, justice, all demand that the people should act as a unit in resisting every encroachment, great or small, open or insidious, upon their constitutional rights that they are entrusted with to transmit to future generations.

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intellect nor independence grow. When the Israelites were held in Egyptian bondage, which of them ever thought of independence or resistance? Only the man whom God, in his infancy, rescued from the hard lot of the others and educated.

Now let us consider by what means this present condition has been brought upon the country, and then by what means it may be relieved. The careful student of the world's history will see that the control of the volume of money, so that it can be expanded and contracted at will, has ever been the means used to give to the wealthy the control of great wealth and the final contraction of that money to the very smallest possible amount had been the means of pauperizing and enslaving the many to the few. An acquaintance with the manner in which our national finances has been managed will show that ours is but another instance of the same kind. Twenty-five years ago the per capita circulation was \$2, and now it is less than \$5. Why was this contraction made? Why that gold might be God, and that its fat prelates might revel about its altars.

But there are some who will say, "he has the circulating medium too small; it is ridiculous." Calculate for yourselves, skeptics, and see if I have. The average number to a family is about five; then at \$5 per capita, 100 families, taken as you come to them, should have in their possession or be able to command, at any given time in ready cash \$1,500 without borrowing. Can they do it? Cut off any section in the country containing 100 average families, and see if they can. Or take any city, and see if it can pay on any one day without borrowing \$5 per head for each of its inhabitants.

Does any one ask how did contraction accomplish this? Let us examine. Twenty-five years ago we had our lands here in Virginia bare of fences, buildings, stock. Everything that we raised upon the farms was paying a large profit, but we needed money to enable us to raise anything or to grow any stock. We calculated the value of our lands and the profits we could make, and saw that we could borrow money, pay such an interest and return the principal in so many years, many of us making the calculation at prices far below what we were getting. Our calculations were based upon the amount of money then in circulation. We knew nothing about the contraction of currency which was to take place; we were suspecting no treachery. Gold had been money, silver had been money, paper had been money, ever since we could remember, and we knew nothing of the schemes which were being worked in our Congress by our supposed friends to suddenly contract and continuously contract the currency upon which all our values were based. When lot within two years more than half of our currency was burned up or withdrawn, and in direct consequence of this our property was diminished in value one-half, while our debts were in the end doubled. Thus a man who, owning \$10,000 worth of property and owing \$5,000, instead of being, as he supposed, a half-owner in his property while his creditor owned the other half, actually owned nothing, while his creditor owned all; and then, too, as a direct result of the same contraction, everything he raised was

diminished in value while in the interest he had to pay there was no reduction. But that was not all. Ever since America had been settled the debtor had the privilege of paying his debts either in gold or silver, but in 1873 that privilege was taken from him and he was required to pay in gold alone or its equivalent, which metal, in consequence of the increased duty it had to perform, became much higher in value and required much more of the debtor's products to obtain it.

Now comes the question of relief. As contraction produced the evil, expansion would be the naturally looked to remedy; but upon what to base the expansion is the question to be decided, and then how to get the money into circulation. I will briefly mention two ways in which it seems to me this might be accomplished:

1. The great contraction was in part produced by transferring a debt in the hands of the people, which was for the greater part non-interest bearing, to an interest bearing debt in the hands of capitalist bondholders. Now let us undo that part of it by again changing the debt from the interest bearing debt that it is back to a non-interest bearing debt in the hands of the people, where the evidences of debt shall be a legal tender paper currency. This may be done by the government purchasing from the people with legal tender paper money and selling what it has purchased on the markets of the world for gold and silver, with which to take up the 4 and 4½ per cent bonds now outstanding, amounting altogether to some \$600,000,000, more or less. It was, I presume, much in this way that France paid off for cash the assessment put on her by Prussia at the close of the late Franco-Prussian war. That would add the amount thus issued to the present circulating medium, less the bank notes retired, and the amount so added would be as good as national bank notes, for being based upon the credit of the government is all that makes them good. Then the government, and of course through the government the people, would be saved the annual interest on that amount.

Thus would the circulating medium be increased from about \$300,000,000 to say \$900,000,000. We should then lack about \$2,200,000,000 to bring the circulating medium up to \$50 per capita, where it must come ere justice can be done either to the government as a debtor or to the individual debtors of long standing; and even then justice can never be done them, for they have endured years of suffering and many have gone down to their graves driven by debt and privations which they could never have known but for this most criminal contraction. Many innocent, hopeful youths of both sexes have been driven to the depths of despair in the slums of degradation; and it is the cause of many a hopeless, comfortless old age to-day.

2. The \$2,200,000,000 yet needed should be issued in legal tender treasury notes based on land mortgages bearing 2 per cent interest, the issue being regulated somewhat after the following plan: To a person owning or who could pay one-half on 350 acres of land or under, issue the value of the other half, taking a mortgage for the same, which mortgage should be paid off in twenty years, the interest and one-twentieth payable each

year, after which settlement a new issue might be made on the same land if desired. The interest of this amount coming to the national treasury would go toward defraying governmental expenses and thereby save to the people taxes in some form or another.

There are many people who say that for the government to hold mortgages on so much land would have too great a centralizing effect, and would imperil individual liberty. But we have now got to make choice between conditions, and not to select at our own free will. I have shown how the land is rapidly drifting into the hands of a very few who would inevitably become the government and use all the government's functions and powers to carry out their own individual and selfish aims.

I have shown what a mighty lever they could bring to bear upon those who, at their will, would occupy the land, and I think all must acknowledge that such a government would be entirely absolute. Now to prevent that we propose through a friendly government which the people could control, to secure the land in the hands of many millions of whom nobody could dictate how he should cast his vote on account of his debt, any more than a State can now dictate to an individual how he shall vote on account of his taxes, for the interest and annual payment would be made as the payment of taxes is now made to the State.

It is again contended that land is an uncertain base upon which to establish a currency on account of its fluctuations, and because at times, as at present, purchasers for it can not be had. Be that as it may, it is the underlying foundation of everything, and without it there could be no values, no basis, no world; and furthermore, the intrinsic value of land is nearer an unfluctuating value than anything else on earth. The products of the farm, even if we could have a fixed standard of values by which to measure them, must fluctuate, because some years they are more abundant and some scarcer. The same is true with reference to the products of the mines. Land never varies in supply, and therefore can only have its value changed by a change in the unit of measure, and it is only owing to the unit of measure having been enlarged that land values have apparently depreciated. With a currency varying in quantity only in proportion to the demand for it, land values could vary very little. It is true, as population increases, as it is doing, and must continue to do, the value of land would tend upward, but that cannot be called a fluctuation. Hence, with a currency properly managed I do not think it could have a safer basis than land.

I only remember two instances in modern history where money has been advanced by government on land mortgages to any extent, and in both of them it seems to have worked well. One was in the Colony of Pennsylvania where a plan very nearly similar to the one here proposed was in operation for fifty years, and if we may accept Ben Franklin as authority it was a grand success. The other was in Prussia in the time of Frederick the Second, who had his government extend its credit to his farmers by assuming the mortgages on their lands and thus saving them from foreclosure to the shysters, for which act perhaps as much as any other, he was surnamed The Great. Prussia was then about as near an approach to an absolute monarchy as any in Europe, and notwithstanding the fact that for half a century since was under as stern an old Kaiser as ever swayed a sceptre, constitutional liberty has made as great growth there as anywhere in Europe.

#### What Side Will the Clergy Take?

BY T. J. STONE, ULA, VA.

The forces are now being marshaled for the greatest battle ever fought upon this continent. A battle, however, not to be fought with bullets, but with the ballots of the patriotic, liberty-loving citizens of the United States. On one side will be arrayed all the plutocracy of the nation with its vast horde of parasites and cringing slaves, all who bow the knee to the golden image set up by the money kings in Wall street.

On the other hand will stand the patriotic farmers and working men of the great American Republic united in one grand invincible phalanx, contending for the inalienable rights of man. The contest is already begun. The tongues and pens of millions of long honest-minded sinners will fail to appreciate or heed their teaching.

When Jesus dwelt on earth the humble, suffering poor were the special objects of his love, and those preachers who do not follow Christ are doing more to promote the cause of infidelity than the cause of Christ. So long as they respect men's persons and money instead of their character, so long honest-minded sinners will fail to appreciate or heed their teaching.

As every intelligent citizen must sooner or later take one side or the other in this contest, a very important question is, Which side will the clergy take?

Will they, like the Master, sympathize with the common people, or with the plutocracy? Will they advocate the cause of the weak, the downtrodden, and the oppressed; or those who "have kept back the hire of the laborers" and "laid up their treasures in the last days?" Occasionally we see flings at the Farmers Alliance, made by preachers in religious journals. Some good brother says, "Well, that is a small matter." Very well; it may be a small matter, originating in a small brain or narrow heart, but straws show which way the wind blows. When "for gold the parson preaches truth," for gold he will frequently do something else; for gold or some other cause he will sometimes step out of the narrow way to misrepresent the farmers to whom, by God's grace, he owes his living.

Here is a sample: "Farmers demand special legislation, so the government can loan them money for a song, and enable them to hold their products for higher prices." Is this true? Have the farmers ever asked the government to loan them money for a song, literally or figuratively? If the farmers deposit wheat, corn or cotton with the government, and borrow less money on it than it will bring for the market, do they get it for a song? Is wheat, corn or cotton only a song? Has not each an intrinsic value? If the worthy divine were hungry and naked would he not soon conclude that the simple products of the earth have greater intrinsic value than even gold itself?

Is it not a patent fact that Congress

by one iniquitous act lifted \$484,141,180 out of the pockets of the people and put them into the pockets of the bondholders? Was not this special or class legislation? Why is it, then, that the tongues of many preachers cleaved to the roofs of their mouths while this and many such like things were done, but as soon as the farmers ask only what is just and equitable their tongues are loosed and they become eloquent over the evils of class legislation?

Again, it is well known that in 1884 Congress passed a bill loaning \$1,000,000 to the World's Industrial and Cotton Exposition, and as far as is known to the writer no clergyman entered his protest against it; but the idea of loaning money to the poor farmers, even on the best of security, is intolerable to some that wear the surplus, as well as to the bankers and brokers.

