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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. 4.

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## THE MISSISSIPPIAN.

The Farmers Alliance is both liberal and conservative. It allows complete liberty and full freedom of thought and discussion among its members. It does not require any surrender of religious or political belief, nor does it set up any models of thought or dogmas to which all must yield and conform. Within the Order every principle of the demands and every principle and usage of the Order is open for a free and full discussion, and every member has a right to oppose and may go on record as protesting against the action of the majority. But in the conflict with the world at large the very existence of the Order demands that the membership present an unbroken front as a unit in favor of the Alliance and its principles. The Alliance is engaged in a fierce and desperate battle with the minions of monopoly represented by every species of trust, combine, class law, special privilege and unjust discrimination, and the key stone of the arch under which all these give battle is the "power of money to oppress." The hosts are marshaled and the battle wages with a vigor and determination that shows no truce, compromise or surrender possible. It will be fought to a finish, and as Alliance organ and announce

either "the power of money to oppress" must be abolished or the farmers of America must bow their necks to the yoke of a slavery more oppressive than chattel slavery ever was—the slavery of man to money. The official organs of the Order are the standard bearers; they are not the commanders or the bosses, as The Mississippian—the official organ of Mississippi State Alliance—by its course seems to believe. It is the duty of the official organ to hoist the flag of the Alliance aloft and bear it into the thickest of the fight. But that paper has delayed in its evident duty to count the stripes, and finding there are twelve where in the opinion of its editor there should be but eleven, it pulls down the Alliance flag and runs up that of the opposition. The Mississippian announces in its columns that it is opposed to the Alliance demands, and in the same issue proclaims its unwavering fealty to the Democratic party, and also devotes much space to the opinions of the subsidised press of the enemy in opposition to one of the demands of the Order. THE ECONOMIST makes no war on the Mississippian, or any other paper. The membership in that State will be heard from if they disapprove the course of that paper, but it is the unpleasant duty of THE ECONOMIST to call attention of the Order to the fact that in its course the Mississippian has entirely misconceived its duty as an Alliance official organ. An official organ may enjoy as much latitude in the range of its discussion as it chooses, if it does not oppose the Order; but when it commences to assist the enemy in producing discord in the Order by fighting its principles, it becomes a traitor in the camp and should be treated accordingly. It is not the province of the official organ to dictate to the Order. It is its duty in accepting the responsible duties devolving on an official organ to be devoted to the Alliance and its principles first of all, and whenever a paper determines to be Democratic or Republican first, and Alliance second, it should be honest enough to resign

itself as a political organ, because the attempt to modify the demands of the Order so that it may be taken in as a side-show to any political party is an effort to betray the cause of agriculture to the cause of monopoly. The fact is, the sub-treasury is the shibboleth of the true reform movement, and none who are devoted to the cause of the "power of money to oppress" can pronounce the word. The revelations that follow are wonderful. Those who have been posing longest and proclaiming loudest their devotion to the cause of the farmer are detected by this magic test, and a careful examination reveals the fact that they have all the time been concealing reasons that identify them with "the power of money to oppress." Of course there are many honest and true men in the Order who do not believe in the sub-treasury plan, but it is because they do not fully understand the measure. Whenever a man thoroughly understands the sub-treasury plan and yet opposes it, a case has never yet and never will be discovered in which it cannot be shown that the reason for the opposition is not "the best interest of agriculture." That is to say, among those who understand the measure, a cause antagonistic to the best interests of agriculture always exists with those who oppose it. It is not hard to trace a cause with The Mississippian, there may be many others. Mississippi has recently adopted a new constitution, and during the next year a legislature will be chosen which at its session will elect two United States Senators. The present Senators from that State, Mr. George and Mr. Walthall, are supposed to be candidates for re-election. Senator Walthall has recently published a weak letter trying to excuse himself for his partnership with plutocracy in opposing the sub-treasury—a letter that nine members out of every ten in the Alliance can answer and put him to shame upon. A guilty conscience needs no accuser, and the more letters they write to try to hide and excuse their guilt, the more conspic-

uous they become. Senator George has not come out in direct opposition to the sub-treasury plan, but he was on the committee of agriculture of the Senate which buried the bill, and it is generally understood that he does not give the measure a very cordial support. The Mississippian, the State organ, which says by its course that it is for the Democratic party first and the Alliance afterward, proposes to whip the Alliance into line on a platform that Mr. Walthall will swallow. Therefore both, or either, Mr. Walthall or The Mississippian, are "bigger" than the Alliance in that State according to that paper. The Alliance people of Mississippi may be in favor of the re-election of Mr. Walthall, and may so vote with him in avowed opposition to one or more of the planks in their platform, and if they should decide to do so it would not justify the official organ of the Order fighting the principles of the Order for the evident purpose of weakening the fealty of the membership to the demands so that they could not use that as a basis to defeat Walthall should they so elect.

The effect of the course of the Mississippian upon the Order in that State will be watched by the whole country with keen interest. Mississippians are a high-to ed, sincere and honorable people, hating treachery as much as any, and they will always sustain their principles. Any business association, any church, any political party, or any club, under such circumstances would at once discontinue such official organ. The Supreme Council at its last session in Ocala, Fla., acted upon such cases by passing the following :

1. Resolved, That this National Convention of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union do hereby most earnestly and emphatically indorse the St. Louis platform adopted last December, and with equal sincerity and persistency demand that all subordinate bodies connected with this organization shall not only align themselves therewith, but co-operate with the national organization and sustain the same.

2. That any national officer or organ, either State or national, that shall not conform fully with the foregoing resolution shall be suspended by the national president; and furthermore we advise our people not to vote for any candidate for a place in our national Congress who does not pledge himself

or themselves to the St. Louis platform.

The Mississippian is in error in stating that Governor Buchanan, of Tennessee, Governor Tillman and Senator Irby, of South Carolina, are opposed to the sub-treasury plan.

## ANTAGONIZING THE RACES.

Rev. J. L. Moore, a colored Methodist minister of Crescent City, Fla., has answered some editorial denunciation from a Jacksonville paper, published under the above caption. Mr. Davis was a delegate to the Colored National Alliance, which met at Ocala contemporaneously with the Grand Council. He has been active in the organization to which he belongs, and it is presumed his views are those of a representative member. Such men must be the leaders of their race in the great reform movement:

Upon perusing said article I found it to be an attack upon the National Colored Farmers Alliance and Co-operative Union on their action while in session at Ocala, Fla., in passing resolutions asking Congress to pass the federal election bill now pending before the Senate of the United States. Now, as I was a member of that body, and you have taken us to task because of our action, I hereby reply and only ask that you will do me the kindness of publishing my reply, as it may be the means of you and others seeing just as we are. I notice you, as others, call it the force bill, and you remarked, "How the force bill could benefit the negro even in the slightest degree passes comprehension. All its advocates expect of it is to help perpetuate Republican rule in this country." I can say you or any one else are sadly mistaken if you think the object of the National Colored Farmers Alliance was to perpetuate Republican rule in this country if that rule is to be as it has been in this country for several years. But our object was to have protection of the ballot boxes, because none sees the need of reform more than we do. How is that reform to be brought about while the present parties have control of the ballot boxes (unless it comes through the now existing parties, which is not likely if their past history argues anything)? The Hon. Alonzo Wardall, of Huron, South Dakota, informed us while at Ocala, that in his State the Republicans were 22,000 majority, but when the independent party sprang up and votes were counted at the last election there were 10,000 more votes than registered voters, which, of course, called for a contest, and when a contest comes up under those circumstances those who are in sympathy with their kind, and the other fellows must stay out. That was in a State largely Republican, and should the reformist begin to operate in our own sunny land of flowers, or in any State that can boast of her Democratic fidelity, they would meet with the eight-ballot box system and tickets spread on top at their proper places for the Democratic voters, and the other fellows would have to do the best they could; and if they voted right they would not be allowed a chance as inspectors at the ballot box, and the result would be increased Democratic majorities. And while the federal election bill is not satisfactory to us throughout as it reads, yet we want something guaranteeing every man a free vote and an honest count. The federal election bill being the only thing that ever emanated from our halls of legislation that pointed in that direction, we, in body assembled, as representatives of our race, asked Congress to pass it.

In all the discussions of the whites in all the various meetings they attend and the different resolutions, remarks, and speeches they make against the negro, I never hear you, Mr. Editor,

nor any of the other leading journals, once criticise their action or say they are antagonizing the races, neither do you ever call a halt. But let the negro once come of ourselves. In 1620 made slaves, and continued in that condition without a stroke of national legislation against it until 1865, and when the master was finally settled in 1865 there were 4,000,000 of us turned loose from under the yoke of bondage, for which we give God praise. Yet we acknowledge that the reconstruction act was a failure. You might ask, why do I say so? Simply because it brought about an unnatural condition of things. Political influence placed weakness on the top of power, and power did what it always will do—shoot it off. Now, we are proceeding in the right way. Starting at the bottom, we are laying a foundation in moral, intellectual and financial strength, and so sure as God is God and law is law—I mean natural law—whenever these come to the top we will have come to stay. According to my observation the church and the schoolhouse have the true solution of the destiny of our people, at least for present. There is never any trouble about recognizing and respecting those who, by proper acts, command recognition and respect. However long it requires to do this, it is the only way out of the difficulty. Political advantages can not count for much when the people are weak and dependent, and where the ballot is unprotected.

As to Governor Tillman's inaugural address, to which you referred, we have heard the like for years; yet we find the party in sympathy with the negroes from both parties always ends with the last sound of the inaugural address, while the hostile portion always remains in force. You further quoted Governor Tillman as saying, "retaliation and injustice had been practiced on the blacks by the whites; but said it was natural and inevitable," and that is the expression of our white brethren everywhere. Whatever is done to the negro is "natural and inevitable."

Again in your editorial of the same issue headed, "The Last Struggle," your quotation reads: "The negroes

even in the slightest degree

passes comprehension. All its advo-

cates expect of it is to help perpetuate Republican rule in this country."

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coalesce into one powerful compact body, there to work as with a single will and purpose, is something so unusual and foreign to the nature of the farming classes, that it must arrest the attention of the most casual observer. No force of external appliance, howsoever skillfully used could originate, conduct, and inspire with such life and energy any association composed of similar elements. The farmers are not emotional or restive, constantly on the outlook for change and novelty, and hence easily to be acted on by powerful appeals to their whims and passions. Yet here they sprang into life and the light of day silently, suddenly, but in full panoply as Minerva is said to have issued from the head of Jove. How, then, has this come to pass? The farmer's occupation lives in isolation.

Universe is more with God than with his fellow men than with his own premises being the limit of his earthly aspirations. Beyond these he seldom ventures except in his own behoof. Nay, further, he is jealous of intrusion except it be the visit of social civility or of friendly sympathy. In great meetings he has small concern except as an object of curiosity; he cares not to be part and parcel of them or to share in their workings. Duty and situation have trained him to work out his destiny singlehanded. Who, then, of mankind, is more difficult of access than the farmer? Who less adapted for concert of action? The source of this present anomalous position must have been in his inner self and not the result of outward influence. We see, periodically, various minds, severally and apart, grasp some grand discovery of art or science. Their minds were simultaneously from similar circumstances directed toward it. So with the farmers. Since the late civil war a presentation has been haunting the minds of this greatest and most useful class of our citizens that they alone are not pro rata participants in the increased wealth of the republic. Every other industry carries the evidences easily discernible amongst its devotees. The farmers alone, although they are the source and sustenance of all other wealth find with themselves nothing but struggles, and the signs of retrogression. This haunting thought awakened suspicion of wrong somewhere. Suspicion begot investigation, and investigation has forced the conviction that while other classes grow richer, they grow poorer; and still they find all the burdens of government thrown on them; and not only this but all other classes privileged to increase the sum of their burden. They must make the brick for the pyramids of national grandeur, but Pharaoh and the Egyptians take from them even the allowance of straw. With tariffs and internal revenues they are loaded below the water-line, and through protection and pampered corporations they are on the verge of swamping. Toil and scrimp as they may in this most favored land, aided as they are by all the improvements of science, skill and mechanical art, they find themselves gradually sinking, until at

the close of thirty years they whisper each other with drooping hearts and heated breath, "we, alone, of all our mother's children are supremely wretched." Ah! behold the cause. And, as the outcome of these presentiments suspicions, investigations, and convictions, the sudden appearance of this greatest of all class organizations in the history the United States of America, which has entered the arena, to battle for life and equal rights according to the charter of American liberty.

The first essay of the Farmers Alliance proves its power and the justice of its action. The very strongholds of monopoly and privilege rock before its fierce and determined assault. Legislators have quaked in their seats before the issues so clearly and unmistakably presented them. Politicians are confused and at a loss how to deal with this new assailant. The very forces of our centralizing government are stunned and blinded by the unexpected and massive opposition of the "cloghoppers." This now is the supreme moment for the Alliance, and the cause of liberty as established by the founders of this great commonwealth. A wrong step; an unwise movement can endanger or destroy all that is so far full of hope and full of promise. In the sudden rise and movement of the Alliance there was not time for plan of action, or drill for its successful execution. The farmer is aroused, and no doubt is resolved to do or die. But he has been used to work alone, and theoretically and practically to claim the largest freedom. By habit he is impatient of restraint, although intred to labor; obliged to act after his own opinions and judgment, he has little respect for those of others, and this without being conscious of its danger. He is a magnificent soldier, but must be drilled. He has now got beyond the farm boundaries, and must submit to be guided on this unknown journey. He must defer to the chosen leaders, and keep his mouth shut lest his enemies may gain knowledge from his speech. All the forces of government, monopoly, privilege, and boodle are at work; they are not idle; but determined on the overthrow of this Alliance. They are studying its weak points, and you should be laboring earnestly to strengthen them. Trust not to numbers alone. Numbers without discipline are of little avail. The sands on the seashore are innumerable, but they have no bond. For thirty years the small minority, which has ground you in the dust, has shown how well they are drilled.

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#### History of Financial Legislation.

BY MERLINDA SISINS.

EDUCATION BEING THE DEMAND OF THE HOUR,

the Alliance must embrace in its schedule not only the farmers' needs, but all other necessities of government action, and amidst the multiplicity of these concerns the farmers will be neglected, the action of the Alliance on all points and from every direction will become the subject of criticism, honest, or interested. Special will be sacrificed to general interest, and the farmers made the destroyers of their own hopes and purposes. Even at such a sacrifice and perversion of aim and object, can the Alliance succeed to position and permanence coming before the country as the representative of one class and one interest? Like prohibition, the very narrowness of its scope will destroy its claims to be a party, and depending for support on one class, through a large one will, insure its defeat in every attempt. Besides the third party will bring a deluge of evils from within and without upon the Alliance. Numbers of its present adherents would never place their party fealty at the feet of the new idol. Party affiliation is not of the mushroom character. Like religion, it is generally transmitted from parent to child, and grows with our growth. To force it into new channels is dangerous, because it offers violence to our training, sympathies and traditions. Numbers of adventurers would swell your ranks, not to further any lawful interest, but to fatten on the spoils. To make themselves popular they would out herod Herod himself. Filled with new schemes they would dazzle the unwary, mislead the ignorant, misrepresent the honest and trustworthy, and beget a new Babel in the Alliance. All outside parties would combine and rush like an avalanche upon you, leaving scarce a thread discernible. To force it into new channels is dangerous, because it offers violence to our training, sympathies and traditions. Numbers of adventurers would swell your ranks, not to further any lawful interest, but to fatten on the spoils. To make themselves popular they would out herod Herod himself. Filled with new schemes they would dazzle the unwary, mislead the ignorant, misrepresent the honest and trustworthy, and beget a new Babel in the Alliance. All outside parties would combine and rush like an avalanche upon you, leaving scarce a thread discernible.