They who buy to sell for a profit fix the prices on all products of labor and make money perpetually scarce; the incessant abstraction of the profits of trade from the currency, continually diminishing its amount, and fixing at the same time the average price of money, or interest. Excessive profits in trade on any product will enhance the general price of money. Interest will rise or fall with the rise or decline of profits, but not in the same numerical ratio. In other words, the community pays its merchants profits for their services as exchangers to the amount of a fourth of the value of the products of labor which pass through their hands as exchangers.

When men see magnificent temples built for the worship of God from which the humble poor are virtually excluded; when they see the preacher worshiping the millionaire more than the lowly Redeemer; when they see the immoral holding high positions in the church because they are rich; when they see all this and much more of the same kind, with loathing they will turn away and say, in truth, this religion is all a splendid farce, for Jesus is not here.

Reader, would you have an answer to the question, Which side will the clergy take? Here it is: Many who are trying to follow Christ will be found on the Lord's side, and some who are vainly trying to serve God and gold will sooner or later be found on the other side. The Lord's side is the side of the oppressed; the other side is the side of the oppressor.

#### The Opportunity of the Alliance.

BY DARIUS LYMAN, WASHINGTON, D. C.

There is no popular service that costs so much to the people as the exchange of its commodities—the sale and transfer of the products of its labor. This can be briefly shown. In order that products of labor may be exchanged there must be common storehouses where they can be exhibited and put on sale. This is now done by no agents of the people known and chosen by themselves, but by agents who volunteer the service, who store commodities and products and charge the people all that can be got from them for the work they do. They fill their stores by buying commodities at the cheapest prices and selling them at the highest. We call these exchangers merchants. Their business is to buy and sell at a profit. Their profits are now the regular cost to the people of the general exchange of the products of labor. These profits are merchants' wages for their labor—the keeping of the people's stores for distribution by sale. It is alleged that their annual profits amount to about 25 per cent of the value of the products of labor sold or transferred. This allegation is not far from the truth. But whatever the amount of the mean profits of the

mercantile class in this and other countries, it must annually be deducted from the money circulating in the year the exchanges are made, or become a charge on the currency circulating in that or following years. The remarkable fact is that these profits are never returned fully to the circulating medium. Thus by the operations of trade the profits of the class that buys merely to sell for profits taxes the currency, gold, silver or paper annually to the full value of its profits, till in time the entire circulating medium becomes a debt to the merchants for its own use.

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It is high time that the people had some voice in fixing the price of the commodities produced. Let us see the elements that work together to fix price. The first element of price is a demand for a commodity. The second element is the supply. If supply is abundant the demand will be comparatively moderate. If the demand is very great and the supply small, prices will rise. There enters as a factor in all supply accessibility to the article demanded. This accessibility is aided in all civilized lands by a multiplicity of markets or stores, and a multiplicity of merchants or exchanges. The cost of the store-keeping, or of the merchant's labor, diminishes the accessibility of all commodities to market. The merchant's profits diminish the readiness of sale. They are a restriction on sales, but a necessary restriction, as the merchant's labor as exchanger must be paid for, like all other labor. Thus the merchant's profits enhance prices. But merchants having it in their power to make supply fluctuate, they can and do keep prices fluctuating. Paying themselves from the profits of sales; there is a constant temptation upon them to shorten supply and enhance prices. Throughout Christendom the prices of the chief commodities are constantly fluctuating.

ing by the supplies being artificially diminished; against which society has no remedy but the competition of merchants. But when merchants combine to fix supply rigidly, competition avails nothing.

Now, society may largely remedy this fluctuation between supply and demand, and fluctuation in prices, by keeping its own stores and keeping the prices of the articles society most needs as nearly at the cost of production as possible. Society has already its grand agent for this business; but the merchants have never allowed this agent to do his legitimate work. This agent is the government. It can tax the people, but it has never kept its stores and sold the products of its labor. The merchants will not allow it. They desire inordinate profits.

Government should store all the people's great cereals, all its wool, cotton, and flax, and buy from the people all of these articles produced by them, and sell them back to the people by its subordinate agents. The government's receipts for all these commodities bought by them being backed by the government's credit and the stored articles themselves, would become the universal currency, and metallic currency, the ever monopolizable currency, would cease from among men, and gold and silver would be of value only for their economic uses. The institution of government purchase and sale of the cereals and of the raw material of most clothing would make a perpetual market for them which would cease to fluctuate with the caprices of merchants. Every man's corn, wheat, rye, would find a market and a fixed price from the very hour of finished production, and would not be fixed by alien speculators abroad, or domestic gamblers at home. The farmer in Kansas, and Dakota, and Iowa, would not anxiously look for the market of grain to Liverpool or Chicago, or worry over its transportation to the seaboard, or any great city in our own land. The grain produced, or the cotton, flax, hemp or wool baled or sacked would find its storehouse near at hand, and the producer would find his pay in a greenback receipt issued at the storehouse where the article was taken.

One of the greatest curses of civilized society is the want of a ready market near the article where first produced. There should be the least possible delay between the finished production of a commodity and its transfer to the consumer. Of all devices for shortening this delay the greatest and best is to open storehouses under the agency of the government, and make the government the universal agent of trade, not of all things at once, but gradually by beginning with the cereals and extending to the raw materials of clothing, and thence to other articles, just so fast as monopolizers of raw material in all directions can be forestalled.

Here is the great opportunity for the Farmers Alliance, an opportunity for which civilized man has been waiting for ages, and here in America the opportunity should be seized and turned to account. Government should do something else than tax, tax, tax, and let out the function of banking to corporations whose interests are adverse to those of the mass of the people.

The motto of the reformers should be: "Let the government buy and sell all the cereal products of labor,

all the most common materials of clothing. Cease to tax, unless taxing is followed, with no tardy step, by buying and selling those products."

**The White and Colored Population of the South.**

Census Report.

Attention is called to the following table, showing the white and colored population of the States under discussion at each census since 1790, together with the number of colored to each 100,000 white, and the percentage of increase, respectively, of white and colored for the several decades. The table summarizes the entire case. In 1890 there were in the States under discussion 6,996,166 colored inhabitants, and in 1880, 6,142,360. The colored element increased during the decade at the rate of 13.90 per cent. The white population of these States in 1890 numbered 16,868,205, and in 1880, 13,530,408. They increased during the decade at the rate of 24.67 per cent, or nearly twice as rapidly as the colored element. In 1880 the proportion of white to persons of color in these States was in the relation of 100,000 to 45,397. In 1890 the proportion of the latter class had diminished, being then as 100,000 to 41,475. During the past decade the colored race has not held its own against the white in a region where the climate and conditions are, of all those which the country affords, the best suited to its development.

Years.	Population.	Number colored to 100,000.
1790.....	1,278,488	689,884 54,254
1800.....	1,702,980	918,336 53,923
1810.....	2,208,785	1,272,119 57,594
1820.....	2,831,500	1,633,240 58,384
1830.....	3,660,758	2,187,545 59,757
1840.....	4,632,530	2,701,901 58,325
1850.....	6,222,418	3,442,238 55,320
1860.....	8,203,852	4,216,241 51,393
1870.....	9,812,732	4,555,990 46,429
1880.....	13,530,408	6,142,360 45,397
1890.....	16,868,205	6,996,166 41,475

Referring again to this table, it is seen that in but three decades, that is, from 1800 to 1830, during a part of which time the slave trade was in progress, has the colored rate increased more rapidly than the white. Since 1830 the white people have steadily increased at a more rapid rate than the colored. This increase has not been effected by the aid of immigration, for with the exception of Kansas and Missouri these States have received comparatively few immigrants either from foreign countries or from the Northern States. Similarly the proportion of the colored inhabitants to the white increased somewhat between 1800 and 1830, but since that time it has steadily diminished. In 1830, when this proportion was at its maximum, there were nearly 6 colored inhabitants to 10 white, but this proportion has been reduced to a trifle more than 4 at the present date, or by nearly one-third of its amount. The deficiencies of the ninth census are so apparent in this table that any extended reference to them is wholly unnecessary.

The Kansas (Garnett) Agitator says:

Owing to the fact that Harrison and Cleveland champion the cause of Wall street and the combinations of monopolies and trusts, it is only a matter of time when the two old party organizations will consolidate, as they are both making war against the organizations of labor, the Farmers Alliance, and every other reform movement. Thus we see the great necessity of a union of all the friends of right.

#### FROM THE PEOPLE.

##### Sample Parcels of What the Mail Brings The Economist Every Day.

##### FROM TEXAS.

At a stated meeting of County Farmers Alliance of San Saba county, Texas, held on April 3, 1891, the following resolutions were adopted.

1. That we favor an amendment to the constitution, to the end that all officers of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union of America, both State and national, shall henceforth serve for \$25 per month and actual traveling expenses, except secretaries, who shall receive a reasonable compensation for their work.

2. That the United States Congress take full control of the Union Pacific Railroad and operate it until all claims of the government are satisfied.

3. That we favor a change of the Constitution of the United States so that the President, Vice-President and senators be elected by a direct vote of the people.

S. A. Bryant, of Pioneer, Texas, gives an incident and a moral:

A friend of mine who followed the sheep trails, cow trails, and often the Indian trails of western Texas, in a early day, tells the following: Being sent with some other hands on a certain occasion to drive a bunch of sheep and goats from one ranch to another, with the request that he bring a certain mustang mare and yearling mule with the bunch; found the sheep and goats ready for travel, but the mare and mule were missing. After some time the mule was found keeping guard over the body of his dam which had very recently died. After taking the bell from the neck of the mare and stuffing the same with grass that would not rattle, he started to drive said mule. But after hours of weary and toil they brought him in, but with a lasso around his neck, as he would not drive. All hands were needed to drive the sheep. They did not know how they could take the mule as he would not stay with the flock, and drive he would not, and it took one to lead him and one to drive. He was a thorough mustang and hard to conquer. Finally one of the boys, remembering that the mare had always worn a bell, and that the mule had never known her without said bell, no, not for one day since he was permitted to see the light of the sun, and that they had the identical bell along, suggested that they tie said bell on a certain billy goat in the flock. Agreed, said the boy, and soon the old familiar ring was heard, the mule brayed and seemed at ease. To make a long story short, the mule was turned loose, having stayed with the flock for the whole distance (40 miles) and was no more trouble. We have in our country self-styled "born Democrats," or "born Republicans." They were born in the "old party," they have heard the jingle of the bell of their leaders so long they do not know the party without they can hear the bell. The poor mule thought it was following its mother, when it following nothing but a "billy goat." Some of my neighbors now declare they are voting for Thomas Jefferson or Andrew Jackson, and have been all their lives, while others say they cast their first vote for "honest Abe," and so expect to vote as long as they live, just as long as they hear the bell, they follow. But I ask, does "honest Abe" wear the bell? Does Jefferson or Jackson wear it? No, both bells are and have been more than once on the neck of a "billy," but they who were born that way still follow, braying as melodious as you.

##### FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

R. M. Stafford writes from Oak Ridge, Guilford county, N. C.:

Experience has already shown us in the last election held in the different States that Democrats stood ready to vote with the Republicans and the Republicans stood ready to vote with the Democrats, to defeat the Alliance candidates. We must have men to serve us who are not under the direction and control of Wall street, so let us work earnestly and make no uncertain sound, and never quit sounding until we are heard from the rivers to the end of the earth.

This is the biggest thing that was ever undertaken in America. Think about it! It is the illiterate and the weak and helpless against the intelligence, aristocracy, money, trusts and combines of all sorts, with thousands of office holders, from President down, many with high salaries, and Alliance misleaders to their dugouts

created on purpose to arm and equip, so to speak, to work for party and to keep the party in power; so you see there is a great work to do, though if we get right it will be easily done. When we get all our men in line we can clear them out if they will not hear us and give us the relief that we are entitled to. I hope that Congress may stop for a moment and consider our rights and do the thing that is right, though I have no hope in fact that they will. If a bill is introduced by any member there, I am sure the great majority is against us, and so many amendments to the bill will doubtless be made that it will destroy the bill and nothing good can be realized from it, though I wish the gentlemen to understand that our eyes are upon them and we will be sure to remember them at the next election. It is the business of the government to furnish its subjects money, and cheap money. Money we need and money we must have, and we want it on a solid basis. We live under the greatest government in the known world, though of late it is becoming the most oppressive. Talk about class legislation; there has been but little else but class legislation for the last twenty or twenty-five years. We as Alliance men are opposed to class legislation, and we therefore pray Congress to stop class legislation and legislate for the whole people. Enact such laws as will benefit the greatest number of the people; I repeat, we need more money on a sound basis and cheap money; money to the poor man as cheap as to the rich. Our homes are mortgaged, the mortgage is due, and we are told that we can't renew, so our home and lands must soon be sold if we can't get the money to pay off the mortgage, and the money is not in the country; the contraction has taken it away. Will Congress send it down to us? We are watching and waiting to see; we are paying you \$5,000 a year to set to it that we have good and wholesome law bearing equally and justly on all alike, and plenty of cheap money on a solid basis to meet our necessities, and if you gentlemen do not attend to this we as Alliance men will try to see to it that a new set of men grace Congress two and four years from this. We give you timely warning, not threatening, just asking for what we are entitled to; no more, no less. This thing has gone far enough.

##### FROM KENTUCKY.

Mrs. Louann Colyar, Deer Lick, Ky., writes:

Here in Logan and adjoining counties the Alliance is in sore need of lecturers. The people are not well enough educated in Alliance principles. The Economist is the best educator, but will they read it? I am glad there are so many grand and good men all over this broad land coming to the front doing such noble work for the suffering plain people. It is a pleasure to know that the farmers have something in their heads besides hay seed and are not afraid to let the old politicians know it. I read each week such grand and glorious things of them my heart swells with gratitude. I have a kind thought and a grateful feeling for each one of them, and I pray their efforts may not cease until they shall have gained a great victory. I trust the time is not far distant when all animosity and sectional strife shall be obliterated forever and the brotherhood stand side by side for each other, their homes and their rights.

For right is right since God is God, And right the day must win; To doubt would be disloyalty, To falter would be sin.

John Alexander, of Slater, Ky., writes:

Your excellent paper is being taken by most of our unions in this, Ballard county. After being carefully read it is handed over to those not able to take it, or think they are not. We are holding the fort in this district. I am in my seventy-fifth year; an old man living among my children. I have lived over fifty years in the Methodist Church blameless. Well, now for it. We want reform all over this broad land of ours, first in the family circle, then in the neighborhood, then in our county affairs, then in our State affairs, and next our national affairs. I would say to my brethren, vote for honest and well-tried men for all the offices in the gift of the people from constable to President. Let all labor organizations come together as one mighty army for the right. I have been a life-time Democrat with few exceptions. I voted for St. John, the Prohibition candidate for President. In Cleveland's long message to Congress he was opposed to the free and unlimited coinage of silver. I am not disappointed in

him. There is too much red tape to fill the high position of President of this grand producing country of ours. I want to say right here—we are in a strait between the two old parties, and the fight is on. Look for all kinds of misrepresentations and demagogism. What is law? It is the will of the people in all Democratic governments like ours.

##### FROM OKLAHOMA.

J. Gould writes from Cimarron, King Fisher county, Oklahoma:

I am an Alliance man for reform first, last and all the time; will try to reach over the bloody chasm and shake hands with P. C. Smith, of Thornton, Texas. Like him I was a soldier, but for the Union, and can testify to the value of such men as Brother Smith, for we met them at such places as Perryville, Chicamauga and Kennesaw. I have always voted the Republican ticket. I have no use for professional politicians, either Republican or Democratic, but wish to see the masses educated in our reform move in civil government. The first thing is to find out who are our enemies and who our friends, and it will take time to do it. Here in Oklahoma we are coming to the front slow but sure. As a body we are not a unit in favor of the ware-house part of the sub-treasury plan, but we are a unit on the sub-treasury part of the plan, and also on the John Davis land loan bill. Can we not make haste faster by adopting a good bill of ultra-measures and educate the people on two or three of the most important features and take possession of the government in? Say currency, land and transportation. Many of us think if the money question was righted by free coinage and legal tender currency act, and the John Davis land loan bill, that things would soon begin to get in better shape for farmers and laborers, for we must look to the interests of the Knights of Labor, department of the union as well as that of the Farmers Alliance. With hearty good will to Brother Smith, who wore the gray in the South, and the blue from the North, I rise to a point of order and move you that in 1892 we redeem the nation from the galling yokes of King Shylock. We will free the \$2,000,000 and it will be the signal of liberty the world around.

##### FROM MISSISSIPPI.

Luther Perry, secretary of Goshen Alliance, sends from Carthage, Miss., the following resolutions:

Whereas the Mississippian, a newspaper published in Jackson, Miss., and claiming to be the State organ of the Alliance of Mississippi, claims that the majority of the members of this State are against the sub-treasury bill.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Alliance that we stand as a unit in favor of the sub-treasury bill, and that we will not vote for any man for the Legislature or Senate of this State who will not pledge himself in writing that he will not support any candidate for the United States Senate who will not likewise pledge himself in writing that he will support the sub-treasury bill and all other demands of the Alliance.

2. That in order to test the sense of the membership in this State in regard to the sub-treasury bill we ask all sub-Alliances in this State to take a fair vote on the same, and have the result published in THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and the Mississippi Clodhopper.

Also, resolution condemning action of Assistant State Lecturer McAllister for using his official position to promote the circulation of the Memphis Appeal-Avalanche, a paper opposing the Alliance.

##### FROM NEW MEXICO.

J. N. Coe, Lincoln, N. M., writes:

Much is being said through the reform press by correspondents about the "People's Party," which is fast assuming such gigantic proportions. The politicians might as well try to intercept the waters of the great Mississippi—the people are moving; it is coming slowly, but sure as fate. We have about all heard from grand old Kansas. The Alliance and other kindred organizations have reached the point where outside influences are of little moment, and the Alliance solons who are urging us to sweep up to the old parties for relief had as well wheel into line or stand from under ere they are relegated to the rear. We want leaders, but we demand they keep the middle of the road. The Kansas cyclone is gathering force as time rolls on, and we warn party bosses, and Alliance misleaders to their dugouts

or to their senses, for its fury by 1892 will be of national proportions. Hear some great Democratic leaders commenting on Cleveland's letter on the silver bill and his candidacy in 1892. "I would rather see an Alliance man elected than him." It shows how the mudsills are appreciated by all party-bound benchmen. Does not Mr. Cleveland's letter on free coinage prove to the satisfaction of every Alliance man in the land that the interests and purposes of the old party-bound leaders are exactly the same. The Alliance platform is the purest Democracy the country has been offered in twenty-five years. The Democratic party in 1892 will approach it as near as the money power will allow it to. Their candidate for President will make a pretense to stand with one foot on the Democratic and the other foot on the Alliance platform; but we have been bamboozled long enough with that bait. We want a man with both feet planted squarely on the Alliance platform. There has been much blowing of trumpets by Alliance resolutions about burying sectional hate and the toilers grasping hands across the bloody chasm, but when Alliance men tell us to stand by a party, or rather a crowd, whose stock in trade is fanning the flame of sectional hate, such resolution is only mockery. I want to see Alliance men with manhood and patriotism enough to stand aloof from such parties. While we have thousands of good men who are loth to give up the old party, as its name (about the only thing left of either) is dear to them, there are thousands, ay tens of thousands, of just as good men who are determined at all hazards to cast their ballots independent. We do not object to the old party names; it is the methods and policy of the oily-tongued gentry that invariably control them that we object to. The Alliance platform is broad and just; the demands are reasonable and right, and we ask our brethren to get on to this platform. I think it utterly impossible for an earnest Alliance man to be either a Democrat or Republican adherent. It is not the mission of our order to waste its precious time working with trained, unscrupulous politicians in purifying old parties. The only way to purify corrupt parties successfully is to bury them out of sight and let the world move on. Some of our best and wisest brethren of the South, though purblind with party prejudice, predict that the Democratic platform in 1892 will contain all that is in our St. Louis platform. We shall see. But I ask those good brethren will you blindly follow the party if it does not? The Democratic party in adopting the St. Louis platform must do it in defiance of Wall street, the national banks, the great railroad corporations, alien landlords, and all great combines that have fattened at the public crib. Can it afford to do that? Power is what both parties want. The welfare of the masses is of little consequence; rocks and taffy have answered for them in the past. Some will say we had better take half a loaf, it's better than none; but the people have starved so long they propose to sweep the platter on the next round.