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63,000,000 people and \$60,000,000 of wealth as a guarantee.

The first United States Bank was established by act of July 25, 1791, although opposed by Thomas Jefferson and Edmund Randolph upon the ground of unconstitutionality. The charter provided for a capital stock of \$10,000,000. The government taking \$2,000,000, three-fourths of all subscriptions were to be paid in United States bonds, the balance in coin. Unlike our greenbacks, its notes were receivable for all dues to the government, and hence stood at par with gold. Its charter having expired March 4, 1812, Congress refused to grant a recharter. From 1812 to 1816, the State banks did the business of the government. To ward off an impending crisis the second United States bank was chartered by act April 10, 1816. The charter extended to March 3, 1836. A capital stock was fixed at \$35,000,000 to be divided into 350,000 shares, of which the government took 70,000 shares. In 1832, when Congress passed a bill to recharter the bank, President Jackson vetoed it upon the grounds of unconstitutionality. In the former United States banks the government was a large stock holder, which is not the case under our present system. Under the former the issue was unlimited, not so with the present. Under the former the banks were under the control of the administration, now they are scattered over the country and only amenable to the laws governing them. Government bonds, however, constitute the basis of both.

From March 3, 1836, to February 25, 1863, the finances of the country was in the hands of State banks. In 1861, these numbered 1,600. Their issue aggregated about \$200,000,000, with a liability of \$450,000,000, and only \$116,000,000 in specie to redeem it. The notes of even the strongest banks were subject to discount when circulating from the banks. Counterfeiting was general. During this period the country suffered the financial crashes of 1837 and 1857. While these objectionable features are mostly obviated by our present banking system, a great demand has arisen for its abolition. It will be interesting to examine the features upon which these objections rest.

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Why Not, Please?

BY ROBERT McDUGAL, HILLSDALE,  
MICH.

If we are to make politics a means, and I see no reason why it may not be such, to advance the interests of the wealth producers, then it becomes important that all of that class read THE ECONOMIST. But try—you of the South—and get a new name. Capture, as you say, the Democratic party by all means, and then once captured, call it by some other name, it will smell as sweet, and coming to us with improved odor, and more welcomed. You will have lost naught but a name and gained, by our ability to refute the statement, "that we are being gobbled by the Democrats," our great support.

We are slow to "ketch" on to the sub-treasury plan. Why not permit me to store my wheat as long as I wish at yearly rates, and not require me to dispose of it by a given time? If we place therein our surplus, why may we not put our heads together and agree to sell so much and no more during the year at a fixed price? Then where is the bulls and bears, with this principle carried out? I want to sell my wheat by official certificate, giving quality and quantity to any miller on the globe f. o. b. here, to be shipped by him at wholesale rates at his expense and risk, and not, as is now the case, at retail rates at my expense and risk. The "middle men" may then be a myth. We raise, say wheat, 75 per cent only is wanted to feed us, yet all is sold. To sell the extra 25 per cent we sacrifice over the 75 per cent. Let us gather in our land or in our warehouse the 25 per cent, and realize as much for the 75 per cent—the required quantity—as we now do for the 100 per cent. Then we can go a fishing, be more neighborly, and be better off. Why not, please?

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To the Brothers of the Order.

BY B. B. TURNER, BROAD RUN, VA.

Many of our brothers seem much exercised over the third party question. May I make a suggestion and ask their comments upon it? We have our demands well defined, why may we not stand squarely upon them as our platform—supporting no candidate who will not give us a satisfactory guarantee both by his established character for right doing and his pledge that he will support those demands. In case we can get such a candidate without making a nomination ourselves, let us accept and support him. In case we have two or more such offered let us select the one the majority of us shall have most faith in. In case we have no such offered let us put one in the field only as a last resort. There are men in both parties who indorse our principles; in this way we would force them to be put in nomination or defeat the party which did not. With this policy we could maintain and defend our principles without the assistance of politicians, and we would offer them no inducements to enter our ranks.

Should we become a third party we would have our party organization and success to contend for as well as our principles, and the hope of being elected by us to office would induce many an old politician to apply for admittance who cared nothing for our principles.

There would be the temptation to work more for party success and party spoils than for our principles, which otherwise we might avoid. Let our principles be first always. And now let me say a word to our Western brothers who ask if we will not meet them half-way. Yes, my brothers, every time will we meet you half-way, and if it is not convenient for you to get so far, just so you have the will to come, we will meet you further. Especially to Brother Edwin Snyder do I offer my hand, there was something in his letter which went straight to my heart. Like him I was a soldier, only on the other side, from May, 1861, to the very close. I did my best for the cause which was lost, and for months after I was in prison. I shed more blood in that cause than

was ever in my body at any one time, and I thought I was doing right; but for years past I have been for making peace with all my fellow laborers—North, South, East, and West—and for joining in a common defense against our enslavers, and brothers we will be true to you, too. Forever down with those from whatever section they may come who would keep burning the fires of sectional animosity. We beheld with as much regret and shame the action of our Georgia brothers, as did you, but we longingly hope that their hearts were right; and that they will yet redeem the ground they lost. We congratulate and glory in Kansas, and honor the immortal three in Illinois.

A Vicious Financial System Crushes the Liberties of the People.

Cor. Hiawatha (Kas.) Journal.

In the early days of our republic, before our nation began to accumulate so much wealth, there was a more equal distribution of its gains. Why is it that with its productive powers so vastly increased, that producing and laboring classes are yet in a depressed condition? This is because they are in abject dependence on capital, when capital and labor should be united, as capital is of necessity the defender of the rights of the laboring classes when in their natural relation. Yet the laboring classes have been deluded so as to return to the system of the federalist on the idea of class distinction which has rendered our government an instrument for the benefit of the few at the expense of the producing and laboring classes,

which shows the working of our present financial system, for our financial system when in its natural relation is dependent on labor, for labor creates capital. To illustrate: A laboring man gets \$1.50 per day, which represents the amount of capital his day's wages produce. Therefore the natural relation of the laboring classes to capital should be independent. But we find it now in abject dependence on capital. These unnatural conditions have been brought about by the system of combination or concentration of capital. Before concentration of capital our commerce was conducted by small unorganized concerns. Now our commerce is conducted by a small number of large concerns with a vast amount of capital. When those private concerns manage our industrial system the laboring classes were an important factor because their relation was independent of those private concerns. All physical nature is a constant factor, so is the nature of man. The seasons come and go with unerring regularity. The rain and the dew waters and nourishes the fields. The earth lifts its bosom and exclaims "Tickle me with a hoe and I will laugh with harvest." It says to the brawny arm "Open up my bowels and take therefrom the wealth hidden since God sent me rolling in space and furnish it for the comfort and happiness of man." Thus Columbus led in the career of renovation when he spread his sails across the Atlantic. He bore mankind and their fortunes to a strange land. And

we learn by examining the various works on political economy which reveal to us the secret of depression, that it depends on the quantity of money in use by man in various periods of history, as follows:

A. D. 14 about.....	\$1,700,000,000
A. D. 30 about.....	606,000,000
A. D. 40 about.....	537,000,000
A. D. 622 about.....	250,000,000
A. D. 809 about.....	168,000,000

I have not the space to give any comments on the periods of history mentioned in the above table, but will refer you to what Adam Smith says in his works on political economy, "Money is not the actual greatness of a nation, but its continual increase."

Macaulay, the historian, says "We find that in every kingdom into which money begins to flow in greater abundance than formerly, everything takes a new phase." Thus we observe from these historians that a good policy of a government consist in a gradual increase of its volume of money so long as there is an undeveloped resource or room for new immigrants, because by that means there is kept alive a spirit of industry in a nation which increases labor in which the prosperity of a nation depends. The United States monetary commissioners gives us the following:

1866.....	\$1,863,000,000
1867.....	1,359,000,000
1870.....	601,000,000
1880.....	423,000,000
1887.....	423,000,000

Now, friends, it is evident from this table that our volume of money is decreasing while our population is increasing, and also the value or purchasing power of each dollar is increasing while the property is falling in price. Now let us reason. A shrinkage of money and property falling in prices must have a tendency to concentrate wealth to enrich a few and impoverish and degrade the many, for property transferred unjustly thereby causes a concentration and diminution of wealth. Hence a decreasing volume of money and the depreciation of property, which is the offspring of a vicious financial system, has been and is now more fruitful of human misery than war, pestilence or famine. They have wrought more injustice than all the bad laws that have ever been enacted. Now as we understand the value of money, all things being the same, as it increases in quantity it lowers in value. So every diminution raises it in a ratio exactly equivalent, which seems to be evident from the history of nations. For by the contraction or a reduction from the circulation of the British empire of 30,000,000 pounds during the last years of the Napoleon war. Such was the calamity and, and so extensive was the distress that it pervaded every part of the country and bankruptcy was universal.

#### Gold and Silver Democracy. Jackson (Mich.) Patriot.

Gov. William E. Russell, of Massachusetts, takes the trouble to inform the public in a letter addressed to ex-President Cleveland, that he has a poor opinion of the people of this country who do not agree with eastern goldbugs on the silver question. Men's ideas are largely the result of their environment, and a Boston and New

York environment are not apt to beget the same opinions in regard to money as are entertained by the producers of the country—by farmers and workingmen. A man is not blameable for his surroundings. No intelligent observer can doubt that debt-paying is made harder and the interests of the creditor class are promoted by the maintenance of the single gold standard. The effect of its adoption has been to establish the dearest possible measure of values, compelling labor to produce more and more, subject to the annual fluctuations of supply and demand, from the soil and in the workshop to get a dollar wherewith to meet public and private obligations. Gold is a commodity that is all the time appreciating in value, in consequence of a diminishing supply and an increasing demand, and hence as the sole money standard it is a benefit to the creditor class and a growing hardship to the debtor class. We appeal to common experience and ask if, since the resumption of specie payments on an exclusive gold basis, twelve years ago, the debtor class have not found the struggle to meet their obligations growing more and more severe from year to year? During the same period the value of farming lands, measured by the gold standard, has shrunk one-third to one-half. What is the result? The farmers have commenced thinking, reading, and debating for themselves, forming their own opinion in the light of experience, instead of taking without questioning the opinions of eastern politicians and capitalists. We beg leave to assure the eastern advocates of the interests of the banker and creditor classes that the unfortunate conditions for agriculture have been brought on during the existence of the very policy they seek to perpetuate. Our farmers have had enough of it. They demand a change. If they cannot get it through the agency of the Democratic party they will surely try some other means. They will not be trifled with. Rightly they attribute present conditions, which are bad for them, to existent causes—to actual financial and monetary legislation. The hard facts are before them. These effects are not without cause. They read backward from effect to cause, and are in rebellion against the financial and monetary policy of the party in power, its aiders and abettors. It will do us no good to tell the farmers, as the gold bugs are saying all the time that they are deceived and mistaken. They know what is hurting them. They are better posted on currency questions than are many business men. They read more, think more, and debate more in their meetings than they used to. They are organized for the discussion and consideration of economic questions. Experience for the past dozen years, under the single gold standard, has opened their eyes. They realize its damaging consequences. As gold becomes dearer through increasing demand and diminishing supply, land and its products become cheaper and debt-paying and taxpaying harder. The farmers know these things.

They are facts. They are not the fools—"idiots" Henry Clews, banker, called them—the gold bugs take them to be. They understand the question from the practical, not the theoretical, point of observation. If the western Democracy must cut loose from the eastern Democracy, so be it. Better this than to be dragged down to defeat by upholding a wrong.

#### The Alliance Will Stand Together. The Alliance Sentinel, Rogers, Ark.

The Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union must stand united, must stand together, and will stand together from the very nature of things, from the very nature of the surroundings, and from the perils that environ this great government. The doctrine advanced by the Alliance is sound to the core. That is a fact that must be admitted. There is no escape from the force of that vital, living truth. It is not an attempt at the accomplishment of some impossible or impractical thing, object, or purpose. But the object is, to bring the blessing of good government—liberty under law and law under the Constitution, not arbitrary rule, and freedom without oppression to all the people. The national legislation, as well as the legislation of many of the States for the past twenty-five years has been in the interest of rings, corners, combines, trusts and monopolies; and against the masses, against the people, and at the cost of the people, and it is high time that that order of oppression was changed. If favors come let them flow to all, without special privileges for any one, for any section, or class, for this is the people's government; fashioned, formed and ordained by the people for the people, for the whole people, without special favors for rings and corners. But this government, under the baneful influence of class legislation, has drifted far, far from the landmarks laid down or established by the fathers, and to day stands far out, far out on the verge of ruin—financial ruin, or a financial crisis or crash, call it by whatever name you may or will, the facts remain the same, and can not be controverted with that dangerous idea, that Hell-spawned heresy, centralization—a government in the hands of the few for the oppression of the many—cropping out on every hand. The people have grown alarmed—consternation has seized all parties, they view with alarm, indignation and horror the dangers and perils which surround this government, as the result of partisan and class legislation. Promises, platforms, and pledges unfulfilled, virtually split upon, no substantial relief expected from those who are committed to the interests of rings and monopolies; hence, with danger confronting them on every hand, in this perilous hour of our government's history, the whole question comes up before people, comes back to the people for solution, for action and for settlement. Will the people preserve the heritage handed down to them by the fathers who founded this government? Will the people be faithful and true to themselves and to their children? The whole question is, therefore,

with the people, and good government depends now upon the action and efforts of the people. We have strong faith in the honesty, integrity and purposes of the people, in the determination of the toiling millions, in their efforts to secure a just and economical administration of the affairs of this great government. Therefore, the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union stands to-day pledged, determined and resolved to the work of restoring the administration of this government to a decent and economical basis—to secure and preserve liberty under the law, and to restore constitutional freedom, without oppression, without class or ring legislation, to all the people. That is the aim, the object, and the end of this grand organization; good government for all the people. Can't all the people, all parties, regardless of former party lines endorse and support this policy, this doctrine?

#### The Alliance Brothers.

Clarence Thompson, in Lebanon (Kan.) Journal.

The Alliance is now the coming political power if rightly managed. There are two factors framing the destiny of the great and just uprising. One, the conduct of the members, not only the leaders are responsible, because our principals do not conform to autocratic leadership but to the wisdom of all members. The other is the policy the party in power will pursue. The monopoly press has, since the Alliance first began, assailed the brotherhood with abuse, slander, misrepresentation and calumny. It is a notable fact in history that no party, creed or sect ever lost anything through the prevarication indulged in by its opponents. The Alliance has been no exception to this, as is evinced by its amazing growth, despite the efforts of trained liars and slander mongers. While the invective of their press and speakers is irritating, we can stand it for the good it does. Should the old parties accept our principles and enact them into statute, as is indicated by Ingalls' speech, our object would be accomplished just the same and the Alliance would get the credit. It is principle that wins with an intelligent people and no amount of monopoly lies will contaminate our principles or controvert the justice of our demands. Believing ill-government to be the result of ignorance and seeing the power of organization in the sceptre the money power wields, we have adopted as our watchwords "Education and Organization." It is a maxim that knowledge is power, and we must rely on education primarily for our success. We are factors in a movement that will materially change the workings of this government. And for us to begin the great work before us ignorantly is an injury to the cause we advocate. The ultimate success of this revolution lies in the intelligence of the masses, their ability to distinguish between right and wrong in legislation and judge the prudence and practicability of measures. In view of this you can not fail to see the importance of self-education in economics. On your intelligent concentrated effort depends your homes. Education is freedom, Ignorance is

slavery and in the name of the liberty we are working for educate yourself, try to get your neighbor to educate. Mental lethargy is moral depravity and the purification of politics will be an "iridescent dream" so long as ignorance and prejudice are the controlling elements. Our path is not strewn with roses, nor is the victory won. We have to meet and answer the malicious onset of a desperate oligarchy who will lose no opportunity of assault. We must educate those who do not know of the gross inequality from which we suffer. These, with the conservatives who must wait to go with the majority, would, with our present strength, make an army whose march would be irresistible and armed with votes, the money and its allies would be doomed forever. Organization is an instrument which enables the grand possibilities of education to become pleasing realities. Single handed we would "fall an unpitied sacrifice in a contemptible struggle." Again your attention is called to the fact that the safety of your homes and dear ones lies in the injunction that makes imperative the words "Education and organization." Live up to these and you will surely never regret having been one of the brothers of the Alliance.