##### A Shrewd Conspiracy.

Alliance Herald, Montgomery, Ala.

Was it not a strange coincidence that Mr. Hall, of Missouri, and Mr. McAllister, of Mississippi, should turn loose their fusilade on Mr. Macune so simultaneously, each corroborating the other, and both dovetail into each other's statements, just as nicely as it could have been possible. A very nice little conspiracy! A well-matured plan! Such a fully organized and systematized effort! And all the anti-Alliance organs get it the same day! How well arranged to take the country by storm! How beautifully the tools of plutocracy work together! But what a parody on sense and what a travesty upon reason! At the meeting of the National Alliance Dr. Macune, Col. Polk, and Col. Livingstone ask for an investigation committee to ferret out the facts and report to the Alliance. All three agree to this, and Dr. Macune asked for the committee. According to Messrs. Hall and McAllister, this same Dr. Macune, the gifted and prudent leader, this able diplomatist and shrewd manager, goes before the same committee and stultifies himself, contradicts himself, and convicts himself by his own testimony. How remarkable! How incredible! How ridiculous! Yet these two members are the only honest ones on the committee. All the other members are ready, willing and waiting to sign a whitewashing report—a falsehood—and afterwards are big enough fools to admit it; but the smart and able and honest Mr. Hall and Mr. McAllister did not, and under the inspiration of virtuous indignation they told

## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE  
NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND  
INDUSTRIAL UNION  
PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
BY THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$1.00 PER YEAR.

Advertisements inserted only by special contract. Our rates are thirty cents per line per column, discounts for time and space furnished on application, stating character of advertisement required.

The publishers of this paper have given a bond in the sum of \$50,000 to the President of the Farmers' and Laborers Union of America that they will faithfully carry out all subscriptions and other contracts.

The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the national meeting in St. Louis:

Whereas THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, our adopted official national organ, has so boldly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles; therefore,

Be it resolved by this National body, That we heartily approve of the course pursued by the ECONOMIST, and that the members of the Order should recommend that every member of the Order should subscribe and read the paper as one of the best subversives of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Reaffirmed at Ocala as follows:

Resolved, That this Supreme Council reiterate THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and the action of Brother C. W. Macune and his associates in a mail paper, and will do all in their power to urge them onward in the good work of education.

Address all remittances or communications to

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ENTRITED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON,  
D. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

## N. R. P. A.

OUTSIDE of the States of Missouri and Mississippi the Alliance is having a general boom. Texas is just now experiencing a revival, while North and South Carolina are doing splendidly. Private advices from Georgia shows that the Order is stronger, more united and determined than ever.

SUPERINTENDENT PORTER has written a long letter in defense of his conduct concerning the census of mortgage indebtedness. It will take more than one letter to clear up the matter. He has stood in the way of a fair statement of these facts all the time. He has been determined from the start that a plain, careful compilation of mortgage indebtedness shall not be given. When Congress meets one of the first duties of the Alliance members will be to demand an investigation into the affairs of the Census Bureau, which would no doubt result in Mr. Porter's retirement. The time has gone by for campaign literature from a census report.

The recent letter of Brother McGrath, State President of Kansas Alliance, explaining his ideas upon the conference of May 19 at Cincinnati, is unfortunate, untimely and altogether unnecessary. Such ill-considered utterances are certain to do great harm and furnish matter which the enemies of reform will use in bringing about strife and discontent in the Order. Brother McGrath is the only State President who has thought it proper to recognize this meeting officially. In this he may represent many of the brethren of his State; it is very certain, however, that he does not reflect the wishes of all. But when he undertakes officially to read the breth-

ren of the other thirty-one States a lecture upon their duties to the Alliance, and ends with the threat of leading the Alliance hosts of Kansas and other Northern and Western States back to the Republican party, his assumption has reached the domain of absurdity. In this statement he does not voice the sentiments of Kansas or the Northwest, neither does he reflect that good sense and judgment which led to the victories of last November. Brother McGrath has mistaken the froth and foam of agitation for the more solid substance of education, and in consequence has undertaken to force the great bulk of the Alliance into an undesirable position. His letter will fall far short of its intended effect, and instead of showing the benefits of the action suggested, it will be ample proof that a conference guided by such sentiments, and governed by men of so little perception, should be avoided by all who have the best interests of the organization at heart. It is to be regretted that such a letter was ever written, and the only good purpose it can serve is a warning to others who are unwilling to permit the work of organization and education to declare the time or method, but in their anxiety would anticipate both. Such undue haste has been the bane of all previous reforms, and if permitted to continue will doubtless bring destruction upon this great organization. Now is the time for calm, deliberate action. Nothing should be forced upon the people under the excitement and hurrah of the moment. The interests at stake are too great to permit of any errors, and the necessity of final triumph too momentous to admit of any discord.

RETURNING from organizing Iowa State Alliances, President Polk and Lecturer Willets attended a district meeting of the Patrons of Toil at Moundsville, W. Va. This meeting of delegates from sixty lodges in the Panhandle voted to consolidate with the Alliance, thus adding 2,500 members at one time to West Virginia.

This fact is becoming more and more apparent each day that if the two old parties want to get rid of the sub-treasury plan they must bring out something better. The people will not consent to be longer humbugged by such men as Mills and Horr, who have nothing but the tariff to offer.

In another column will be found an address to the Order by President Polk. It is both timely and important, and should be carefully considered by every member of the Alliance. It points out clearly the duty of membership and warns the Order of the dangers arising from its neglect. It is quite evident that in case this warning goes unheeded, other means will be taken to bring this disturbing element to a realizing sense of their

situation. One thing it clearly shows, that in his judgment those that are not for the Order are against it, and the organization would be better without them. In this position he should have the hearty co-operation of every honest member of the Alliance. A strict construction of this address would rid the Order of its worst enemies and place it in a condition to meet its most inveterate foes.

LET the brethren of Mississippi demand of Senator George what portions of the Ocala demands he will accept and work for if he is returned to the Senate. Insist upon a categorical answer to each demand separately. This action will disclose the fact that he is against every proposition. He may favor free coinage, but would vote for Cleveland if nominated. It will be some time before his answer will come, but if pressed vigorously he will be compelled to give a reply. Try at once.

THE Alliance meeting at Waco, Texas, which convened Tuesday, April 21, had 300 delegates present the first day. By a standing vote the body unanimously indorsed Brothers Macune and Tracy amid deafening cheers. So it proves that Texas will keep in the middle of the road.

THE country is being flooded with a publication called the "Honest Dollar." It is printed in Boston, under the direction of Edward Atkinson no doubt, and is sent out free of cost. It is sent out in the interest of the money owners of Boston, Wall street and the East, and against the free coinage of silver and the sub-treasury plan. This is said to be a strange world, but the ways of partisan politics, when controlled by plutocratic ideas, are past finding out.

MR. C. H. ELLIS, of South Dakota, has been appointed national organizer, and is now at work in New England. Late reports are to the effect that he is doing well, and contrary to expectations, the farmers in that section are anxious to join the Order.

DANIEL WEBSTER says in his works, Vol. III, page 35, that "The great interest of this country, the producing cause of its prosperity, is labor! labor! labor!" The government was made to protect and encourage it and give it security. To this very end with this precise object in view power was given to Congress, over the currency and over the money system of the country."

BETWEEN the political schemes of the so-called commercial congress and the boomers of the Cincinnati meeting the Alliance will be sorely tried. Trickery on the one hand and overzealousness on the other must be met with a firm determination to consider well before every act.

THERE has been a great deal of idle talk about the natural affinity of the West for the South, but the political history of recent years, we believe, will show that the best friends of the South in the Senate and in the House have come, not from the States of the Western division, but from our old friends in the Middle and Eastern States.

The above is taken from the News and Courier, Charleston, S. C., and certainly proves what has already

been charged, that the leaders of the two old parties are in league with the money changers of the East. Here is an important Democratic paper designating Hoar, Aldrich, Lodge, Hawley and Evarts as "old friends" from the Eastern States. The leaders of the Democratic party are as firmly bound to the plutocratic money loaners of the East as are the Republicans, in proof of which the above extract is ample evidence. Let every Alliance man read this over twice and consider its true significance.

JEFFERSON says in Vol. VI, page 508, in his works: "I sincerely believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to liberty than standing armies. The power to issue money should be taken from the banks and restored to the government where it belongs."

BRO. J. H. McDowell, president State Alliance of Tennessee, has sold his paper, the Toiler, to Bro. Taylor, former editor of the Fayetteville Sun. THE ECONOMIST wishes Bro. McDowell abundant success in all his efforts in other fields of usefulness, and hopes that Bro. Taylor will keep the Toiler up to that high standard in which he finds it.

THE Democratic papers in Mississippi are quoting as law and gospel the articles found in the radical Republican papers in the North that are against the sub-treasury plan. This is said to be a strange world, but the ways of partisan politics, when controlled by plutocratic ideas, are past finding out.

It was this knowledge of the situation that prompted the action of the National Legislative Council in maturing a place for a lecture system and for presenting it to the Order for adoption. The ultimate, inevitable and triumphant success of our principles is assured, if this system be actively and faithfully prosecuted. For the American farmers and all other classes and interests which are so intimately related to them, will not fail to stand together for right, justice and equity, if properly informed. If prosecuted as designed, this system will engage the services during this year of not less than 35,000 lecturers in our cause. I earnestly invoke the aid and co-operation of the entire brotherhood, in securing a faithful lecturer, for every subordinate and county Alliance, and for every Congressional district, within the jurisdiction of our Order throughout the whole country.

Arrangements are also being made for the holding of two or more grand Alliance mass meetings in each of the Alliance States during the year, or as many more as the brotherhood may desire. Let us have your active and earnest sympathy in making this the great educational campaign year in our history, and thus be prepared to meet any emergency that may arise.