#### Knaves and Fools.

The People's Press, London, England.

Cobett termed the House of Commons a den of thieves. The description is as true to-day as it was one-hundred years ago.

Our popular legislative assembly is composed of rabble of landlords, capitalists, half-pay officers, and lawyers, all striving who shall fill their pocket with the biggest bags of rent, profit, interest, salaries and pensions.

While the inventive of their press and speakers is irritating, we can stand it for the good it does.

Should the old parties accept our principles and enact them into statute, as is indicated by Ingalls' speech, our object would be accomplished just the same and the Alliance would get the credit.

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#### 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 being dissipated when it is fully understood. The principal 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 organizations 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. Under these circumstances he is compelled to haul his produce to market and take whatever the 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

electing them to sit in that high place of privilege plunder and palaver? Do they tell the people that they will cease to rob them any more? Do they promise the people that they try in some measure to alleviate their poverty or advocate their rights? No indeed, they make no pretenses and don't require to make any. They tell their victims, the working-class electors, plump and plain that they don't intend to cease pillaging and pirating their hard-won wealth; that they don't intend advocating any measure that will in the least degree alleviate their poverty or toil or procure them their rights. \* \* \*

It is all very funny—but it is also very sad. And the working people—or at least the great majority of them—seem quite delighted that these money-grabbers should even take the trouble to ask their consent to get into Parliament, and they cheer the money-grabbers 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.

#### The Sub-Treasury Bill.

New Albany (Miss.) Gazette.

The following from the graceful pen of Captain Banks in the Meridian Standard presents in a forcible manner the wrongs of the agriculturists and the necessity for reform, and it would be well for the politicians that they give heed to the clamor of the farmers and aid them in perfecting measures for relief:

Small is the wonder with the thoughtful man that the farmers are becoming restive under their burthens. The products of the mine, the mill and the furnace protected; the bondholder petted and untaxed; monopolies built up and protected; the few growing rich, growing richer and the poor poorer. One class reveling in pride and luxury; God wot! another, such is the case, pinched by penury—pressed want! The prototype of Crossus in the palace; the skeleton of want in the hut. The horn of plenty in the city; hollow-eyed poverty and empty cupboards in the country. Bonds and stocks current as collateral in national banks; money at 3 to 5 per cent in Wall street; the prices of products of the soil at the mercy of the bulls and the bears of trade. The farmer's credit discounted; his land and tenements the ban—tabooed in financial circles; ostracized from the world of change through the oppressive edict of government, which prohibits the privileged bank from making a loan on the unprivileged land of the poverty stricken farmer, who, to relieve wants or meet pecuniary obligations, must seek out syndicates and accept the terms of protected shysters who organize them. A prey to wolves of trade, made so by the government, his very land, which political economists and financial theorists declare is the basis of wealth, unjustly placed by the government under the cloud, and wickedly discriminated against as a collateral, is there any wonder that there exists in the heart of the farmer hatred to our national legislation? With such a state of facts, is it not time our national lawgivers were giving heed to the cries of distress going up from agricultural communities and examining into the grievances of those who people them? Is it wise to shun the shoulder or attempt to whistle down the wind to escape the wrath of the approaching cyclone? Is it wise to pooh-pooh the efforts of the former to get relief from this torturing condition? Is it a safe thing simply to declare the sub-treasury scheme impracticable and to do nothing to better the condition of those who propose it? Denunciations of the single tax idea and the sub-treasury scheme, because of their impracticability will not serve to stay the storm of indignation rising all over the country in the breasts of the populace. This farmer's bill may be wild and chimerical, but there is more in it than appears on the surface. Wild or what not, it is born of the spirit that prompts the drowning man to catch at straws. From it statesmen must learn a lesson. They must work good from it, or it will be found loaded full of ruin. Suffering patience and endurance have their limit.

The Stockton (California) Mail publishes a communication from Frank P. Cook, upon "Loaning Money on Land and Non-perishable Products," to the following effect:

Money is already loaned on land. So far as merely that fact is concerned, any land loan bill proposes nothing new. The real questions are: Who should loan money on land? Who should fix the rate of interest on such loans? Should the loaning of currency on land continue to be mainly a monopoly in the hands of great aggregations of capital carrying on the business solely for private gain of the few individuals composing them? Does such a state of things promote the general welfare of the country, and to "promote the general welfare" (not exactly the equal and exact welfare of every citizen, for that is utterly impossible, but the general welfare) is one of the things for which the "more perfect union" of the original thirteen colonies was formed, and for which such union of those colonies and of the territory acquired by their joint action has been maintained. Should a few fix the rate of interest at which the nation's notes may be had by the whole people, or should the nation fix the rate and the principal conditions? It is the same with the loaning of the nation's notes on non-perishable farm products. They are already loaned on such products, by the banks, as almost every California farmer knows by personal experience. The questions which touch the heart of this subject are: Should the banks and a few individuals—the banks principally—monopolize the loaning of such notes and fix the rate of interest at which this may be had by the people who produce the stuffs on which they are loaned? Or, on the other hand, should the nation find some freer and more open way of getting its notes into circulation—a way of which the fixing of the rate of interest by the nation shall be an essential part—a new way in which the volume of currency would not be at the mercy of a few, but be at all times controlled by the nation or its delegates in Congress? Let the rate of interest be just sufficient to cover the cost of the process of putting the notes into circulation in the form of loans upon security, consisting of such products as must soon enter into consumption. Why should it be more? To propose that the people try to make a profit by the loaning of their own notes to themselves is like proposing to a man to lift himself by his bootstraps. It can not be done. The spectacle of people trying to attain to national wealth by making wealth out of each other by interest-getting, instead of all combining to make wealth out of nature by production, has always seemed to me to be like, in its spirit, the spectacle of a den of wild beasts trying to get prosperous and fat by devouring each other. In case of loans on non-perishable property, insured, I think it should be provided, as now, that the loan should be paid whenever the product is moved, and repaid anyway within one year, which would prevent unjust combinations from keeping products out of market.

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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 it has pursued and 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.

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

N. R. P. A.

#### THE LAND LOAN BILL.

The Senate finance committee has reported adversely the bill introduced by Senator Stanford providing for government loans direct to the people on land security. No other report could have been expected, and hence there is no disappointment in that regard. It is the unfair, misleading and illogical statement's and deductions in the report that are objected to.

While the Stanford bill cannot be accepted as Alliance doctrine, it is wholly on account of its details and not because of the main principle involved. The Ocala demands declare that certain restrictions shall be placed upon loans which this bill in its present shape does not contain, but these demands declare for the principle of government loans direct to the people upon land security, which every true Alliance man should stand by and defend. This committee declares the loans demanded are for the full term of twenty years, while the bill plainly states "for a term not exceeding twenty years;" this is certainly misleading. It asks why these loans should not be made on other landed property, forgetting that cheap money to one class of the people means in the end cheap money to all. But the most unfair portion of the report is where it declares "that it is founded upon the principle put forth by John Law a century ago." There is not the least analogy between the principle of loaning money contained in the Stanford bill and the methods made use of by John Law. John Law was a Scotch adventurer who had drifted into France, then the most unstable and corrupt government on the

continent of Europe. France, at that time, 1717, held large possessions in America, located in the rich valley of the Mississippi. Being bankrupt, and willing to engage in any scheme that would fill its depleted treasury, the plan of John Law was accepted. He was placed at the head of a bank, and through it and the assistance of the government succeeded in selling shares in various enterprises to be developed and made profitable in this unknown region 5,000 miles away. There was not a single dollar loaned by government, as proposed by the Stanford bill, on the security of this land, but there was directly the opposite. Money was loaned to the government based upon government guarantee of dividends that should accrue from various schemes to be started where this land was located. In the methods as prepared by John Law the government borrowed money and paid interest, while the Stanford bill provides that the government shall loan money and receive interest. This report also compares the bill to the French assignats; this is another unfair proposition. These assignats were loans to the government from the people based upon land confiscated from the Church. The unstableness of government and the counterfeiting by England rendered this kind of paper money objectionable. It was afterward discovered that three out of five of all the assignats in circulation were counterfeit. This report alludes to the recent troubles in the Argentine Republic and compares the "cedulas" to this land-loan bill. This is also unfair; the Argentine loans are no more like the methods proposed in the Stanford bill than this committee's report is like an honest statement of facts. These mortgages were given upon land by the individual, the interest guaranteed by the government, and the cedulas sold to the highest bidder. There is no similarity whatever in the two methods. In each of these comparisons given the government is the borrower instead of the lender. It pays interest instead of receiving it. It guarantees certain conditions instead of being guaranteed. This committee is supposed to be composed of the ablest financiers in the nation, and yet, for the sake of serving the money power, are willing to have their names affixed to a statement which compares unfavorably the solidity of the American government, the security of loans based on the agricultural lands of the nation, protected by the stringent rules of the Stanford bill, with the unstable governments of France and Argentina and the wild schemes of John

Law. Such action is beneath the dignity of any American citizen, much less that of a committee of the highest legislative body in the land. The report is a fling at paper money and an insult to those whose distress comes from a want of money in circulation. It declares the principle of loaning money direct to the people as unconstitutional without giving reasons for such a conclusion. In this regard the report is unfortunate, as the principle of government loans has been fully established. Money has been and is being loaned to the banks, to the Pacific railroads, to the World's Fair at Philadelphia, and to the Cotton Exposition at New Orleans. Other examples of such loans might be given in this country and Europe if space would permit. The venerable chairman of this committee himself voted for the government loan of money to the New Orleans cotton exposition. After passing the House that 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 consensus of opinion in the Senate was so unanimously 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 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 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 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 demand.

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."

Much more could be written on this report, but enough has been given to show its absurdity and studied unfairness. The report will do no harm, but to the contrary will provoke discussion which in the end will bring out the truth.

THERE is evidently a great wrong being perpetrated on the

loyal brethren of Mississippi by

having to submit to the charge of being antagonistic to the national demands by a subordinate State official. This charge is untrue. The brethren of Mississippi are not in revolt against the Ocala demands, or any one of the aims or purposes of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union.

THE ECONOMIST knows better.

Letters are being received daily

from the stanchest Alliance men in the State protesting against such action or being placed in such a false position.

It is unfortunate for a State that has given the Order such true men as Bros. Patty, Simrall, Lee, Love, Lacey, West, Martin, Lewis, Beaman, Land, and thousands more, to be misrepresented in this manner, and what is perhaps worse, to have the press of the State with but few exceptions remain silent under the imputation. THE ECONOMIST desires to say to the brotherhood throughout the Order, that their brethren in the great State of Mississippi are loyal and true to the principles and demands of the Order. That they believe in the sub-treasury plan and cannot be divorced from their allegiance to that measure. Their position in this respect has been falsified, and the time will come when those who have sought to further partisan political purposes, by misleading public opinion as to the loyalty of these brethren, will be relegated to that obscurity which such conduct usually brings.

Bro. A. E. Cole, president of the Michigan State Alliance, stopped in Canada on his way home from Washington and organized a Farmers Alliance. The Alliance has already done more to eliminate sectionalism in the past three years than all other efforts during the past quarter of a century. If permitted to follow out their plan it will be soon entirely wiped out. Just so with annexation, the Alliance will arrange that in a most satisfactory manner if it is desirable. No need of politicians in an adjustment of such questions.

It will appear by the record that Congressman Wheeler is just beginning to print his speeches. He generally speaks about five or ten minutes, asks leave to print the balance, and after a few months comes in with a two or three hours' speech. The public may expect anywhere from half a dozen to as many more of these old back numbers before the session closes.

A SPECIAL dispatch to the New Orleans Times-Democrat from Jackson, Miss., gives a note of information that may develop into a Democratic wall of distress. It says:

The Chickasaw Messenger, edited by Hon. Frank Burkitt, State Lecturer of the Alliance of Mississippi, has come out in a leading and lengthy editorial in opposition to the re-election of Senators George and Walthall, on account of their position on the sub-treasury bill.

He says he "does not indorse the bill now pending before Congress without reservation," but thinks the principle involved in the measure is a "necessity to the farmers," and "absolutely essential to the re-establishment of anything like agricultural prosperity." He says he has always heretofore supported those Senators, "but their refusal to hearken to the complaints of the wealth producers of the country, make it necessary that they should strive to find other gentlemen to represent them at Washington, whose records as Democrats are unquestioned, and whose sympathies are with the industrial classes, instead of their oppressors." He says: "Send men to Washington who will recognize the necessities of the hour, rather than prate about an effete partisan idea." From Mr. Burkitt's prominence and official position in the Alliance, and the fact that his paper is regarded as a semi-official organ of the order in the State, some regard these utterances as ominous, and as indicative that the Alliance will make war on Senators George and Walthall, while others think that it is only the expression of Burkitt's individual sentiment, and will have no weight further than his personal influence extends, and that both George and Walthall are almost invincible before the people.

Unfortunately for those persons who think Editor Burkitt simply utters an individual sentiment, the Alliance has had this matter under consideration quite long enough to understand the effect of opposition on the part of the members of the United States Senate, and Mississippi Alliance men will look to their friends to make into law their demands. They are not wedded to men, but to principles.

When we add to this the vast sum of \$176,643,000 collected during the same year by only forty of the life companies out of the many hundreds doing business here, while they only returned in losses and endowments \$82,566,000, leaving \$94,077,000 in the hands of the companies, of which \$38,500,000 were used for expenses, or nearly a million dollars per company, making \$84,838,000 the annual expenses of carrying on the insurance business of the United States. We are fully of the opinion that a large

OFFICIAL.

Plan for a National Fire Insurance System.

Pursuant to instructions from the Supreme Council at Ocala last December, the Executive Committee have been examining various plans of mutual fire insurance, hoping to be able to present to the Order some feasible and economical system that would give them reliable security at lowest possible cost and through machinery controlled by the Order.

The Ocala resolution which was adopted, reads as follows:

Moved that the matter of fire insurance be referred to the Executive Board for the purpose of formulating a mutual and feasible plan of fire insurance, and have it ready for report at the next meeting of the Supreme Council.

The following plan and some of the reasons in its favor are presented for your consideration, and we trust the papers throughout the country, friendly to our cause, will copy it for the benefit of their readers, and that it will be thoroughly discussed before the local Alliances, and we shall be pleased to receive criticism and suggestions from the friends. The plan is an improvement upon the common mutual system, and will enable the company to avoid the difficulties that generally hamper a national mutual company in the shape of legal regulations in many States. The stock can be loaned at a rate of interest that will pay the full dividend guaranteed, and thus while adding strength will not increase the expense to the policy holder.

In many counties and townships the farmers have successful local mutuels, which we would not disturb, on the contrary would encourage the formation of others where possible; but in the large majority of the 3,000 counties in these United States such companies are not likely to be organized, and we believe the plan here presented would prove satisfactory.

From the Insurance Year Book for 1890, unquestioned authority, we find that there are 384 stock and 226 mutuals doing a fire business in the United States, besides the county and township mutuels.

The stock companies have a capital of \$92,000,000, and the cash income for 1890 for all the 610 companies aggregate \$149,000,000, while the losses amount to but \$84,345,000, leaving \$64,655,000 as the amount collected from the people of these United States in a single year, more than was needed to pay losses incurred. This sum was partly disposed of as follows: \$12,612,000 in dividends, and \$46,338,000 expenses.

When we add to this the vast sum of \$176,643,000 collected during the same year by only forty of the life companies out of the many hundreds doing business here, while they only returned in losses and endowments \$82,566,000, leaving \$94,077,000 in the hands of the companies, of which \$38,500,000 were used for expenses, or nearly a million dollars per company, making \$84,838,000 the annual expenses of carrying on the insurance business of the United States. We are fully of the opinion that a large

portion of this expense can be saved to the people, and trust that active steps may be soon taken to inaugurate this much-needed reform.

## PLAN.

1. Organize a stock company with not less than \$200,000 capital.

2. To be known as the Industrial Insurance Company.

3. To be centrally located, probably at Washington.

4. Capital to be guaranteed six per cent per annum dividend.

5. Regular and prevailing rates to be charged in the various localities to avoid a war of rates, and to be on the safe side, and at the close of each year's business return three-fourths of the unused premiums after the legal reserve is provided for, to the policy-holders, either in cash or to apply on the succeeding year's business the remaining one-fourth, to be placed in a reserve fund to strengthen the company.

6. The whole business to be under the direct supervision of the National Alliance, and the books be at all times open to their inspection, and they shall make full reports of the business transacted to each annual session of the Supreme Council of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union.

If this meets with your approval we think the capital can be readily secured, and any parties desiring to subscribe for any of the stock are invited to correspond with this committee at 239 North Capitol street, Washington, D. C.

Respectfully submitted,

C. W. MACUNE,  
A. WARDALL,  
J. F. TILLMAN,  
Executive Committee National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union.

FREQUENT inquiries from New England show that the farmers of that section are ready to catch on to the Alliance movement.

A SPECIMEN of national business methods may be found in the conduct of the Put-in-Bay fish station. The government expended \$20,000 more in operating it last year. It now turns out that nearly the entire year's product has been destroyed by incompetency or carelessness. If this commission was responsible to some government department as it should be, some one would be held responsible for this great loss. As it is doubtless nothing will be done.

THE Farmers' Vidette, official organ of the Farmers' Union of Louisiana, published at Alexandria, in that State, has in its issue of February 12 one of the most exhaustive articles yet seen in any of our exchanges upon the subject. It is an address delivered before the Louisiana State Agricultural Society by Judge W. P. Hall, and is a very able document, covering seven columns. The Vidette should preserve it in pamphlet form, which it probably will, and readers can secure it by writing to The Vidette.

## APPLIED SCIENCE

In Agricultural and Rural Economy.

EDITED BY DR. M. G. HAZEN.

Woodstock, Mo.

## GOLD.

Some man will say: "What has gold to do with science applied in agriculture and rural economy?" Much every way. Faith without works is dead. Science without agriculture, dead also. Divorced from labor in production, science is barren and unfruitful. There is moreover a science of sciences which they who have learned terminology call sociology; it is the science of human life. But life itself without fruitful labor is void. Idleness is cowardice, "there is one monster in the world, the idle man." But if throughout all the warp and woof of existence there runs a thread of fruitful labor, that is life indeed, filled, not with emptiness, but with light and joy and hope of better things. If then gold tyrannously dominates labor, science is a vain thing. But says one: experts, who from study and experience are best qualified to form opinions on such subjects, tell us we have plenty of money in the country, and what we want is only confidence. So says the Baltimore Sun. What then, we should be glad to be told, should these "experts" be doing with clearing-house certificates as substitutes for money? If there is a plenty of money, why did not the banks use "confidence" instead of clearing-house certificates? certificates unlawful in their issuance and use, and illegally made. In some instances, a part of bank reserves. Clearing-house certificates, indeed, seem to represent a strong confidence game played by the banks against the people.

Mr. W. S. Boswell, of Virginia, wrote to the Baltimore Sun a singularly clear and forcible letter on the insufficiency of the currency and the proposed free coinage of silver, and the comments of the Sun upon some points of that letter suggest the views here defended. The sum and substance of the Sun's position is, that experts say, gold has not gone up but commodities have gone down; experts whom the Sun thinks from study and experience best qualified to express an opinion on that class of subjects. Further, these experts say that gold has not caused the fall in the value of commodities but only measures it; the true cause of the fall being over production. These experts are not named, but they are bankers, and brokers, and Wall street gamblers, whose unheard-of profits have been produced by the scarcity of money, the same cause which has produced the widespread distress and poverty. When before was it held that he was the best judge on any pending cause who had the largest pecuniary stake in the decision?

Why, says the Baltimore Sun, invent new and better machines and improved processes unless mankind are to be benefited by making "two blades of grass grow where one grew?" Ah, why? Two blades of grass, etc., are very good, but we have heard that before. This is a mere weak, ineffective way of putting that stale old chestnut, overproduction. Who, we should be glad to know, are mankind? Practically they are assumed to be capitalists, and the men who man these new machines are classed with the machines they

one undivided class, which has made gold in their hands a rod of oppression with which they have tortured and degraded the poor. In this wicked mass of legislation, the pivotal point on which the whole scheme is made to turn is that deed of shame whereby silver, then at a premium over gold, was demonetized and made a commodity. Nine-tenths of the aggregate demand for silver was for coinage, and if coinage cease that much of the demand would be destroyed. What nonsense, then, to ask people to attach any importance to the decline of the price of a degraded commodity for which the demand is reduced to the lowest point by hostile legislation. Silver was at a premium when demonetized, and a silver dollar as money to day buys as much as a gold dollar. It is not silver as money or for coinage, but silver as a commodity to be warehoused, which has "gone down." Did gold do this? No, but the gold gamblers did. It is the work of "the street" and its hirelings and dependencies. The people are not deceived.

Why have commodities gone down? Everybody knows why. It is because the gold gamblers have procured such reductions of the volume of currency that it is not sufficient to maintain prices. We do not expect these gold gamblers to admit that, because it would carry with it the admission of the criminality of their conspiracy against productive industry. They will not admit it, but the people are going to jerk the truth out of them sooner or later. They have constituted themselves a class of enemies of the human race, and they must accept the consequences of their conduct. No man of sense is to be deceived by a jumble of words. Of what consequence is it whether experts say gold has gone up, or commodities gone down; say gold has not gone up at all, but commodities gone down, "including silver," and what then? This is a mere attempt to darken counsel by words without wisdom, and without any meaning at all. It is a mere patterning with mere words.

The fact complained of is that false legislation, surreptitiously passed, has made gold in the hands of the gold hoarders an instrument of oppression, whereby under torture they compel the producers of commodities to deliver up their rightful shares of their own products. What do these men thus fished and plundered care for the technical jargon of "the street"? Have it, if you will, that gold has not gone up itself nor produced the fall of commodities! And what then?

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operate and the processes they conduct as mere tools of capital. That is the wrong complained of, and it is going to be righted. These human tools are entitled to a just share of the values they create, and they are going to have what is just and right; they neither demand more nor will they accept less. Are the conveniences of modern life only for the gold gamblers? If, says the Sun, by the use of these improved machines and processes, a commodity costs now one-half what it cost to produce it twenty years ago, is not that a good reason why it should sell for less? Why put such a question? A question which, of course, has but one answer, but what case does it fit? We trust the Sun will not wince at a slight application of the *argumentum ad hominem*. This writer has been for years and now is a subscriber to and a reader of the Sun. At the head of its columns he finds this standing statement:

The Sun's facilities for the production and distribution daily of a great newspaper are not surpassed by those of any paper in the United States. The very latest improvements in every mechanical branch, the work of the best manufacturers, are availed of by the Sun, whose readers daily number a quarter of a million people.

The Sun, therefore, has availed itself to the utmost of the newest and best machines and most improved processes. Now, does it cost one-half what it did twenty years ago to get the paper out? If not, very many lines of industry are represented in the make-up of the Sun, and where are those "two blades of grass?" But if yea, would not that be a good reason why the Sun should give mankind the benefit of these reductions? Its rates, also cash in advance, have not been reduced one-half nor one iota in the meantime. But, on the other hand, its great income has a vastly increased purchasing power, a vastly greater command over labor and the products of industry than before, which is the direct result of the legislation which industrial workers denounce, and which the Sun and all the great dailies with one voice defend.

In agriculture, do two blades of grass grow where one grew twenty years ago at the same cost of production? On the contrary, the average per acre production of our arable lands is reduced progressively, seriously, and to a thinking man very alarmingly. Taxes, in the meantime, have certainly "gone up." Land values have as certainly "gone down," whereas, assessments are no lower, often higher, than before. While the holdings of the gold gamblers are exempt to the extent of millions, and in no place is this evil greater than in Maryland, and Baltimore city. These conditions operate to divorce science from production. Men cannot avail themselves of its generous aid in their labors.

Applied science is emasculated by gold. It can make no progress, yield no fruit in the face of the adverse industrial conditions which have been brought to pass, and are maintained by the legislation which the people denounce; which was enacted under the influence of the gold gamblers and hoarders, and which is defended by them

## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST

and by all their allies, and hirelings, and dependents.

The people's trouble is, the volume of their currency has been made insufficient to sustain values. The true remedy is, make it sufficient.

## FARMERS INSTITUTE.

There is in progress at Charlottesville, Va., the second of the series of institutes to be held under the auspices of the State Board of Agriculture. The discussions relate exclusively to scientific and practical farming and are designed to be strictly educational in those lines. So far as we have heard addresses have been delivered by the presiding officer of the meeting, Mr. H. L. Lyman, member of the State Board of Agriculture for that district; Commissioner of Agriculture Whitehead; by Mr. Thornton and Dr. Tuttle, of the University of Virginia; Dr. Bills, Professor of Veterinary Science at the Virginia Agricultural College, delivered what appears to have been a very excellent lecture on hog cholera and the general principles of animal hygiene. That subject is one upon which a very dense ignorance has prevailed, and many have been largely imposed upon by quack nostrums which are totally valueless. Hog cholera is a subject for sanitary police, rather than medication. It may be hoped that inoculations may prove effectual. If it be found that the bacterial culture can be sterilized and still prove effectual as a preventive of future attacks, the disease produced by the inoculation would not be communicable to other swine, and so a great objection to the practice would be overcome.

The living tissues of animal organism are derived from albuminoid exclusively. Plants, however, contain a class of nitrogenized bodies which seem wholly incapable of entering as a factor into the nutritive processes of animals, among these the various so-called amines, amides, and amido-acids, a group of bodies having a tolerably close general resemblance to ammonia. Substances of this class are tolerably abundant in fodder plants and other cattle foods, and hence by calculating them as albuminoids in stating the results of analysis serious errors result when we seek to infer the nutritive value of a feeding stuff from the results of such an analysis. There is another unsettled question, viz: the value of this amide nitrogen as a fertilizer? Is this the nitrogen of manures which fails to be recovered by plants? Does it leach out of soils, as is the case with nitrates, being thus lost in the drainage water? It is evident that when we take all these multifarious forms of nitrogen together, and by means of caustic alkali and red-hot combustion tubes, reduce the total nitrogen to ammonia; and from this ammonia calculate the whole amount of nitrogen, we have no right to call such a method a scientific analysis. We have still less right to base on such a method inspection laws, and to attach to such results money values. We ask to know in what manner farmers are hereby benefited.

## ORGANIC NITROGEN COMPOUNDS.

The substance of albumin exhibits itself in a nearly pure state in the white of eggs. From their resemblance to albumin many substances, or many modifications of the same substance existing in the various organs and tissues of animals and plants, are styled albuminoids. These substances all contain nitrogen as a constituent in about the same percentage of their weight.

Besides the albuminoids animal tissue which contain gelatin, and horny substances which contain nitrogen, albuminoids contain from 15 to 17 percent—an average of 16 percent of nitrogen. An organic substance subjected to analysis yields a certain percentage of nitrogen, and this being multiplied by 6.25, the product is supposed to represent the total albuminoid present.

The gelatinous substances are usually as abundant in the body as albuminoids. They differ in composition from the latter mainly by containing less sulfur, frequently none at all. The organic substance of animal bone is mainly gelatinous, and in view of the great manurial value of fresh round bone it is a significant fact that these gelatinous matters usually contain 18 per cent of nitrogen, being a per cent more than the average of albuminoids.

Horny substance differs from albuminoid matter by containing notably more sulfur. It is the albuminoids of animal tissues which are concerned in the more

energetic manifestations of life. Protein was a name used to designate a hypothetical substance which was the supposed basic substance of albuminoids. The term is growing obsolete, and there is no such basic substance. It is now somewhat loosely used as a collective term which signifies albuminoid substance in general. None of these substances originate in the animal body; all of them as found in animals are derived from vegetable albuminoids by slight modifications.

Hence, the absolute dependence of the animal kingdom upon the pre-existence of the vegetable kingdom in the order of nature. The animal can not produce organic nitrogenized matter from the mineral substances which are the raw materials of nature, and which constitute the proper nutrient of plants, the plant food. Here is the broad unfailing distinction between animals and plants. The plant by its nutritive activity can, and does and must, convert nonliving mineral matter into living organic substance. This no animal is capable of under any circumstances, not even in the smallest degree. The living tissues of animal organism are derived from albuminoid exclusively. Plants, however, contain a class of nitrogenized bodies which seem wholly incapable of entering as a factor into the nutritive processes of animals, among these the various so-called amines, amides, and amido-acids, a group of bodies having a tolerably close general resemblance to ammonia. Substances of this class are tolerably abundant in fodder plants and other cattle foods, and hence by calculating them as albuminoids in stating the results of analysis serious errors result when we seek to infer the nutritive value of a feeding stuff from the results of such an analysis. There is another unsettled question, viz: the value of this amide nitrogen as a fertilizer? Is this the nitrogen of manures which fails to be recovered by plants? Does it leach out of soils, as is the case with nitrates, being thus lost in the drainage water? It is evident that when we take all these multifarious forms of nitrogen together, and by means of caustic alkali and red-hot combustion tubes, reduce the total nitrogen to ammonia; and from this ammonia calculate the whole amount of nitrogen, we have no right to call such a method a scientific analysis. We have still less right to base on such a method inspection laws, and to attach to such results money values. We ask to know in what manner farmers are hereby benefited.

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and financial management. It looks plain to him. He has seen the demonstration. He realizes the result. It is very simple and easy of comprehension. Yet this is what these politicians call "chimerical and impractical." And those who advocate it are demagogues. These same politicians very well know that they are the tools of the robber class. That their prosperity in the respective businesses in which they are engaged depends upon their adherence and advocacy of their cause, and that the very plans they condemn as chimerical and impractical of the robbed, is what has made their bosses the masters of the country. If one species of class legislation practiced for twenty-five years, which is considered to have been enacted and enforced in the interest of a particular class, renders them remarkably prosperous and precipitates the other class on the verge of bankruptcy, is it not a plain proposition that to reverse the order of causes and make those who have been the sufferers become the beneficiaries? Contraction and a limited volume of money in control of a class of shysters, who have learned too well how to manipulate it to the damage and ruin of another class, is an evil that can be corrected. Who is raising the row about a remedy being applied to the evil? Only the tools and hirelings of that class. Why not apply it? It is to the advantage and for the benefit of the majority. This is a government of the majority of the people. The will of the and the supreme sovereign power. It is their demand law of their welfare, aye, for their exaltation from ruin and redemption from servitude.