State and county officers especially are earnestly admonished to push this

work in their respective jurisdictions.

Loyalty to Alliance principles is

the only true Alliance test, not only as to membership, but it should faithfully be applied in the selection of all officers, from the steward in a subordinate Alliance to the president of the National Alliance, and it must be applied in the selection of those who are to make and execute our laws, if we would reasonably hope for the reforms which we seek.

This same Lubbock is not unknown to the American public, as he was the instigator, if not the prime factor, in the celebrated Hazzard circular. The sham of a specie basis is clearly shown by the fact that the enormous sum of \$535,000,000 in deposits had only \$2,500,000 as a redemption fund. Less than one-half of 1 per cent may be enough to uphold the claim of a gold basis in England, but real business integrity in this country will consider such construction rather strained.

OFFICIAL  
To the Brotherhood of the N. F. A. & I. U.:

We are now approaching the most critical period in our existence as an Order. The demoralizing elements, which always enter into a political campaign, are already being marshaled by the enemies of our Order, with a determined purpose to divide and disrupt us, if possible. No device or scheme will be left untried. Every effort will be made to divert the minds of the people from the great issues which are essentially the very life of our great reform movement.

No member of our Order has the right to assail another member publicly, through the press or otherwise, so long as their names are on our roll of membership. Such an offense is a violation of his obligation and should merit expulsion. No paper vested with authority to represent our Order officially has the right to assail our principles or any member of the Order while acting in such a capacity.

Such an offense should cause all true Alliance men to repudiate such paper promptly. No member, while his name remains on our rolls, has a right to assail the principles of the Order publicly. He is not only permitted, but is encouraged

by our law, to discuss any and all measures coming within our province with the utmost freedom and to any extent he may desire within the Order.

But the will of the majority is the law of the Order, and if he can not acquiesce in the decision of the majority, and feels that he is con-

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of

leaf. The flowers are the reproductive organs, and their protective appendages, and they and their functions are developed and sustained at the expense of the nutritive organs, and of the individual as an organism. The function of the root is twofold; physiological as an absorber and elaborator of nutritive material. The stem and its branches may be regarded as an aerial extension of the root, affording channels for the circulation of nutritive materials, and for a species of interstitial digestion. The leaf is the organ of respiration, and possesses also digestive powers, analogous to those of the animal stomach. It is a remarkable fact that with organs so simple and so easily and completely subject to dissection and inspection, we should yet know less of the physiology of plant nutrition than of the far more complex organs and processes and functions of the higher forms of animal life. There is a very vague and loose notion that the food of plants which exist in fertile soils exists therein in a state of solution, and only in that state can be taken up by the roots of growing plants. If some one will take some of the earth from contact with the root mass of an actively growing plant and report what substance he found existing therein in a state of solution, we shall have new light and useful information. Certainly that soil contains water, but it is hygroscopic water which is absorbed by and gives nutrition to the mass, but does not hold in solution the soil itself or any of its constituents. And it can only be separated from the soil by evaporation, and made apparent as water capable of dissolving anything by condensation subsequent to its separation from the soil. As soon as the soil is saturated to the extent of its capacity for hygroscopic moisture any excess of water will appear in the interstitial spaces of the soil as hydrostatic water obedient to gravitation and hydrostatic laws, and capable of dissolving anything which is soluble in water. It is obvious also that hydrostatic water will dissolve from the soil everything soluble in water which is not retained either in combination with itself or by virtue of some attraction for the substance possessed by the soil superior to the solvent force of water. Moreover, it is further apparent that water holding such matters in solution will depart and carry out of reach of the roots of plants the greater part of such matters held in solution as it flows away from the surface in obedience to hydrostatic laws. Hence is it not evident that unless provision was made against the power of hydrostatic water to dissolve out the plant food from the soil, the most fertile soil would be utterly impoverished by a single season's rain-fall? But is it through the physical or chemical action of the roots of plants that hydrostatic water is able to dissolve out plant food from the soil? Why then is the existence of standing water in the soil speedily and inevitably fatal to all agricultural plants growing therein? It is easily evident that the nutritive materials of plants do not exist in soils in a state of solution in hydrostatic water, but that they do exist in combination with the soil itself and can not be leached out of it by hydrostatic water. Further, it seems these nutritive materials can not be extracted from the soil in the presence of hydrostatic water

by the roots of plants. It is a matter of common observation that crops growing on a soil which becomes waterlogged die. It is the hygroscopic water of soils from which plants obtain the water of their own fluids, and it is by means of their own fluids that they dissolve and imbibe the materials of plant food from the hygroscopically moist soil in contact with their absorbing roots. A dead tree rooted in a soil absorbs in accordance with physical laws hydrostatic water freely, but no plant food. A living plant rooted in a soil imbibes, by physiological forces, the hygroscopic moisture and the plant food of the soil in contact with its roots. The absorption of the nutritive materials of the soil by a living plant is a vital act which differs in toto from physical imbibition. Unless and until we obtain clear ideas upon this point, we shall fail to comprehend the nutrition of plants. Failing here we must also fail to obtain a true conception of the art of culture, or a correct theory and practice of the great science of fertilization, which comprehends the successful feeding of crops and the simultaneous improvement and enrichment of the soil. This whole subject needs restudy.

#### THE MAD-STONE.

The opinion of the writer is asked as to the value of a mad-stone, and whether it is of any value in snakebite. Mad-stone is any highly porous piece of stone with a flat surface which may be pressed closely down upon a wounded surface. Its action may be appreciated by applying the lips to the bowl or stem of a chalk pipe such as are called bubble pipes by children. It is easy to see that such a pipe or a porous stone of any sort may be useful in cleansing a wound and actually absorbing any sort of dangerous virus which may be spread upon the face of the wound in contact with the absorbing stone. Such a substance if previously warmed is capable of exerting a very considerable suction, and, of course, of absorbing and removing poisonous matter, its action being much like that of a sponge. It can scarcely be usefully applied to the bite of a snake, for in that case the venom is injected beneath the skin. It need not be believed that one porous stone more than another is a mad-stone. Such a stone may assist in cleansing a wound, but it is a secondary affair, and should by no means replace any of the more effective measures which any intelligent, modern surgeon will know how to put into operation. The day is gone by when any well informed person attributes mysterious agencies in the counteraction of poisons, contagions and miasms, or their effects to charms, any more than to mutterings and incantations and pow-wowings. That there is any mad-stone having in itself any power to prevent the effects of the bite of a rabid animal apart from its power as a porous substance to absorb any poison with which it may be in contact, and so, if you will "draw it out" of the wound, is a thing not at all to be believed by any intelligent person. If bitten by a dog supposed to be rabid instantaneous and effectual cauterity should be resorted to. If the wound be at all considerable it is much the best plan to be put fully under the influence of chloroform and to have the cauterity thoroughly and deliberately done by a good surgeon. Search should be made with a good

magnifying glass for any slight abrasions which might escape observation. After which great confidence may be had in the safety of the patient.

#### Money.

J. Brad Beverley, in *Alliance Farmer*, Petersburg, Va.

We have, by our research, arrived at some very important conclusions, as follows: That money is a medium of exchange with the functions of appraising property and paying debts, taxes and fines; that the price of all property, labor and the products of labor is dependent upon the volume of money in circulation; that it is an injustice amounting to a crime, first against all debtors, and second against all who are engaged in honest productive labor, commercial industry or in development, to reduce the volume of money in circulation, or even fail to increase it as the population, production and development increase; that, if the "flat value" (value fixed by law) be taken away, the intrinsic value of the material of which money is made (gold, silver, or paper) would amount to very little, if anything, and hence the fiat value is all sufficient. The above we obtain without argument; that the government should provide the people with a medium of exchange sufficient in volume to transact the business of the country rapidly, cheaply and justly; to do which the minimum amount per head must be the maximum amount per head of any previous period; and that if the present securities upon which money is based (gold, silver, U. S. bonds, and 35,000,000 Treasury notes) be too limited, other securities must be found or established.

This final clause is the only one which I consider needs further argument: "If the present securities—gold, silver, U. S. bonds and 35,000,000 Treasury notes be limited," Gold is now given unlimited coinage, so there can be no increase from gold. The present coinage laws on silver require \$4,500,000 per month or \$52,000,000 per year. The total output of our mines in 1888-89 was about \$64,500,000. So from our own mines we could not get an increase of over \$12,000,000 per year, or about 17 cents per head. According to N. A. Dunning, whose figures have stood over a year unrefuted, we have not in actual circulation \$5 per head. Senator Plumb said on the floor of the Senate, and challenged the administration to refute it, that we have not \$10 per head in circulation, and yet the late Secretary Windom says \$23. I believe Brother Dunning is correct. But take Secretary Windom's figures. We have had as high as \$51 per capita. Now at 17 cents a year, how soon will the debtor and producer be done justice? After they are dead? But those opposed to the free coinage of silver assure us that if we open our mints to unlimited coinage that we will be financially killed, cooked and served up, smothered in silver. From what quarter will come this silver cloud-burst? Russia, Turkey, India, Egypt, and China are silver-money nations. Are they entered on the world's bill of fare as "smothered in silver"? If they have too much, then the taste of silver must be like that for opium, for those nations certainly are asking for more. Such indeed is their inordinate craving for silver that they have been termed the "Silver Sink" of the world. From Mexico and South

America only, may we look for any substantial import of silver; and with Senator Daniel we say "let it come" and the more the better. But we cannot possibly from any and everywhere expect enough to increase our currency to what it should be, \$50 per capita, or \$3,500,000,000. One great benefit we would obtain by the free coinage of silver would be this: At present Russia, India and Egypt are wheat exporters competing with us in the European markets. Now, an English buyer can send 80 cents in gold to America and buy silver which, sent to any of these countries, will buy a dollar's worth of wheat. Thus does he make 20 cents in exchange by buying in India and at our expense. How can we long compete with those countries in wheat, tobacco, cotton and rice under these circumstances? Free coinage of silver we must have, and it will increase the currency, and be beneficial in several ways, but that it will give us all of the currency we need is a woeful mistake.