THE next House are entirely without foundation. These brethren are full grown men, and as such will not permit their actions in this or any other matter to be anticipated. They will doubtless carefully consider what is best, and no one need fear but that they will act accordingly, and all these cheap political tricks will not in the end further the candidacy of any man. The Alliance members of the Fifty-second Congress can be trusted to "keep in the middle of the road."

THE lame ducks are now being cared for by the government. Senators and Congressmen who failed in a re-election are being made ministers, consuls, judges, etc., etc. New offices are being continually created for no other purpose than to furnish an asylum for these political unfortunates.

FROM the following press dispatch it would seem that the Alliance has found a home in Germany. Just what it is, its objects and methods, is not clearly stated:

The government projects which menace protected interests, agricultural and industrial, are arousing keen opposition. The German Farmers' Alliance recently adopted a resolution of the corn laws that is contrary to the prosperity of the peasantry. Count von Moltke telegraphed to a meeting of the Alliance that he himself was a farmer, and that they might rely upon his active cooperation. Prince Bismarck has also promised to support the Alliance. The iron and coal protectionists join in the outcry.

Southern Mercury (Dallas, Tex.) says:

There are a few members of the Alliance who, so long as the organization's action was vague and indefinite, hurried with a loud voice and declared that the Alliance would live forever. All acknowledged that its principles were pure. Every one predicted Alliance success. Their subsequent action in many instances has proven that while a person may be thoroughly cognizant of general principles he often fails utterly to comprehend their specific application. This is assuredly true of some who, from ignorance, oppose Alliance demands. There are those, however, who can not be acceded the excuse of ignorance, and they, therefore, are set down among those whose opposition is venal. A man who claims to be an Alliance man, and yet makes captious objections to every definite demand of the organization is certainly not true to the cause.

SEVERAL letters have been received lately asking information regarding the "Ledger and Farm," printed at Detroit, Mich. THE ECONOMIST knows nothing of the paper. It is doubtless a good scheme to let alone.

NATIONAL Lecturer Willets is doing a great work in Iowa. That State will be organized March 17.

JOHN SHERMAN has kindly consented to postpone the Nicaragua canal steal until some future time. The Alliance is growing rapidly in Ohio, and the legislature which is elected next fall will determine whether Mr. Sherman continues business at the old stand. Perhaps he has put this and that together.

IT MIGHT be well enough to state that all rumors or assumptions that the Alliance members of Congress have pledged themselves to the support of any one for Speaker

### THE REFORM PRESS.

#### The Discussion of Current Topics in the Organized States.

Volume I, No. 1 of "The Star Spangled Banner," a weekly Alliance paper printed at New Brunswick, New Jersey, has just been received. It is full of good Alliance doctrine and will doubtless do much toward swinging that State into line with the Alliance movement. Success to its efforts. It says:

The agricultural and country press generally have been engaged for a generation or so in teaching the farmers how to grow two spears of grass where only one has grown before, and the farmer has learned the lesson most thoroughly. So much so that two spears of grass sell to-day for less than the grower used to get for one. Now the farmers think it is time to learn how to get paid for the extra spear of grass. Will the agricultural press please step forward?

The following in the Pacific Rural Press, is from the pen of Bro. Cannon, president of the State Alliance, of California. It has the right ring:

In the lull of my immense correspondence a few thoughts may be of benefit to the toiling masses. The mariner often pauses upon the boundless ocean and takes the meridian sun to determine the exact position in which his vessel is placed upon the bosom of the mighty deep; so with us, we should occasionally make a reckoning to determine where we are. The farmer has at last broken the spell that bound him. He has kicked out of the shafts and is running away, and the men who have driven him with tight reins are hurled into the ditch and crushed beneath the wheels. It has been so sudden they hardly know what struck them. Some say it is a cyclone and will soon blow over. Old man Tradition rubs his hands, forces a smile through his chattering teeth, says he knows it is a cold day, but then he looks for warmer weather to-morrow. But he is not sure of his own prophecy. The trouble is, the people have begun to think—the masses of the people, the old farmer, the patient beast of burden, who has toiled for ages that others might reap. When the masses begin to think, it shakes the world. It is this mighty movement of the masses that is shaking the very foundations of the civilization of the nineteenth century, and even now drawing in dim outline the new civilization of the next century. The time was when all eyes were fixed upon the great and powerful kings and warriors of history. Poets sang of them. Literature fawned at their feet. But to-day all is changed. The eyes of the world are now fixed on the toiling masses. The story of a nation is the history of their condition. The "Song of the Shirt" thrills the heart of a world. There are mighty forces beneath, lifting up these millions into a new life. They are at last becoming conscious of their needs, and with their capacities as a lever and their needs as a fulcrum, they are tugging away at the very foundations of social, economic and political life, and our civilization to-day quivers from foundation to keystone beneath these assaults. All the nations of the earth feel this new power. The Czar of Russia shivers in his palace and adds another regiment to his bodyguards. The Emperor of Germany, seeing the handwriting on the wall, hastens to make friends with the "unrighteous." The drum-beat of the Salvation Army echoes around the world, calling mankind to the rescue of the submerged millions from the filth of the great cities. The Farmers' Alliance is a gigantic wave of this world-wide movement of the human race. It holds in its hands not only the possibilities of a higher life for this generation, it holds the hopes of unnumbered generations yet unborn. Our organization is superb. It is the strongest social and political machine ever devised by man. We are determined to lift up the toiling hosts and make their life worth living. We are teaching that it is just and honorable to plow with a mule as

to make laws, or to run a bank or a railroad. We have many crude ideas as yet about law and finance, but we will learn as we go along. Absurd demands will take reasonable shape in the red-hot forge of public debate and education. Demagogues will try to mislead it for a time, but we will kill two demagogues where we will nourish one. Our greatest danger lies in the possibility of selfish intrigues in politics, in which our lofty principles will be forgotten in a mad struggle for immediate power. Holding fast to our principles, we will ultimately sweep this nation in triumph. We represent the grandest moral issues of the age. Standing firmly on these issues, we are as sure to win as that there is a God who rules the universe. Fall in line, or hunt shelter.

Weekly Arbor State (Beatrice, Neb.) says:

Our national banking system is regarded by many as the acme of perfection. In some ways it is most wonderful. It is the grandest scheme ever devised by which a favored class of a handful of money-lords are given power to compound interest to accumulate the earnings of the farmers and producers of all wealth. As a productive commercial people, the system of our interest bearing exchange is gradually but certainly choking up the very fountains of our productive power and commerce, and congestion has already set in. To remedy these wrongs the organized workers of the country will continue to direct every effort and urgent appeal.

The recent demonstrations of endearment between the two old parties in this State, where they have stood shoulder to shoulder after years of acrimonious recrimination, shows that the two old parties are firmly united for power and plunder. The only hope for the people is then with the young and vigorous independent party.

Arkansas Economist (Searcy, Ark.) speaks of consolidation of the orders in that State:

The consolidation was affected. A child has been born and from its lusty lungs comes a cry of defiance that bodes ill for the enemy. The reform movement has received new strength; it enters the year with bright prospects and its future is assured. The meeting was perfectly harmonious, not a discord marring the proceedings. The officers elected are good men and true, tried by the fire of the enemy, and they will lead us on to a glorious victory. Let every one bend anew to the work, stand by our officers in the discharge of their duties and by sympathy and encouragement assist them to accomplish the great purpose for which we organized. The Alliance had never such promise in Arkansas as to-day, and if we will only do our duty we may soon stand abreast with Kansas in the onward march. Shoulder arms! Forward march!

Macon (Mo.) Times says:

Free coinage of silver means that every man who takes a dollar's worth of silver bullion to the mint can get in exchange one dollar in silver coin. It places the white metal on an equality with the yellow and would soon double the amount of our circulating medium. As the amount of money in circulation increases it will be correspondingly easier to get, interest will be easier to pay, and its purchasing power will correspondingly decline. The grip of the money-lenders East holds on the borrowing West will be loosened and capital will become plentiful in every section of the country. More money is as necessary to national prosperity as robber taxes. The West and South demand more of one and less of the other, and must have both.

Industrial Free Press (Winfield, Kan.) says:

One thing that is caused by speculation in farm products is a lack of stability of prices. This is the sub-treasury bill would remedy. It will safely adjust the volume of the medium of exchange to the demand for its use, so that the increase or decrease of either will always bear a corresponding ratio. One great difficulty under the present conditions is that in seasons of want the people want to market his crops, and speculators lock up the

Pacific Union (San Francisco, Cal.) says:

Many, however, are recognizing the fact that the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union is doing a valuable and effective work in awakening thought and purpose along interesting and important lines of future action. To seize upon these conditions and make them as strong and available as possible in an organized form is about all we can expect to do. We can get men together and induce them to exchange thought on questions of doctrine and method, we may safely leave the

balance of the work to time and the growth of intelligence. Before a party of reform can be organized there must exist a well-settled conviction that indispensable elements of progress are centered in a new form, and make an exclusive appeal to the favor and effort of the new order. This condition of things, if we mistake not, we are now rapidly approaching. When it comes, the Farmers' Alliance will doubtless be ready to give it a fervent and practical recognition. Until then let us press the work of preparation by organizing the whole country in the most thorough and intelligent manner.

## "DIRECT BUYING" F. A. & I. U.-"OFFICIAL."

### PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.

To the Members of the Farmers' Alliance:

We are pleased to announce that arrangements have been made with Mr. O. W. Ingersoll, manufacturer of "Liquid Rubber" House and "Indestructible" Barn Paint, at 241 and 243 Plymouth Street, Brooklyn, N. Y., whereby our members can purchase these goods at FULL WHOLESALE PRICES, "DIRECT FROM FACTORY."

This Paint has been thoroughly tested during past forty-eight years, and the universal testimony of all users being that it is more durable and gives better satisfaction than any Paint made. From personal knowledge, I can most heartily recommend the Paint, and both my uncle and father-in-law, who have used it, are loud in its praises.

In doing business with Mr. Ingersoll, you are assured of fair, prompt dealing and general good treatment.

Presidents and Secretaries of Lodges should write at once for "confidential" Wholesale Discounts, Sample Cards, etc., for use of their members, so that all may avail themselves of terms offered. I believe this "direct buying" will result in a saving of thousands of dollars annually to the Farmers' Alliance.

Yours for "Right and Justice."

W. H. LIKINS, Pres't Ohio F. A.

### PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.

PICKAWAY, W. Va., Nov. 25, 1890.

Mr. O. W. Ingersoll.

Dear Sir: Your favor of recent date with Paint papers received. I will be glad to see our farmers buying your goods.

As a member of the Grange Organization, I know of your favorable dealings with our membership; also of the character of your Paints. Houses in my county, painted with your Paint years ago, are still looking well. I can not say as much for houses painted at the same time, and even since, with other goods.

Fraternally. S. A. HOUSTON, Pres't W. Va. F. A. & I. U.

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 in every State, from personal experience, testify the truth of this.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

We want to hear from the Purchasing Agent of every County and Local Lodge in the United States within the next thirty days—for immediate appointment as Agent. Write for particulars "under seal," sending certificate of authority signed by Executive Committee; also forward list of all property owners in your Lodge, with post office addresses; will write them with your compliments, 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.

Address all communications to

O. W. INGERSOLL, Proprietor,  
THE OLDEST MIXED-PAINT HOUSE IN AMERICA, Established 1842,  
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FARMERS, FARMERS!

Take advantage of this grand opportunity, and send in your orders at once, before it is too late. We are receiving orders from all parts of the United States and Canada for our celebrated MOVERS AND SHIFTERS. Who does this pleasant state of things exist? The answer is easy and simple: We deal direct with the Farmer. We never have, neither do we now belong to any combination or trust, which has a way work against the best interests of the farmers' business, we furnish for the least money the best line of Harvesting Machinery the world has ever seen. Write us for circulars, prices, terms, etc. Ad res:

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**THE ELKHART CARRIAGE AND HARNESS MFG. CO.**

No. 1 Farm Harness. For 18 years have dealt direct with customers, at wholesale prices, saving the dealer's profit. We ship anywhere.

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Platform, Three-Spring or Combination Wagons, \$60; men's others, \$15.

Top Huggies, \$65; good as gold at sea.

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SEND TO US NOW FOR DESCRIPTIVE CIRCULAR, PRICES, ETC. AND SECURE AGENCY.

The Castree-Mallory Co.,  
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(MENTION THIS PAPER)

**N**EVER before in the history of live stock has such success attended the efforts of breeders in perfecting an animal possessing the power to resist disease, and containing the elements of rapid growth and great size as the **OHIO IMPROVED** Chester hogs, two having weighed 2,806 lbs. These facts, together with our enormous sales in the States and foreign countries, have excited the envy of competitors, who call in question the facts claimed. We therefore have decided to convince every one of the superiority of this breed by offering to sell a pair **ON TIME** to the first applicant from each locality with references.

Foreign countries having taken steps to re-open their ports for the reception of American pork, also the fact that farmers have sent all sizes to the butcher, has already caused a lively demand for brood sows and pigs for breeders.

They see their mistake, and that the raising of a superior breed of hogs that have a vigorous and strong constitution, with consequent ability to resist the attacks of disease, will in the near future take rank with the most profitable industries.

First come first served on a pair on time and an Agency.

Address by first mail, and secure first chance.

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We will furnish 20 designs for beds of flowering plants, with full instructions showing names of varieties and number of plants required to plant each bed, and the time of sowing, and the distance apart, and the care and taste, not wealth, to possess elegant beds of flowers. Think of the bed at summer for a few cents! These designs mailed, with Vick's *Floral Guide*, for 1891, on receipt of 10 cents. Now is the time to plan. Send at once.

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This Fresh Tomato is the largest ever offered. The engraving shows a tomato, grown by O. H. Foster, Florence, N. Y. Color greenish-white, pulp tender, sweet and delicious. The only tomato that can be raised in early spring, earliness and quality. Each wine sealed with a mark label. Send for further information. Agents wanted.

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Owing to the hearty support and the large trade we have received from members of the Farmers Alliance, we will hereafter allow a 5 PER CENT DISCOUNT on all orders received from members of the Farmers Alliance. To secure this discount in sending us orders always have the Secretary or President of your Lodge certify to your membership.

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Words cannot express the known success that our World Renowned "Murray" \$5.95 Buggies have met with. They have stood the test of rough roads, hard climate and tough driving, and now.

**STAND AT THE HEAD** without a known competitor.

**BEWARE OF IMITATORS** of our Murray Buggies and Harness. See that your Buggy has our name plate and guarantee on it, and

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We would be much pleased to receive a trial order, and compare the quality of our goods with those you formerly used, and we are sure you will feel more satisfied. In dealing with our House you BUY DIRECT AT WHOLESALE PRICES, and save the Retailer's large profit.

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Large and Complete stock of Fancy and Staple Groceries, Sugars, Syrups, Molasses, Teas, Coffees, Spices, &c.

We would be pleased to receive a small sample, and compare the quality of our Groceries with what you have been using. We guarantee to please you, and you will obtain Fair Goods and Full Weight. In dealing with our House you

Buy direct at Wholesale Prices and save the Middle-man's Exorbitant Profits.

We obtain through Freight Rates, which you will find very reasonable, and that you can have GROCERIES TO ADVANTAGE IN PHILADELPHIA. We fill all orders received from the Bonded Business Agent, when under Seal of the Alliance. When the Trade Agent incloses with the order a certificate signed by the officers, certifying that he is the authorized Bonded Agent of the Sub-Alliance, and the goods will be shipped on 30 days' time—when you have received the goods and have examined them and found them satisfactory, you pay for them in 30 days. We shall be pleased to furnish you with full prices on any goods in our line of business. We endeavor to answer all inquiries promptly and satisfactorily.

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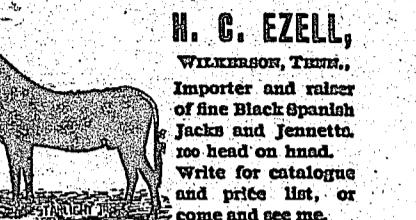
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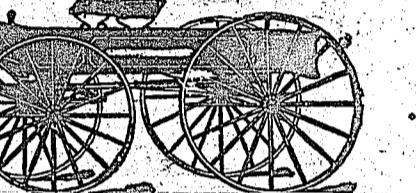


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Jacks and Jennetts,  
no head on hand.  
Write for catalogue  
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come and see me.

THE FLORENCE WAGON CO.,  
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as the late

ATLANTA WAGON COMPANY,  
OF ATLANTA, GA.

Makers of the celebrated ATLANTA wagons, are now manufacturing and offering for sale at their mammoth new works at Florence, Alabama, one of the very best one and two horse wagons on wheels, nothing but the finest material goes into the construction of the "FLORENCE" wagons, and the standard is consequently of the highest.



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E. T. V. & G. R. R. Eight miles from Macon.

IMPORTED SHETLAND PONIES,  
REGISTERED BERNKIRCH PIGS.

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Of best Butter Families.

Handsome Jersey Bull Calves, thoroughbred and high grade Jersey Heifers for sale.

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We speak from personal knowledge, as we have dealt with this firm.—[Ed.]

\$15.00 to \$30 per week salary for advertising and selling our publications. For one year, \$15.00 to \$30 per week salary, plus \$10 to \$35 per day. For annual full participants address, with stamp, GAVASCOPE MFG. CO., Chicago.

# THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION

DEVOTED TO SOCIAL, FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL ECONOMY.

VOL. 4.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MARCH 14, 1891.

No. 26.

degree in this country. While in 1790 only 3 per cent of our people were inhabitants of cities of 8,000 inhabitants and upward, the proportion in 1890 is at least 30 per cent. This is equal to the ratio of the leading European countries which possess far greater average density of population. We have an area of 3,000,000 square miles to spread over, but the financial discriminations against farming, added to the natural tendency, are crowding us into the cities at a rate altogether too rapid and unhealthy.

A bulletin just issued by the Census Office giving the population of Massachusetts by minor civil divisions illustrates American urban development in a singular manner

Massachusetts, be it known, has long been the most densely peopled

State in the Union, and may therefore be fairly compared with the European countries, since in number of inhabitants to the square mile it is exceeded only by England, Holland and Belgium. The Bay State now has 2,238,941 inhab-

itants, of whom 1,564,931 or 70 per cent, reside in forty-seven cities and towns of 8,000 people or upward.

This ratio is in excess of anything known in Europe, though allowance must be made for the fact that Massachusetts is

chiefly a manufacturing and commercial State, as the soil is too sterile to permit of agriculture on

an extensive scale. Nevertheless, this should obtain among that class of our citizens, and in their efforts to better these conditions the country is abandoned for the city. The time has been when almost the exact reverse of the present situation was true.

When, in 1790, the first census of the United States was taken and it was found that only three per cent of the population lived in towns of 8,000 inhabitants or upward, it looked as if the Americans were destined to be a rural race. Mr. Hamilton, less simple and democratic in his tastes than

Mr. Jefferson, lamented that we were evidently to remain a nation of farmers, but he would not have made the complaint could he have foreseen the future.

During the present century it has been the tendency in all civil

ized countries for urban communi-

ties to grow much faster than the rural. This has been very marked

in Europe, but the movement of population has manifested itself in

that manner to an extraordinary

while with only 63,000,000 inhabitants we fall but one behind.

Mr. Hamilton feared that we should be farmers only; now it

seems that we should apprehend

ceasing to be farmers at all.

A stalwart yeomanry is the true bulwark of a nation. It has been

shown again and again in history

that the masses of people in great

cities are volatile and unstable,

lacking in patriotism and unfit to

support a wise and pure govern-

ment. The city may be the best

place to use them, but the finest

types of muscle and brain are almost

invariably furnished by the country.

The source of supply should be maintained as large as possible.

We should consume the interest

only, and not draw upon our capi-

tal. If the country is drained to

populate the cities decay is sure to

set in.

The only method by which this

condition can be remedied is to

place the occupation of the farmer

on an equal footing with all others.

Grant to agriculture the same privi-

leges and benefits that are given to

are for two years, it would give

\$540,639,735.96 for one year, which

divided among 63,000,000 people

makes a per capita expense of

\$8.58. This amounts to over \$42

for an average family. These fig-

ures are appalling, and may well

be considered as an evidence of

national weakness and retrogression.

In 1860 the expense of govern-

ment was about \$2.16 per capita.

What causes have arisen to

increase that expense four-fold?

Is it done in the interest of good

government, or for the benefit of

the people? Certainly not; it is

solely in interest of corrupt meth-

ods, and goes into the pockets of

the broker and political manipula-

tor. Let every member of the

Alliance examine the following

ance, all of which have been authorized, but no provision has been made for their payment. The expenditures necessary to complete them after the fiscal year 1892 shall have expired, and for which no appropriation has been made, will not fall below \$75,000,000. This vast sum must, of course, be met by future Congresses. I have not, Mr. Speaker, included the expenditures that may be incurred under the act "To provide for ocean-mail service between the United States and foreign ports, and to promote commerce," by which the Postmaster General is authorized and empowered to enter into contracts for a term not less than five nor more than ten years in duration, for carrying the mails on the ocean, and to pay for such service, to first class ships, not exceeding \$4 a mile; to second-class ships, not exceeding \$2 a mile; to third-class ships, not exceeding \$1 a mile, and to fourth-class ships, not exceeding 66 $\frac{2}{3}$  cents a mile on each outward-bound voyage; nor have I included the bounty to be annually paid for fifteen years to certain producers of sugar. No one can approximate the yearly cost of this service and of this bounty; but one thing is certain beyond all question; that succeeding Congresses must appropriate to meet the requirements of these two acts until they shall have been repealed. Nor are these the only legacies which the majority in this House will leave to those who are to follow them. During the first session of this Congress they created 1,354 new offices at an annual specified cost of \$1,450,348, and also additional new offices, without specifying them, whose salaries aggregate the further sum of \$1,446,500. During the same session they only abolished 121 offices, which cost annually \$1,749,193, and omitted other offices which covered an expenditure of \$35,700. At the present session they have provided for more than 300 new offices on the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill, and also for very many new places on the agricultural, the District of Columbia, the Indian, and the diplomatic and consular appropriation bills. By special acts they have created nine additional United States judgeships, at \$6,000 each; a Territorial judgeship, at \$3,000; and three judgeships for the private land claims court, at \$5,000 each. They have also established during this session the office of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, with a salary of \$4,000; and they have increased the salary of one judge from \$4,500 to \$5,000; the salaries of ten judges from \$4,000 to \$5,000 each; of fifty-two judges from \$3,500 to \$6,000 each; and of four judges for the District of Columbia from \$4,000 to \$5,000 each. Truly, they have not been forgetful of themselves and of their friends. Their appropriations if expended will certainly bankrupt the Treasury by the 1st of July, 1892, unless other means of revenue be devised. Their authorization of bounties and contracts without appropriating for them, and their increase of offices and of salaries, will be burdensome to future Congresses. Mr. Speaker, I will not further delay the House. The facts and figures which I have given speak for themselves and should admonish the people never again to entrust the Republican party with a majority in the House of Representatives.

## AN OUTRAGE.

The New York Herald of the first inst. publishes an article from its Washington correspondent about the Hon. Jerry Simpson that is a gratuitous insult to its intelligent readers. For once, the Herald has accepted and published an article from some cheap scribbler who seeks to pander to the disgusting and depraved taste of the modern American dude. The whole article is filled with camouflage lies about the honorable gentlemen so gross and absurd that he can well afford to treat them with silent contempt. It

sneers at everything but the effeminate thing that wears one eyeglass, carries a huge cane by the middle, walks half bent, wearing a number three hat and a thirteen shoe, with a number six collar two inches high. This is the ideal of the senseless idiot that wrote the article. It is a matter of surprise, however, that it should be accepted by the Herald and tendered its readers. It is humiliating to its readers that the Herald should form such a low estimate of their reading appetite.

## ALLIANCE MEETING AT WASHINGTON.

When THE ECONOMIST was launched upon its career of reform education two years ago, a western contemporary suggested to the administration that it were better to hang the editors and prohibit the Alliance from coming nearer to the capital. Such precautions would now be too late, and if the present administration should entertain any feeling that the Alliance has been at all troublesome, it can be safely predicted that that which succeeds will meet a like influence of much greater force, challenging the partisan enforcement of the laws. If any feeling of animosity toward the Alliance exists in the present administration, it must have been forcibly aroused when Local Citizens Alliance No. 4 met at Grand Army Hall Tuesday evening, March 3, and heard addresses from three members of the Farmers Alliance who have recently been highly honored by the people of their respective States. After the demands of the local body had been read and explained by Mr. Paul T. Bowen, Hon. W. A. Peffer, Senator from Kansas, talked sound Alliance principles at some length. As it was the first address of its kind in Washington, the Senator's speech was a sort of an eye-opener to the people who heard him. It dealt with issues and principles new to many, and by its forceful presentation served to convince that there was both reason and purpose in the farmers' movement. When Senator Kyle, of South Dakota, followed and gave assurance that though there was no conference between the people of his State and those of Kansas, other than the promulgation of Alliance principles, the object lesson was complete, and those present who had seen the light themselves, but had not believed it possible to educate the people up to demand justice, gladly acknowledged that reason for discouragement was removed. The next speaker, Hon. Jerry Simpson, was at his best, and made a most happy speech, published accounts of which in the papers convey little

idea of its real merits. Altogether this was an event in the local politics of Washington, because for perhaps the first time in the history of the city the people heard answered conclusively the questions most often heard here, is it possible to rebuke party methods? and, can a new party be formed on a basis that will succeed?

THE following is going the rounds of the press, and seems to indicate that the demand for free coinage "will not down."

Louisville, Ky., February 23.—The Times to-day publishes a letter from Senator Blackburn to Col. John C. Noble, Paducah, Ky., under date of Washington, February 14, in which the Senator says:

"In the light of the publication of Mr. Cleveland's letter antagonizing his party upon the silver question, I do not believe there is a Democratic member of the Senate who would favor his nomination for the Presidency, or who believes that it would be possible to elect him in '92 if nominated. No organization is effected or attempted here hostile to him, but there is now but one opinion as to his lack of availability. I have no personal objection to Mr. Cleveland in the world, but I do not believe that any man can be elected President in '92 who is opposed to free silver coinage. The people have been trifled with long enough upon this subject. The truth is that for twenty-five years past New York has never furnished a Democratic leader who has not been in thorough accord with Wall street and at variance with the masses of the people. This was as true of Mr. Tilden in former years as it is to-day true of Mr. Cleveland. I have longed to see the day when the Democrats might elect a President of this country without paying the tribute that New York always levied. I think that time is at hand. I have no favorite candidate, but only insist that he shall be a fair and honest representative of Democratic sentiment."

## FREIGHT TRAFFIC ON THE LAKES.

The report of the Census Bureau gives the following information regarding lake traffic:

For the purpose of more clearly showing the nature of this commerce, the tonnage has been divided into four classes, viz.: Products of agriculture; products of mines and quarries; other products; manufactures, miscellaneous, and other commodities. The products of mines and quarries give 42-22 per cent of the total shipping industry, lumber gives 23-84 per cent, and the products of agriculture 16-50 per cent, leaving a very small margin for miscellaneous carriage, showing that the shipping interest on the Great Lakes is confined almost exclusively to the three great staples mentioned.

The excess of shipments over receipts in the class of mines and quarries was 894,800 tons, and of agriculture, 366,330 tons, while the excess of receipts over shipment of lumber was 1,508,859 tons, and of manufactures and miscellaneous merchandise, 377,554 tons. Including all the traffic on the Great Lakes, 669,158 tons of all classes of merchandise were received in excess of shipments.

This report shows that the distance for which freight on the Great Lakes is carried is 566 miles. From this it appears that the total ton mileage on the Great Lakes for the season of 1889 amounts to 15,518,360 ton miles. The aggregate ton mileage of railways for the year ending June 30, 1889, was 68,727,223,146, which shows that the ton mileage of the lakes is equal to 22.6 per cent of the total ton mileage of railways in the United States. In no other way could the relative importance of lake commerce be more effectively shown.

The chief point of interest in this exhibit is the fact that three commodities, coal, iron, ore, and lumber, comprise 75 per cent of the total cargo tonnage of the lakes. If to these com-

modities be added corn, 82 per cent of the total cargo is accounted for, and if to the commodities above named there were added wheat and mill products, there would remain scarcely 10 per cent of total traffic. It is, then, the simplicity of this lake commerce which is its chief characteristic.

*Commodities. Amt in tons.*

Aggregate ..... 27,460,260

Class I.—Products of Agriculture:

Wheat.....	969,150
Corn.....	1,929,614
Other grain.....	503,117
Mill products.....	992,066
All other farm products.....	112,607

Total ..... 4,506,554

Class II.—Products of mines and quarries:

Coal.....	6,105,799
Iron ore.....	7,677,107
Stone (all kinds).....	311,113
Salt.....	296,513
Other products of mines and quarries.....	58,117

Total ..... 14,448,551

Class III.—Other products:

Animal products.....	64,728
Lumber.....	6,857,257
Total.....	6,921,985

Class IV.—Manufactures, miscellaneous merchandise and other commodities:

1,583,170	
FREIGHT TONNAGE PASSING THROUGH SAINT MARY'S FALLS CANAL DURING THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1890.	
Coal.....	1,894,473
Copper.....	36,086
Flour.....	254,088
Wheat.....	583,794
Grain (other than wheat).....	76,065
Iron ore.....	4,404,935
Pig and manufactured iron.....	72,163
Salt.....	31,164
Silver ore.....	5,905
Lumber.....	541,591
Building stone.....	40,829
Wool.....	2,597
Hides.....	455
Miscellaneous and unclassified.....	344,425
Total.....	8,288,580

STATEMENT OF FREIGHT TONNAGE PASSING THROUGH THE DETROIT RIVER FOR THE SEASON OF 1889.

Barley.....	38,294
Coal.....	5,313,419
Corn.....	1,777,750
Flour.....	655,395
Iron ore.....	6,610,293
Lumber.....	2,545,792
Laths.....	23,699
Oats.....	262,896
Pig iron.....	94,337
Salt.....	47,737
Shingles.....	27,668
Wheat.....	824,451
Other grain.....	105,412
Miscellaneous.....	1,390,717
Total.....	19,717,860

## OBITUARY.

The Fifty-first Congress has adjourned and the people can now draw a long breath of relief. Never before in the history of this country has such a travesty upon popular government been enacted. Never before in any Congress have

jobs, corruption and profligacy held such complete sway. The substance of the people has been devoured and their rights and demands ignored in a manner that would endanger a monarchy. A careful search through the whole line of enactments, and not one single piece of legislation can be found in the interest of the farmer. Wherever and whenever a new office could be created it was done.

When an increase of salary was

asked it was granted. When a job was proposed it was pushed through, and the whole session reeked and ran over with pollution and political trickery. Precedents were established that will be an abiding curse to the nation and furnish an ample excuse for future congresses to misrepresent and thwart the expressed will of the people. The whole time of congress was given to strengthen the administration and furnish the funds out of which to ruin the campaign of 1892. May the people of this distressed country be saved in the future from the scourge of another such Congress.

Judge R. W. Hughes in Richmond State.

Five or six years ago, when I made earnest study of the statistics, it was estimated by men learned in the subject, that the obligations extant in the world in the form of national, municipal, corporate and like bonds, other than private, amounted to a probable total of \$35,000,000,000.