As regards a new issue of United States bonds upon which to base currency, we have had too much of that already. The government sold the bonds to the capitalists and issued them through the banks the money to the people. The bonds were made interest-bearing and non-taxable. The result is that the bondholder has the bonds and nearly all the money, too, paid to him as interest. If the bonds (and consequently the currency issued on them) are given a long time to run, the money will gradually, in the way of interest, be all paid to the bondholders. That has proven rather an expensive system to the American people, and has caused all the financial trouble we are now in. The Alliance has become so convinced of the iniquity of this system that at Ocala they demanded the abolition of it and not its being further prolonged by a new lease. Right here let us briefly dwell upon this present national banking system. It is best, in order to decide what we should do, to know what we are doing. The act of Congress incorporating the national banking system became a law March 25, 1863. By referring to "laws relating to loans and currency," we find all acts governing national banks between pages 153 and 218. I will give a few extracts as I go along. Page 212, sec. 2: That section 5127 of the Revised Statutes, limiting the aggregate amount of circulating notes of national banking associations be, and is hereby repealed, and each existing banking association may increase its circulating notes in accordance with existing law without respect to such aggregate limit. Approved January 14, 1875. Section 5150: Every association \* \* \* before it shall be authorized to commence banking \* \* \* shall deliver to the Treasurer of the United States any United States registered bonds, bearing interest to an amount not less than \$30,000 and not less than one-third the capital stock paid in. Section 5: \* \* \* The Comptroller of the Currency shall give to any such association powers of attorney to receive and appropriate to its own use the interest on the bonds which it has so transferred to the treasury. Section 5171: Upon deposit of bond, \* \* \* the association making the same shall be entitled to receive from the Comptroller of the Currency circulating notes \* \* \* equal in amount to

90 per cent of the amount of bonds, etc.

That the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized to anticipate the payment of interest on the public-debt bonds, by a period not exceeding one year, etc.

Section 2. All stocks, bonds and other securities of the United States \* \* \* shall be exempt from taxation.

Now, let us sift the above laws. Under section 3 we find they are given power to expand or contract the amount of many in circulation at their pleasure. A privilege that places the produce and property of the whole people at their mercy.

Under section 5150 we learn that government bonds are the only security required or accepted. Again they receive interest on the bonds, which interest may be paid twelve months before it is due. We had a striking illustration of this game of robbery last August. They are by section 5171 giving 90 per cent of the value of the bonds in "circulating notes" which they loan to the people at from 6 to 25 per cent (section 2.)

Five men agree to start a national bank. They buy \$50,000 worth of United States bonds and deposit them with the Treasurer of the United States. The Comptroller of the Currency issues to them \$45,000 in bank notes. And they open shop. They receive on their \$50,000 worth of bonds 4 per cent interest, which may be paid them a year in advance, and they loan the \$45,000 to the people at from 6 to 25 per cent and have no taxes to pay. Worse still, by concert of action with the other national banks, they can contract the currency and reduce the price of everything, buy up what they want at the low price, then expand the currency, raise thereby the prices and sell at a high price.

Do they do such things, and make such heavy profits? Let us see. Wm. H. English, late Democratic nominee for Vice-President (on the Hancock and English ticket) as president of a national bank in Indianapolis, made the following report to the stockholders:

"I congratulate the stockholders of our enterprise. The bank has been in operation fourteen years, under my control, with a capital stock of \$500,000. In the meantime it has voluntarily returned \$50,000 of capital stock back to the stockholders, besides paying them in dividend \$1,496,150, part of which was gold; and I now turn it over to you with a capital unimpaired and \$327,000 of the undivided earnings on hand. To this might be added the premium of United States bonds, at present prices amounting to \$36,000, besides quite a large amount for lost or destroyed bills."

These fellows put \$500,000 into the enterprise, and in fourteen years drew out \$2,359,250 (two million three hundred and fifty-nine thousand two hundred and fifty dollars), besides quite a large amount of bills lost or destroyed; and hence which would never have to be redeemed. In addition all of the officers of this bank, of which there were eleven, were drawing fat salaries. As I have said before, to issue money on bonds through national banks is eventually to give the bondholders the bonds and the money issued on them too. Consider well the above laws and privileges and the report of Mr. English's bank. I

hurrahed for him and helped raise flags for him, and worked at the polls for him, and would have voted for him had I been old enough; and then ask yourself why doesn't farming pay? Why does not water run out of the regular shute when there's a ten-foot break in the dam? Why does not your blowing into a bladder expand it when there's a big hole in the other end of it? Why is it that the fellow with the big straw sucks all of the lemonade, while the fellow with the little straw is trying to get a mote out of it? Oh no! We have had enough of national bank circulation based on bonds, and yet when the political press of the country controlled by these fellows tell us 'the tariff is the only question,' some people believe them. I am still in the ring.

#### We Went To The Polls.

Kansas Commoner, Wichita, Kans.

Yes, we went to the polls, bright and early Tuesday morning and asked for a Republican ticket; but lo and behold! not one was to be found. Imagine our humiliation; imagine, if you can, how our heart sank within us. Not a ticket to represent the party who "saved the Union" and gave bankers only money and taxed them 1 per cent, while merchants and farmers were refused at any rate; not a ticket that represented the party that "freed the slave" and repudiated their own money and the contracts they made with the old soldiers; not a ticket to represent the party who "saved the nation" and contracted the currency under one administration from two thousand millions to less than seven hundred millions not a ticket to represent the party who "freed the slave" and passed the "public credit" act that repudiated the contract with the bondholder and made the debt otherwise payable in currency payable in coin; not a ticket to represent the party who "preserved the union" and passed the "refunding acts of 1870-71" that destroyed bonds reading on their face payable in currency and issued new ones payable in coin; not a ticket that "saved the nation" and again changed the contract between rich and poor, debtor and creditor by demonetizing silver, making the debt payable in gold; not a ticket that "freed the slave" and passed the "resumption" act to destroy the greenbacks, the only money that "freed the slave and saved the union;" not a ticket that represents the party that has been instrumental in making more laws that have centralized more wealth in the hands of the few in twenty-five years than was ever amassed before in a half dozen centuries; a party that has made twenty or thirty thousand millionaires and two to four millions of tramps; a party that still continues a war tariff that robs labor for the benefit of a few; a party that declared in 1860 that "they had no desire and no right to interfere with slavery where already existed" and still declares that it has no right to interfere with a system that caused 10,000 children in the city of New York to starve to death annually according to board of health; no desire to interfere with a system that causes more misery and suffering than war, pestilence, or famine." (Silver Commissioners' Report, 1876.) Not a ticket to represent the party in the State that was instrumental in using dynamite in the campaign of 1888 that resulted in mangling an innocent woman and child; and in 1890, according to Republican authority (editor

of the Eagle) "so manipulated fourteen of the largest counties in Kansas as to seat their state officers (with the exception of attorney-general) contrary to the wishes of the people expressed at the polls." Do you wonder at our humiliation? Can this be Kansas with its 82,000 majority? How the mighty hath fallen!

#### Objections to the Government Ownership of Railroads Answered.

Alliance Defender, Excelsior Springs, Mo.

Many oppose the government ownership of railroads because such would, they say, place too much political power in the hands of the party which holds supremacy. Now, we hope that no Alliance man will be sidetracked by any such sophistry. Such stuff is simply the vapors of men who know the interest of the railroad power and are determined to see that it suffer "no harm."

We notice that whenever any measure of importance comes before the people there is always a class of demagogues who oppose such measures on the same grounds that they oppose government ownership of railroads. To prove this, take the Congressional Record of 1880 and you will find that James A. Garfield said upon the floor of the House of Representatives, speaking of the power of the government to issue a legal tender paper money:

"It would convert the treasury of the United States into a manufactory of paper money. It makes the House of Representatives and the Senate, or the caucus of the party that happens to be in the majority, the absolute dictator of the financial and business affairs of this country."

We call this to mind in order to show that the same class of men who oppose the government owning the roads also oppose the government issuing the money. Why do they do this? Because they are the representatives of monopoly. Just think of it. A statesman like Garfield making such a statement as we have quoted. Is it possible that we cannot trust our interests to those elected to the positions of law makers? If we cannot, who can we trust? Is there any member of the Alliance or other industrial order who does not oppose the farming of our finances out to individuals and corporations? Is there one who is not in favor of the government issuing the money direct to the people without the intervention of banks? No, verily, there is none, and yet the political bosses are telling us that it will not do to make the treasury a manufactory of money, for such would make Congress the dictator of the financial and business affairs of the country. But the Alliance people pay no attention to such talk. They know that it is not safe to trust "the financial and business affairs" to a set of money sharks whose principles of action are greed and avarice; and demand that the control of the money be taken from the banks and restored to the people where it belongs. As with money, so with the railroads. If the representatives of the people cannot be entrusted with the management of them, who can? Shall we leave the interests of the people to the tender mercies of the railroad autocrat who has no more conscience than a grizzly bear, or shall we, as a people, take possession of the roads and own and operate them in the interest of ourselves? It will not perpetuate the party in power any more than the control of money would, or any more

than the adjustment of any question now before the people would. But we are not particularly opposed to perpetuating the party in power that will give us these reforms, for no party is going to grant any of these things except it be a party of the people, and such a party would not be very obnoxious. But that it would do such a thing is utterly devoid of truth. If such was the case all the parties in existence would be demanding government ownership. Besides there are several ways to prevent such as actually be the case. The different States would control the officers and employees within their own boundaries, and as the different parties

will always be more or less dominant in the several States, no party could ever have absolute control—unless it should have a majority in every State, which is not at all likely to occur, but this catastrophe could also be avoided by a strict application of the "civil service law." Another objection is that it would lay unnecessary tax burdens upon the people. Now, Alliance people need not be troubled over this objection. There is no need of any additional taxes being levied. The Alliance platform demands that the currency be increased \$50. If the government should buy the roads, paying the actual cash value, eliminating the watered stock, in a new issue of legal tender paper money, we would then have \$3,000,000,000 added to the money volume, and estimating our population at 65,000,000 we find that this amount of money added to the present \$4.50 would give us the \$50 per capita demanded and the business of the country would be placed on a paying basis. If we want more money this would be a very good way to get it into circulation. But even if the people were taxed as the politicians say they would be, the saving in freight and passenger rates would pay for the entire railroad system in a few years. Still another objection to the government ownership and control of the roads, and one that demands some attention, is that it would be impractical, that it is a very cumbersome business; yet the government of Russia, Germany, Italy and Austria successfully manage the railroads, and it would cause a revolution in any of those countries to wrest the ownership from the government and vest it in individuals or corporations. Wherever government ownership has been tried it has given perfect satisfaction, as under such a system the people have "equal and exact justice to all and special privileges to none." The objections raised against it are very thin and will not bear the light of honest thought. We trust that the people will eventually see that the statesmen, (?) who object to the government owning the railroads are not the champions of the people's interests, but are interested solely in the welfare of the railroad power.