For the last twenty years the world has enjoyed a general and prosperous peace. This period has witnessed the greatest and most rapid development of enterprise, invention, industry, and commerce ever known. It has been a period of unbounded energy and adventure; and the bonded obligations of the world must have increased in the last six years to forty thousand millions of dollars. 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 the money most convenient for the use of nine-tenths of the human race. The necessities of mankind at large forbid and prevent its demonetization.

The payment of this vast amount would probably not be very depressing but for three circumstances. One of these is that many of the bonds bearing the interest were originally put out for not more than seventy-five cents on the dollar. Another circumstance is that the great bulk of these bonds are held in counties where gold is the only legal tender, while most of the rest, though payable where gold is not the sole tender, are made payable in gold on their face. The third circumstance is that, under the influence of the latter state of things, which creates a violent abnormal demand for gold, that metal has been

for nearly twenty years at a premium, fluctuating somewhat, but now standing at about 20 per cent above the general level of prices, which is the real par. It is true that market reports and quotations fail to show this premium, and treat gold as the standard of prices, while the money of the "capitalistic classes" demanded for interest on bonds is at a premium of 20 per cent.

The above holds good everywhere. The two old parties are willing to concede to such demands as can be manipulated to seem one thing and mean another. But when it comes to a frank, open reform measure that can only be used for one purpose, and that one a source of benefit to labor in production, the result is the same as shown by the Missouri Legislature. The next legislature in that State will pass a different resolution, without doubt, as the Alliance is about done with such treatment.

BOOK NOTICE.

THE INCESTUOUS ALLIANCE, by A. C. Houston, of West Virginia, who recently contributed a very able article in THE ECONOMIST upon the sub-treasury plan. In this valuable little book the author clearly and forcibly sets forth the legal principles involved in the great Alliance movement and develops in a logical and conclusive manner the dangers that attend the bestowing of State powers and prerogatives upon individuals and collections of individuals. Every Alliance man should read it. It is a twenty page pamphlet published by Robert Clark & Co., of Cincinnati. Price not stated.

The remedy is as difficult as the disease is threatening. The free coining of silver in the mints of the United States is but one of the necessary measures of relief, but though a trenchant, it would not be a sufficient one. It would operate as potentially as any local

## SILVER COINAGE.

A Discussion of the Advantages of a Bimetallic Basis.

Judge R. W. Hughes in Richmond State.

in which gold alone is legal tender; 188,000,000 are in countries where gold and silver are legal money, and 172,000,000 are in countries where silver alone is the money of the inhabitants.

Silver, therefore, is the money of the masses in countries holding nine hundred and sixty millions of people, of the ten hundred and fifty millions that constitute the population of the earth. Thus is silver, with colossal emphasis and imperial prerogative, the money of the world.

The result is that the value and prices of property, of products, and of labor everywhere still retain their original relations with silver; they remain with silver; they adjust themselves automatically on the basis of silver as metal. 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 the money most convenient for the use of nine-tenths of the human race. The necessities of mankind at large forbid and prevent its demonetization.

It must be remembered that this country is largely a creditor country of debts payable in gold, and any change which entails a rise in the price of commodities generally—that is to say, a diminution of the purchasing power of gold would be to our disadvantage. Two-thirds of the British Parliament are said to be recalcitrant on the sordid policy thus justified; two-thirds of the English people are confessedly so, but the bankers and the "capitalistic class" which they represent are opposed to change, and that power is mighty enough in England to thwart all attempts at remedial legislation.

Germany is even more inexorable than England. There government dominates the popular will, and directs private as well as public policy in finance. It deprived silver of the privilege of the mint and of the legal-tender function in 1873, not only because it was a creditor of other nations by many thousand millions of dollars, but because it desired to cripple the power of France, whose people are the richest in the world, and of the United States, who were, in aid of boundless undeveloped resources, the largest borrowers in the world. Germany demands of us gold interest, strives to discredit our silver, and denounces and excludes our meat.

There is no probability of a voluntary change of monetary policy by Germany and Great Britain. They will persist in it until catastrophe comes. And sooner or later it will come. Their bankers may dominate parliaments and executives at home and in America for years in the future, but earthquakes and cyclones are unchainable. Time rights all wrongs. I hope it will be patient, long suffering, and slow to strike, but it will strike. It acts like the mills of the gods—slowly but surely.

I return to the subject of free coinage. The legal money available for circulation in the United States is now stated by the Treasury Department to be \$1,500,000,000, or \$1,498,072,709, which is an over-statement. The production of silver in the United States last

measure is capable of doing to cut down the premium on gold—that curse of our times. But complete remedy can be supplied only by the co-operation of Great Britain and Germany, the two countries holding the great bulk of bonds of the world. Those are the true sources of effective relief. Full and final relief can not be obtained in permanency until those countries cease to demand gold exclusively for their dues, and consent to accept in some form and proportion the money which measures the wages of the laborers, the products of the industries, and the properties of the million.

But there is no present probability that the great powers will make any concession of their legal rights. The last utterance of Great Britain on the subject was the declaration of the Royal Commission, which recently made exhaustive inquiry into the subject and took proof, mountain high, of the necessity of abandoning the monometallic policy. That declaration was in these words. (See page 90, part second of final report):

"It must be remembered that this country is largely a creditor country of debts payable in gold, and any change which entails a rise in the price of commodities generally—that is to say, a diminution of the purchasing power of gold would be to our disadvantage." Two-thirds of the British Parliament are said to be recalcitrant on the sordid policy thus justified; two-thirds of the English people are confessedly so, but the bankers and the "capitalistic class" which they represent are opposed to change, and that power is mighty enough in England to thwart all attempts at remedial legislation.

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## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

year was \$64,646,494 in coinage value, or \$46,850,000 in metallic value.

Congress has recently passed a law authorizing the purchase and coinage by the government of 4,500,000 ounces of silver a month, costing about \$4,250,000 at present prices. This would be \$51,000 a year, or about as much as the yearly product of our own mines. To that, so far as our own silver is concerned, its free coinage would add very little to the money circulation of our country. But why should the government buy domestic silver at the metal price of \$1.05 an ounce, convert it into coined dollars worth \$1.29, and make a profit off its own producers of 24 cents on the dollar. This part of its policy is mean and unworthy of a great government. Better and more honorable far would it be to coin all silver of domestic production and make no charge, if charge at all, but the cost of coining. But the policy is maintained for an object. The object is to perpetuate the present premium on gold. The policy makes the government the most potential agent for holding down silver, which measures the value of all staple products to a metal price in order to perpetuate a large premium on gold.

As to the free coinage of silver, not from domestic mines, very little of it comes into the United States from other countries than Mexico, and the States south of her. In fact very few other countries ever have silver to spare. The imports of silver in 1888 from Mexico and elsewhere were \$21,592,062; and the exports to all countries, \$29,995,222. So that we lost of our own production, \$8,303,160. For the year 1890 the loss of silver from excess of exports over imports was nearly the same; that is to say, was \$8,545,455. It is plain, therefore, that if free coinage should not affect the movement of silver there would be no result from opening our mints to metal of foreign production, and really it is doubtful whether such a measure would prevent a continuation of our loss of several million dollars of silver every year.

It is at this point, however, that the bondholding or "capitalistic class," come in with hysterics. They declare that opening our mints to all silver will make our country the dumping ground of the world's white metal. I think it would be fortunate for our own country if the world had a surplus of silver to send us, and should dump it in large quantities into our laps. But the truth is that the world has no silver to spare. Speculative adventure would undoubtedly for a while engage in the minting of such silver as it could buy up here and there, now and then, for the sake of the profit that might be expected between the cost of the metal and the legal value of the coin. But there is no great amount of silver available in that way, and speculation in it would be short lived. While it lasted, our own country would cease to lose silver by exportation, and would enjoy a sensible benefit from the increase in our circulation which the dumping process would bring us.

That we need an increase of circulation is plain. The most prosperous people in the world are the French, and the French financiers are and have long been the most enlightened in Christendom. In France the money in circulation is within a few cents of \$60 a head. In the United States we have not half that ratio of circulation. For \$65,000,000 of people we have a circulation of only \$1,500,000,000, if that much, or only \$23 a head. Even in England, par excellence a government of the capitalistic class, they have a circulation equal to \$1 a head. If we could run up ours to \$40 per capita, or to the gross amount of twenty-five hundred millions, there would be great prosperity and magical relief. This would require a thousand million of dollars to be added to the present circulation. But the effect of free coinage were not certain to be a cutting down of the premium on gold there would be no hysterics in America, no pressure from England, no threats from Germany.

Opposition to free coinage comes almost wholly from the banking class. There are great men in that class, and some of the most noted of these are advocates of the bimetallic policy. The elder Rothschild, a great man, an earnest patriot, and a profound financier, counseled strongly against the new departure suggested by Soetbier and inaugurated in 1873 by Bismarck, and foreboded calamitous results from its adoption by Germany and from a persistence in it by England. The best writers of France and of the continent, the brightest minds in England, Mr. Goschen one of them, are fervidly in favor of the bimetallic policy—the equality of gold and silver in the banks, in the mints, and under the laws of legal tender. And though the mass of bankers in New York and Boston, two loyal colonies of London, are clamorous for the exclusion and degradation of silver, still there are notable and noble exceptions in both cities who deeply deplore the course which the majority of their class pursue on the subject.

The free coinage of silver other than of domestic production in the mints of the United States, would scarcely do more than keep our home product at home, and, as a means to that end, is a desirable measure. If it should have the further much-to-be-desired effect of attracting to this country the scattered lots of silver which speculators might find here and there in Europe, we should be gainers in the increase of our home circulation. If that could be carried up to \$30, \$40, or \$50 per head of population, then the masses of our people would gradually become moderate capitalists, and would, like the French people, eagerly and easily take up at home all bonds which we now habitually send to Europe for sale.

Another objection to free coinage is the prediction that it will drive gold to a premium, and this is urged with countenance suggesting something dire like the coming of the Pale Horse of the Apocalypse, all hell in his train. But gold is already at a premium and has been so ever since Chancellor Bismarck undertook, like Canute and Mrs. Partington did the Atlantic Ocean, to abate silver as the world's money in 1873. Sometimes

erous, glorious France, sister republics, cobimetallists.

Regulation and Control of School Books.  
BY J. M. GREENWOOD, SUPERINTENDENT  
CITY SCHOOLS, KANSAS CITY, MO.

the expense has been less than 40 cents per pupil, whereas in the case of Springfield, Mass., a year ago, it reached 80 cents per pupil by the "Free Book Plan," being adapted to any State should, therefore, have the following elements:

1. It should provide for adoption by local officers and uniformity for each school.
2. It should provide for contract and sale by public officers, or for a contract and assignment of the same to some local bookseller, under conditions satisfactory to the board and to the people.
3. It should provide for the continuance of the adopted books for at least five years.

Under such conditions competition would be active, constant, and the people would have the decision of such matters as should be left to their control.

The Prevailing Question Discussed.  
BY H. H. HERRING, SAN ANTONIO, TEX.

I notice some of our Alliance brethren of the North seem to think we Alliance men of the South wish to uphold the old Democratic party. There may be some, but very few I hope, and they are those only who do not read THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST or their State organ, nor attend their Alliance meetings regularly and learn the principles which the Order teaches, of which they claim to be members, and no doubt there are some such members in the North who will stand by their old parties for the same reasons. If I understand the true meaning of the term democracy right, every true Alliance man is a democrat in principle, otherwise he could not endorse the principles of the Alliance, a government of, by and for the people. The old Democratic party has left these principles so far that it would not recognize them if it were to meet them in the street in open daylight, and the old Republican party is in the same fix, favoring only the already too much favored class and ignoring the laboring people. Being a Texan by birth, I expect to be called a Southern Democrat, but I am ready and more than willing to clasp hands with my Northern brother, let both old parties go and vote for Alliance principles, which are dearer to me than all other principles known to me on earth without any exceptions whatever. Therefore I write these lines to caution against any over-hasty action. One step now taken, either too soon or in the wrong direction, is sure to be disastrous, and will blast all hopes for reform through the ballot for the present at least. I myself, do candidly believe we can elect a third party ticket in 1892, but I am not posted enough nor in a position to form an intelligent opinion, and therefore leave this matter with our leaders who have the matter in hand and are better able to judge aright, but I do sincerely hope they will be very cautious, investigate thoroughly and use every means possible to ascertain the wish of the people.

The American people should always be free to determine their own taxation. This method of supply by public taxation has been mis-called the "Free Book System," and great claims have been made for this method as being cheaper than any other. This claim has been sustained only by an absolute misrepresentation of the average expense of purchase in the open market. It has proven that under the direct purchase plan, or indifferent, cheap or dear, can be obtained by any locality desiring them at fair prices without the necessity of monopoly law. A law adapted to any State should, therefore, have the following elements:

1. It should provide for adoption by local officers and uniformity for each school.
2. It should provide for contract and sale by public officers, or for a contract and assignment of the same to some local bookseller, under conditions satisfactory to the board and to the people.
3. It should provide for the continuance of the adopted books for at least five years.

The objections to furnishing school books free, are first that it will result in extravagance and wastefulness; as it is not human nature to take good care of property that costs the user nothing; second, that it discourages independence and individuality. It is a step in the wrong direction. The best results to humanity are secured by laws that presume that every citizen is normally capable of supporting himself and providing for his family, and that interposes public charity, only when the individual fails through illness, misfortune, or congenital worthlessness, to measure up to the common standard of efficiency. The aggregate cost of education is reduced by our public free school system, and at the same time the opportunity is made very nearly universal. But there is no more economy in the proposition for the State to furnish text books for the scholars there would be in the State furnishing them the clothes in which to appear. The blessing that costs nothing is not the one most highly appreciated.

The ideal law with respect to school supplies is the one that brings the purchaser and producer nearest to one another, and prohibits unnecessary changes oftener than once in five years. The least possible intervention of official meddling, public taxation, or official handling, will be found cheapest. The more open the competition, the better will be the results.

The American people are capable of self-government, and this principle of self-government is efficient in local government as in larger organizations. The people in each district, in each township, and in each county are as capable of deciding what they want as are their representatives when assembled in State or in Congress. Under existing conditions, as before stated, the smallest school district can purchase as cheaply as the larger one, and there seems to be no good reason whatever for the enactment of any law looking to the purchase under contract for State or county supplies, on the plea of a saving in expense. At no time and under no circumstances will it be possible to establish a monopoly in the supply of school books, except by direct act of legislation, contracting for one series for a State and excluding all others. If all the publishers in the United States were to be joined to-day, new ones would rise up tomorrow to fight the combination. American people will not submit to any continuous domination from monopolies, and the school book publishers are fully aware of this fact. Open competition, a free appeal to the people in each community, a fair examination of qualities, and a candid comparison of prices are what every honest school book publisher desires. Wherever the matter of contract or adoption has been removed far from the people interested, it has been found that price alone becomes the ruling element, and quality or adaptation to use is ignored. School books, good, bad,

come from. When a third party ticket is nominated then stand by it, every honest man all over the country, let no line be broken, sink or swim. I glory in the courage and firmness of our brethren in Kansas, they did well, but this Kansas victory is liable to make some of our brethren over zealous.

They think because Kansas succeeded every other State would do the same. This may prove a mistake, the people in Kansas may have felt the oppression more than we in Texas or elsewhere now do, and therefore were more willing for a change, although it will not be very long before we are all where Kansas was last year. One word to our leaders and I am done. In time of peace prepare for war. Now is the time to work and prepare for 1892, and you will have your hands full. Be cautious, do your work well, do it thoroughly, guard against any and all possible mistakes and the victory is ours, and you will have the gratitude of all our hearts and hearts innumerable, yet unborn. Your memory will live and be green when the gold which now oppresses and the marble of which your movements shall be built, shall have crumbled away and be known no more.