**The Silver Question.**  
State Central Express, Centerville, Ala.  
The opponents of the free coinage of silver evade the question involved, either because they do not comprehend it, or because they desire to mislead the public. The real question is: What shall constitute standard money, and how shall its volume be determined? Standard money may be limited by the amount of gold that can be obtained for that purpose, or by the amount of silver, or, as formerly, by the aggregate of

both; or it may consist of fiat money, and its volume, as regulated by law. In view of the fact money is the measure of the value of all things which have a commercial value, the importance of an honest measure in business transactions and in the adjustment of contracts between debtor and creditor can hardly be overestimated. While the volume of money measures and determines the value of property, it is in turn measured by the aggregate of all things having a commercial value. There is nothing inherent in the quality of the material out of which money is manufactured which effects its commercial value as money. That value can only be determined by its power in exchange. Two facts must exist to constitute value—the desire of man to possess, and limitation of the quantity of the thing desired.

The precise idea is expressed by the phrase "supply and demand." The demand remains the same, the value of an article, whether money or property, must depend upon the supply; and if the supply remain the same the value must depend upon the demand. It follows that, while the demand for money remains unchanged, the value of each unit of money will depend upon the volume of circulation, or the number of units doing duty as money. If the volume was doubled, the value of each unit would be decreased about one-half, because the supply would be twice as great to meet the same demand. If, on the other hand, the demand remaining the same, the volume of money were reduced one-half, the value of each unit of money would be doubled, because there would be only one-half of the quantity to supply the fixed demand. It so happens, however, that the demand for money constantly increases.

Savages and semi-barbarous people do very little trading, while commercial transactions among highly civilized people are innumerable, requiring constant and frequent use of money. Besides, civilization increases population and the number of people who use money. If the volume of money remains stationary, its value must necessarily increase on account of such increasing demand. If an honest measure of value is to be provided, the supply must constantly increase to meet the growing demand created by the increase of population and business.

#### National Banks and the Sub-Treasury Plan.

Weekly Independent, Deadwood, South Dakota.

Our readers can bear us witness that we have never favored the sub-treasury plan of government loans, but let us compare the plan with the national banking system and see which is the greater absurdity. The farmers demand that the government furnish warehouses where they may store their grain, receiving a warehouse receipt therefore, and 75 per cent of its value in treasury notes, until such time as they can sell it, when the amount advanced by the government will be repaid with interest. Now, what was the law which the money sharks caused to be passed for their benefit? It was that they could take their depreciated greenbacks to the treasury and receive a government bond bearing interest at 4 per cent, principal and interest payable in gold.

CONGRESSMAN WHEELER with his usual assumption gives out the following, which will doubtless be interesting news to a large number of his constituents:

The sub-treasury craze would be most detrimental to the farmers. Both by letter and in a lengthy speech I demonstrated this to my constituents, and they fully concurred with me.

It would seem from this that the people of his district are not capable of doing their own thinking, and anxiously await Mr. Wheeler's dictum upon all matters. The facts are Mr. Wheeler did not oppose the sub-treasury plan until after his renomination or he would not have been nominated. It is difficult to corner a politician.

#### Urban Population.

Census Report.

Throughout the United States, with the exception of the New England States, there is no difficulty or uncertainty in defining an urban population. Excepting in these States, municipal charters are granted only to dense bodies of population, and all such

bodies are incorporated and their limits sharply defined by the acts of incorporation. In the New England States, on the contrary, the general practice is to subdivide the counties into towns, which are, so far as area and distribution of population are concerned, equivalent to the townships of the States of the Upper Mississippi Valley. When certain conditions of population are fulfilled these towns are chartered bodily as cities. Thus these cities may contain considerable numbers of rural population, and, conversely, certain towns may contain dense bodies of population of magnitude sufficient to be classed as urban. It is therefore possible in these States to make only an approximate separation of the urban and rural elements. According to this definition the urban population of the country in 1890 was 18,235,670, the total population being 62,622,250.

The urban population constituted in 1890 29.12 per cent of the total population.

Corresponding figures for the several censuses are given in the following table:

Census	Population of the U. S.	Population of cities.	Percent in cities in each	
			of total	
1790.....	3,929,214	131,472	3.55	
1800.....	5,308,483	210,873	3.97	
1810.....	7,239,581	356,920	4.93	
1820.....	9,633,822	475,135	4.93	
1830.....	12,866,020	864,509	6.72	
1840.....	17,069,453	1,453,994	8.52	
1850.....	23,191,876	2,897,586	12.49	
1860.....	31,443,321	5,072,256	16.13	
1870.....	38,558,371	8,071,875	20.93	
1880.....	50,155,783	11,318,547	22.57	
1890.....	62,622,250	18,235,670	29.12	

It will be seen that the proportion of urban population has increased gradually during the past century from 3.55 up to 29.12 per cent, or from one-thirtieth up to nearly one-third of the total population. The increase has been quite regular from the beginning up to 1880, while from 1880 to 1890 it has made a leap from 22.57 up to 29.12 per cent, illustrating in a forcible manner the accelerated tendency of our population toward urban life. The number of cities having a population of more than 8,000 increased from 6 in 1790 to 286 in 1880, whence it has leaped to 443 in 1890.

#### National Banks and the Sub-Treasury Plan.

Weekly Independent, Deadwood, South Dakota.

The best criterion by which can be determined whether there is money enough to furnish an honest adjustment of contracts and encourage legitimate enterprise, is the general range of the price of commodities. The price of any one commodity is no guide, because the price of such commodity is also controlled by the supply and demand for the particular article. But when the general range of price of all commodities rapidly advance for a considerable length of time, an excessive supply of money must be the cause; and when the general range of price of commodities constantly declines, the supply of money must be deficient.

The occult of theft, that hides itself even from itself, and is legal, respectable and cowardly, corrupts the body and soul of man to the very last fibre of them.

CONGRESSMAN WHEELER with his usual assumption gives out the following, which will doubtless be interesting news to a large number of his constituents:

The sub-treasury craze would be most detrimental to the farmers. Both by letter and in a lengthy speech I demonstrated this to my constituents, and they fully concurred with me.

It would seem from this that the people of his district are not capable of doing their own thinking, and anxiously await Mr. Wheeler's dictum upon all matters. The facts are Mr. Wheeler did not oppose the sub-treasury plan until after his renomination or he would not have been nominated. It is difficult to corner a politician.

#### Urban Population.

Census Report.

long the money from the hand of the bondholder and immediately burnt it up. It was a deliberate purpose to such from the producing classes of this country two hundred millions in interest per annum for the benefit of drones and parasites. But now let us compare the sub-treasury plan with the national bank inquiry. In order to make the former anything like as absurd as the latter, the farmer would have to demand that the government issue him the full value of his grain purchased for 85 cents in the market and when the government coined it into money it was worth a dollar, which in the event of free coinage of silver would give to the owner of silver a profit of 15 cents on the dollar's worth, yet I believe that the advantages resulting to the people would be much greater than that objection." He said that he accepted the sub-treasury plank in the Alliance platform, not that it was perfect in all its features, but that it offered relief to the great industrial classes of the country. It would put into circulation a new currency founded on production, thereby increasing the per capita circulation of money—so much needed to meet the demands of industrial progress. The sub-treasury bill was better than no law, and it behoved the agricultural people to organize in their own defense, as all other classes are organized and are in position to take care of themselves.

Labor Tribune (Carthage, Mo.) says:

Industry, to our material existence and well-being, is ahead of everything, hence industry should be encouraged in advance of everything else by our legislative bodies. To hold industry second or third with the currency issued gratuitously to them by the national government. The financial legislation enacted by the American Congress from 1867 to 1877 was the blackest crime ever perpetrated upon any people and has succeeded in reducing the masses of American people to a condition absolutely worse than chattel slavery. So far has the matter gone that we sometimes doubt the people's ability to regain their liberties by peaceful means. In a recent article the New York Tribune, speaking as the mouth-piece of the money power, said:

The time is near when they (the banks) will feel compelled to act strongly. Meanwhile a very good thing has been done. The machinery is now furnished by which, in any emergency, the financial corporations of the east can act together on a single day's notice with such power that no act of Congress can overcome or resist their decision.

There is no robbery-like legalized robbery. The poor victims have not even the privilege of resisting, while the blighting and damning effects extend to the moral degradation of both robber and robbed, and degrades the law maker to the level of the common highwayman. Ruskin says:

The occult of theft, that hides itself even from itself, and is legal, respectable and cowardly, corrupts the body and soul of man to the very last fibre of them.

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#### THE REFORM PRESS.

##### The Discussion of Current Topics in the Organized States.

Clodhopper, (Kosciusko, Miss.) says:

Col. T. R. Stockdale recently spoke at Holmesville on the sub-treasury bill and the silver question. Among other things, he said: "I am in favor of the free coinage of silver and voted for it, and for every issue that was intended to aid its passage. While it was subject to the objection that 37½ grains could be purchased for 85 cents in the market and when the government coined it into money it was worth a dollar, which in the event of free coinage of silver would give to the owner of silver a profit of 15 cents on the dollar's worth, yet I believe that the advantages resulting to the people would be much greater than that objection." He said that he accepted the sub-treasury plank in the Alliance platform, not that it was perfect in all its features, but that it offered relief to the great industrial classes of the country. It would put into circulation a new currency founded on production, thereby increasing the per capita circulation of money—so much needed to meet the demands of industrial progress. The sub-treasury bill was better than no law, and it behoved the agricultural people to organize in their own defense, as all other classes are organized and are in position to take care of themselves.

Land, transportation and finance are the subjects engrossing the attention of the Alliance; land for homes for the people; transportation of the products and merchandise at reasonable prices; a financial system that will meet the demands of business, keep the control of the West including such men as Carlisle, Morrison and others, are not free silver advocates." Certainly not, Colonel Stealy, the leaders of both the old parties are controlled by the same influence and do not propose to come to the relief of the people.

Brookhaven (Miss.) Leader. That is true:

U. S. senatorial timber is plentiful. Maj. Barksdale, Gov. Stone, Ex-Gov. Lowry, Ex-Gov. Sims, Gen. Featherston, Hons. Thos. R. Stockdale, C. E. Hooker, Clarke Lewis, Frank Burkitt, H. S. Van Eaton and a number of others have been favorably mentioned as successors to George and Walther.

Industrial Educator (Fort Worth, Tex.) says:

The sub-treasury plan asks less of the government than the whisky interest now receives. As it is now, the deposit of spirits is left in the bonded warehouse three years, and the cost to the government in keeping up these warehouses now amounts to \$2,600,000 per year, or at the rate of \$7,800,000 for a full term of three years, during which it is allowed to stay in the warehouse before tax is collected on it and the government advances in salaries, etc.; of this large amount before a demand can be made for any tax. Talk about special privileges, this is the rankest kind. The agriculturist is told that the whisky distiller has more rights than he has, all because the distiller is a money king, while the farmer is a poor man, and therefore has no rights which the government is bound to respect.

The Toiler (Nashville, Tenn.) says:

Six congressional unions in Tennessee have organized and strongly indorsed the Ocala demands, including the sub-treasury principle, and yet the political howlers on the outside would make the impression that our people are wofully divided on our demands. Richardson's congressional district union is the only one that has failed to fall in line on this question, and we learn that the question has not come up yet in that congressional union. We publish these resolutions as honest criticisms of Mr. Hall's course, and we do not understand that there is anything personally intended that require official attention would be far better for the public service and far cheaper to taxpayers than is the present system of multiplying offices and renting or building palaces for public servants to occupy in service that gives from \$2,000 to \$6,000 yearly for work that does not average ten hours per week.

The Pacific Union (San Francisco, Cal.) says:

Every day the fact is appearing more and more plain to all who have joined the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union that our greatest and fiercest battle is to be fought with the money power of the nation. The ability which money possesses to oppress the people is now so clearly revealed that it is no longer doubtful that upon this field alone the great battle of the age must be fought. The hosts are now being marshaled, the decisive hour is drawing near, and there can be no compromise. The battle must go on to the finish, and either this power must be broken or the toiling masses of the nation must bow their necks to the yoke of servitude. The Farmers Alliance, both in St. Louis and its Ocala demands, has wisely and properly placed the money question first on the list. All our exchanges from the East, as far as we have been able to discover, have been prompt to shame and plainly reveal the true condition of American politics. Do you think that if wise and wholesome immigration laws had been enacted ten years ago and rightly enforced on every hand, that ignorance and prejudice in our eastern cities would be the predominating factors? Do you think, in view of the multiplicity of inventions, facilitating and cheapening the cost of production, that a law enacted ten years previous, making eight hours constitute a day's labor, giving the recompense to the man of toil for recreation, study, reflection and sleep, would have resulted in injury to our laboring men? Do you believe that a law forbidding the child to enter the machine shop, to grope its way into the bowels of the earth and take the place of men, supplemented by a compulsory education law, would have disqual-

ified the rising generation for citizenship? If you believe these things, continue to point the finger of scorn and contempt at the efforts of our laboring men to organize, cry down all efforts to reform and better our social condition, discourage all discussion by the accusation of fanaticism, in other words, continue to sow and you shall reap.

The Plow and Hammer (Tiffin, Ohio) says:

Colonel Stealy, Washington correspondent of the Louisville Courier-Journal, in a recent interview, said: "There is nothing in the silver question that will hurt Mr. Cleveland in his race for the presidency. In fact, the Democratic party, or the conservative portion of it, are not in favor of free and unlimited coinage of silver. The best Democratic material of the South and West, including such men as Carlisle, Morrison and others, are not free silver advocates." Certainly not, Colonel Stealy, the leaders of both the old parties are controlled by the same influence and do not propose to come to the relief of the people.

Weekly Crisis (Chillicothe, Mo.) says:

The government issues money to national banks. It is issued to them not for the banks to do as they please with it; they cannot deal in real estate, in live stock, in merchandise, they can not engage in manufacturing, railroading, or any enterprise.

The money is issued to them to loan to the people against the placid power and their henchmen. Your ablest men and hardest fighters in charge of your papers will be the objects of attack, and every corrupt means used to cause dissension within your ranks. You need men who are conscientious and engaged in the work from principle and not "for revenue only," to help you fight this movement to a success, and save the homes, the lives and freedom of our wives and children, who will see cause to curse us in future if we neglect to do our duty now.

Look out for breakers ahead.

Alliance Leader (Bolivar, N. Y.) says:

One-half of the positions given to partisan favorites are detrimental to the public welfare. There are insurance commissions, railroad commissions, banking commissions, military commissions, etc., by the scores, costing the taxpayers millions of dollars that are taken from the patient earners and turned over to the jolly spenders. The annual encampments of uniformed militia costs the people millions of dollars each year, and they are of no more use than a sunshade is to a dead jackass. The one great thought of political parties is, what excuse can we make to extort interest from his fellows at the rate of 10 to 15 per cent, as in the case of the banks, and that the land of the farmer should be as good security as the bond of the banker, especially when the value of that bond is based on the land.

The Chillicothe (Mo.) Crisis says:

The resolutions passed by many unions against U. S. Hall, the State president of the Farmers and Laborers Union of Missouri, though often worded in strong language, are merely condemnatory of his actions in subordinating the order to the interests of his party. We publish these resolutions as honest criticisms of Mr. Hall's course, and we do not understand that there is anything personally intended that require official attention would be far better for the public service and far cheaper to taxpayers than is the present system of multiplying offices and renting or building palaces for public servants to occupy in service that gives from \$2,000 to \$6,000 yearly for work that does not average ten hours per week.

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Pointless platitudes and fulsome appeals to personal vanity are poor substitutes for a bold and intelligent defense of principles upon which our organization is built, and for the ultimate triumph of which the Alliance is everywhere making such strenuous and devoted effort. In addition to the evident wrong and injustice which a failure of success on this line of effort would most certainly inflict upon our Order, one should hesitate to

this as class legislation and favoritism when the government has a whole army of carriers dressed in uniform to carry the mail to the man in the city while the man in the country, the farmer, must go after his? There are millions of dollars spent this way every year, and yet you never hear any Congressman complain. On a cold, wet day you farmers must do without your mail or split the mud to town it, while the city gentleman sits and smokes his cigar in his office until the carrier brings it to his door. You and Mills are agin that law too, ain't you?

Farmers Advocate, Charleston, (W. Va.) says:

The National Farmers Alliance is an organization that is remarkable for the absence of bosses and bossism. It owes no allegiance to any individual within or without its ranks. It will refuse to accept the leadership of any individual or any party organization that places party success above the triumph of principle. It is a concentration of the wronged and oppressed toilers versus plutocracy and its agents, the ring politicians. If "truth is mighty and must prevail," it is bound to succeed. If truth crushed to earth will rise again, it is certain to outlive its calumniators and continue its march to success and the emancipation of toilers. It will be the flame which shall purge the political field; the mill which shall win now the chaff from the grain.

People's Economist (Thomasville, Ga.) says:

The bankers of the East were able to control the machinery of the House of Representatives of the last Congress in such a manner as to prevent the representatives of the people from having a vote on the overwhelming and leading question of silver coinage. They announced their purpose to prevent such a vote; it was not pretended that the bill could be defeated if voted upon. The outlook is excellent for the final termination of the system of bank issues of paper money, and for the commencement of the new era of free coinage of both gold and silver. This will in no wise interfere with the banking facilities of the country. The best of the banks now are only banks of deposit and discount. The issue of notes is no part of legitimate banking, but is a mere fraud upon the people.

Southern Alliance Farmer (Atlanta, Ga.) says:

If every man in America owned his own home what a glorious country this would be! What a nation of patriots we would have! There is land enough for every family to have a home, and the government which will allow that land to be bought up by aliens, is no friend of the people.

Arkansas (Searcy) Economist says:

The Alliance is sweeping the whole State of Texas, not only in the country, but in the cities, towns and villages. The compound credit system of Wall street, which enslaves and robs the labor of the country, will be crushed out by the conquering Alliance.

Winfield Tribune (Winfield, Kas.) says:

The sub-treasury scheme of the Farmers Alliance is foisted at by the party boss as being impracticable; and is said by them to be class legislation in its worst form.

Last year we had millions of bushels of corn that passed into the hands of speculators at 12 cents per bushel, while this year many of the same farmers who disposed of their crop at an actual loss have to buy corn for their stock at from 50 to 60 cents per bushel. It does not stop with the farmer. Every man who has a horse or a cow has to pay this increased price for corn whether the corn is held by the local speculator or foreign. If the corn that was raised in Cowley county in 1890 could have been held at home, we would have sufficient with the crop of 1890 to have made the price at present not more than 30 cents, which would have given the farmer a fair profit for his labor and investment; and this vast difference between the 12 and 50 cents would have been distributed between all the people instead of in the hands of a few. If an average price of 25 cents had prevailed for corn for the past two years, there would have been twice as much money in circulation as there has been, and all classes of people, merchants, mechanics, laborers and farmers would have been in better condition, financially, because of this increased supply of money. This is purely an agricultural country and what is to the interest of one class is of interest to the other, and

that man is a demagogue who endeavors to keep the people divided. Let the people of city and country unite in an effort for better government regardless of what the party boss says or does.

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Swinton's Fourth Reader.	55	55	Inside, 22	14	16			
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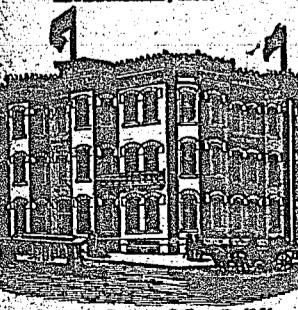
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