## The Silver Lining.

BY MRS. BETTY GAY, COLUMBUS, TEX.

In reading THE ECONOMIST of February 21 it makes me feel so much encouraged, I am like the brother from Mississippi. I want to get my pen and ink and tell those brothers all over this broad land how proud I am of their manhood and independence of sentiment. That ECONOMIST is the very best issue that has been published, and I thought they were all good; it shows the silver lining for which we have been working and praying for many long and dreary years. At times it seemed that the billows would sweep us under, the tide of corruption was so strong; but, thank God, for I do thank Him for giving our people strength and courage to breast the storm, and now we are in smooth water, be careful, and all be in line, that we can land safe without another breaker's surf to destroy us. Look, my brethren, what Kansas has done. Did she do what she did in the old parties? No. Where, then? By telling the people the truth, and they acted accordingly. And what did it cost, then? The campaign fund was \$1,200; they only paid that for the truth; that was all. Do not be afraid of the truth; it will not injure any one, except those who want to rob you, and that class will set up a howl as though you had no right. Give us a third party, or anything that will give us food and raiment, and pay us for honest toil. Have the Republicans done it? No! Have the Democrats? No! What, then, keep on supporting a lot of robbers to fill high places! I for one say no; and any man that will say stick to the old parties after they have been robbing them for the last twenty-five years, is a coward, and deserves to be robbed, for he has lost his manhood.

Our northern brethren are on the right track; also, East, South, and West, all are falling into line. Brethren, all of you in this fair

Rden of ours, do not turn back, for you have no more than half gained the victory. Just keep a steady march, and all will have cause to rejoice over the victory that you have won with hayseed in your hair. I love Kansas and her people, and they deserve it; they have won it. Let us have a people's President in 1892; it makes no difference where he is from, North, East, South, or West, so he is the man for the place. One that is most worthy to represent and care for the whole people, and let us have the sub-treasury bill. Do not say so much about national banks, they will die a natural death, and then so many people will not be so frightened, for many think the country could not exist without banks, so do not frighten them unnecessarily, and they will not be hurt, but benefited by the bill. If we have enough members in Congress after the 4th of March, the people ought to have an extra session called, and let us have the sub-treasury bill right away. Why wait when the power is in the people? If this is a government of the people, for the people, and by the people, why not demand relief, for the men in Congress are not the people's representatives, nor were they sent there by the people; bodele and mean whisky sent most of them there, and they ought to be made to obey some or the demands of the people. Brothers, I appeal to you, keep up the fight, and let us hear from more of you through THE ECONOMIST. I am with you; through the fight be men, and demand your rights in the Union.

First to Thine Own Self Be True.  
BY ROBT. H. TYLER, PRINCE WILLIAM,  
VIRGINIA.

At the risk of being suspected of *cacoethes scribendi*, we must reply by way of explanation to Bro. Detweiler, of Kansas, "a Kansas Felix Grundy," and Brother McDougall, of Michigan. We think it unjust in the former to charge us with hypersolicitude for the Democratic party, and unkind in the latter to suggest by subtle innuendo that we are striving to bring the Alliance into the Democratic party; after we had denied and severely condemned such unprincipled trickery, and had assured our brethren that we wrote only for the good of the Alliance, as seen by us from our Southern standpoint. There shall be no bitterness in our reply. We have too much gratitude in our hearts for being preserved from the untold miseries of the iniquitous force bill, and for the expunging from the statute books of Kansas the law ostracising our ex-confederate comrades, which we know to be due to the splendid efforts of our Alliance brethren in the great Northwest. Brethren, we admire your indomitable pluck that has carried you on to victory, but as the interests involved are so deeply connected with all we hold dear, we must remember that "discretion is the better part of valor." As much as we admire your successful tactics, were we of the South to attempt to follow them at this time it would eventuate in utter rout and ruin. It is worse than folly for officers to go for-

ward with propitious dash when the rank and file are not in a position to follow. The Alliance in Virginia is scarcely two years old. Prior to that time our people had been taught and firmly believed that all our woes were directly the result of pernicious Republican legislation. Meanwhile Democratic leaders were promising us relief from all our ills with a change of administration. The tariff was accepted as the "Iliad of our woes." It is only of recent date that our leading farmers have been thoroughly convinced that a contracted currency is the cancer worm that is sapping the vitals of industry.

Brethren, it takes time and labor to eradicate life-long prejudices. We have hoped that we could get redress by the old parties awakening to a sense of justice. We have recited our wrongs and formulated our measures for redress. The true position of the Virginia Alliance at least is to educate and organize and await development. The typical Virginian is eminently conservative, but when he takes a stand for his rights he is not easily dislodged. While it would be violent and sudden death to the Alliance in Virginia to attempt a third party movement to day, yet the attitude of sundry Democrats and Republicans in Congress, Cleveland's letter dovetailing and coming in so opportunely with the interests of Wall street, the hoisting of the white flag by certain Democratic leaders, who are pronounced bimetalists, but who say they will stick to the Democratic party even though it has a gold platform and Cleveland as its nominee, have caused the party harness to hang more loosely on our long-suffering farmers and laborers than it has done for "lo these many years." Brethren, have patience, and above all exercise toward your Virginia Alliance brethren that beautiful charity that "thinketh no evil." We think the Democratic party of Virginia, at its next convention, will give us great support. If it does not, then, in the language of Bro. Ellzey, "It will behove us to see what we shall do with our votes, and it will be in order for them to see what they will do without them." Brethren, we want no third party at all, if ever, but we are not trifling. We are in earnest.

A Voice from South Dakota.  
BY S. H. GOODFELLOW, WHITE, S. D.  
Glad words of encouragement and success are being sent all over the United States through the medium of THE ECONOMIST, which should be read by every citizen of the United States. Very meager reports have I seen as yet from South Dakota in your columns, and she was left out entirely in your article "How the votes were cast," and your tables of comparison in issue of January 24.

I wish to see South Dakota take her proper place in your reports, and receive due recognition which would place her in the van in this reform movement. The third-party movement is no untried experiment in this new commonwealth, but is an assured success. The Farmers Alliance has been growing here since 1882, and for the last six years the lovers of liberty have unsuccessfully contended against political bossism within their respective parties. During the summer of 1890 nineteen-twentieths of the local Alliances reported in favor of independent political action. The result was that an independent political party was organized, and South Dakota witnessed one of the most hotly contested elections ever held in the Northwest. The State held no presidential election in 1888, but the Republican vote for State officers in 1889, October 1, was, in round numbers, 52,000, and the Democratic vote 24,000. In 1890 the Whig, Free Soil, Free Democracy and Liberty League combined under the name of the Republican party and elected Lincoln over the Democratic candidate, Breckinridge. The Republican party has been victorious in every presidential election from that day to this, except in 1884 when Mr. Cleveland, the Democratic nominee, was elected. The discontent now is widespread and deep and the times are ominous of great changes. Neither of the two great parties can absorb the national Farmers Alliance and Indus-

Sherman & Co.? Will you continue them in office, only exacting an oath? If so, will they not betray that trust as in the past? Or, if we beat them in convention, will they not combine and form a third party, thus forcing us to combine in one party, or which would be certain defeat, fight the battle on a double line while Shylock is united? I for one think it would be the better plan to form a new party of the people, or rather collect the people on the St. Louis-Ocala platform and force King Shylock to fight on double lines or undertake the perilousfeat of uniting under the terrific fire of a united people. History records no case of a party reforming within itself, and we shall not see this rule violated in this political revolution, which must be pushed to completion at whatever cost, or the cause of liberty and equality before the law will receive a blow that it will require ages to recover from. It behoves us as patriots to press the battle at every point, ever remembering that perhaps there are Arnolds in the camp, and that we have the crowned heads of Europe, as well as the King Shylock of all countries, against us.

#### Party Formation.

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

Coeval with the formation of the government the people were, and are now, divided into parties, mainly into two great parties. At the birth of the government the parties were called Federalists and Anti-Federalist. Washington, the first President, was a Federalist; but both parties confided in him. He made no distinction in his appointments to office, particularly in his cabinet, between them. He treated them alike. Washington served two terms; he was elected each time without opposition. On his declination to be a candidate in 1796 for the third term the Anti-Federalists assumed the name "Republican," and ran Thomas Jefferson for the presidency against John Adams, Federalist. Adams beat Jefferson; but in 1800 Jefferson, the father of the "Republican party," beat Adams, and from that date for quarter of a century the Republican party was victorious over the Federalist.

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404 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 \$5,000 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 Atlanta:

Whereas, The National Economist, our adopted official national organ, has so boldly and manfully 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 part of the best means of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Address all remittances or communications to

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,

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

## N. R. P. A.

THE spring meetings of the primary Alliances should be devoted to a discussion of the demands of the Order and of the various organizations of producers that will participate with the Alliance in the great conference to be held in February, 1892. The July county meetings will choose delegates to the State meetings, and in August the various State meetings choose delegates to the national meeting in November, which will select delegates to represent the Order in February, 1892, and that platform must prevail as the great reform movement which shall emancipate labor from the "power of money to oppress." Great care should therefore be exercised in the primary meetings not to select any man as a delegate who would be liable to misrepresent the Order.

BRO. BEN TURRELL is now in North Carolina doing a great work. His meetings are largely attended and the Order is being benefited. This State is so well organized that something is being done all the time to interest and instruct the brotherhood.

PRESIDENT POLK and Hon. Jerry Simpson had a rousing meeting at Easton, Md., last week. The Alliance in that State is booming.

EX-CONGRESSMAN McCORMICK made two efforts to bring out the sub-treasury bill from the committee but failed. The attempt, however, was commendable and disclosed a willingness on his part to serve the Alliance. What the Alliance wants is more representatives of this kind.

FREE COINAGE OF SILVER has been denied the people once more. This plainly shows the utter contempt in which they are held by the national Congress and the necessity for a change in that body. At the present time such papers as the World, Tribune and others of like ilk are asserting that the people did not really know what they

wanted, and will now quietly abide by the decisions of Wall street and the East. Such patronizing assumption is only possible where money rules. Wait until the outraged people of this country can reach the men who by trickery and legislative chicanery robbed them of free silver, and the result will indicate whether the people wanted free coinage or not. Free coinage is demanded and free coinage the people will have if they are compelled to walk over the political graves of both the old parties. Wall street and New England have dictated the policy of the last Congress they ever will. Their power is broken and their sceptre has departed. The fact is rapidly coming to light that all this difficulty over the force bill was an effort to defeat free coinage. In view of this can anyone doubt the "power of money to oppose?"

MRS. DIGGS, of the Advocate, Topeka, Kan., is located here in Washington for the present as correspondent for that wide-awake paper.

Congressman OATES has found something else besides the sub-treasury bill that is unconstitutional. He had better examine the record and see if he has not been on the other side. It is always best to be safe.

NATIONAL SECRETARY J. H. TURNER says that he is now having more calls for sub-treasury plans than ever before. This does not prove that the Alliance has abandoned that measure.

THE last number of the Southern Alliance Farmer is at hand, containing the most conclusive evidence that the brethren of Georgia are perfectly able to take care of themselves. It proves them to be good men and true, and willing to stand by those "who have borne the heat and burden of the day." President Livingston has shown his fidelity and loyalty to the Order at times and under conditions when men with less courage would have despaired. He has faced the enemies of the Alliance with a fearlessness that only comes through a sense of duty. Whenever the contest raged the fiercest, from Kansas to Ocala, there Brother Livingston was found dealing heavy blows for justice and humanity. Such conduct leaves no room for suspicion, no grounds for attack, and will certainly bring defeat and confusion to those making the attempt. Go on, Brother Livingston, in the path you have chosen, and the Alliance of the country, and Georgia in particular, will be your sure de-

fense. As to Brothers H. C. Brown and Larry Gant, there can be but one conclusion. They are fighting the battles of the Alliance manfully, intelligently, and successfully. They are contending for the principles of the Alliance against secret political intrigues, and in doing so are but the vanguard of those papers known as Alliance official organs that must all stand or fall before a similar onslaught. If the Southern Alliance Farmer, the official organ of the Georgia Alliance, can be vanquished or controlled by partisan political manipulation, the beginning of the end has come, and the Alliance will be rent asunder.

In all the other organized States with but a few exceptions the Order is on the gain. In States that have just been organized, like California, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan, the greatest activity prevails, and a general recognition of the necessity and benefits of agricultural organizations obtains. Iowa will be organized as a State the 17th instant. New York will follow in a short time, and Ohio soon after. Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana are taking hold of the work well, while New Jersey and Delaware are following suit. Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Nebraska are asking for organizers to complete the work already begun. The Order is on a boom, and those who thought it an affair of the moment are now realizing the fact that it has come to stay. Let every one do his or her full duty in helping along this great reform.

BROTHER W. SPRINGS DAVIDSON, Hopewell, N. C., writes to THE ECONOMIST:

The Ocala demands gave up the government ownership of railroads and demands government control of railroads. I can not understand why we demand what we already have. The United States have a railroad commission, and many States have one. I can not see that the people are any better off since the government has had control of railroads, and thought the St. Louis demand of government ownership right. I would like for you to explain what occurred in rail circles to cause the Supreme Council at Ocala to recede from the St. Louis demand. I have seen no argument for the change. Some reasons must have been given. Can't you give us the reason for the change? Outsiders charge that free tickets and free excursions did it. Give us the facts, be they good or bad, how the change occurred; we must have the reasons for the change to defend ourselves.

THE only one of the demands adopted at St. Louis that was discussed and properly considered by the Supreme Council was the sub-treasury plan. The other demands were rushed through without debate, and adopted by acclamation amid great confusion when the body was impatient to hear Mr. Powdery, who was waiting at the door, address them. The discuss-

ion at Ocala showed that had the method of warfare in the South and another in the North, but the destruction of the Alliance will be the one object sought. Anything and everything will be done to breed discord and dissesions in the ranks of the Alliance, and thereby seek to break down that unity of action which will surely bring success. Let the brotherhood be warned in time. Let them pay no heed to these wily enemies of just government, but stand together as a unit for home and humanity.

NOTICE has been served on the Alliance Congressmen from Kansas that the patronage of the State will be controlled by Senator Plumb. This relieves these brethren of a responsibility, and demonstrates conclusively the hypocrisy of the administration in professing one thing and practicing another. Members of the Alliance will take notice that nothing but Republican postmasters and partisan garden seeds are in store for Kansas.

AT a meeting of the Fourth Congressional District of Texas, held at Sulphur Springs, February 4, 1891, the following resolution was passed unanimously:

Resolved, That this the Northeast Texas District Alliance, in session assembled, in the city of Sulphur Springs, indorse in full the Ocala platform and the sub-treasury bill, and a copy be sent to D. B. Culberson demanding him to accept the same and, do all in his power to have it enacted into law, and a copy of these resolutions be published in the Southern Mercury, THE ECONOMIST, Industrial Educator, The Texas Labor Journal, Missouri World, and The Alliance Vindicator.

THE Dakota Ruralist (Huron, S. D.) prints the following in regard to the new Senator from that State:

The most remarkable Senatorial contest is over, and the Independents have elected James H. Kyle, a member of the State Senate from Brown county, to represent the State of South Dakota in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years from March 4, 1891. From the Pierre Capital we give a brief biography:

"James H. Kyle was born February 24, 1854, near Xenia, Ohio, of Scotch ancestry. His father, T. H. Kyle, was an officer in the Union army during the war. At the close of the war he moved to Illinois. Since that time he has lived at Urbana, Ill., being by profession a civil engineer. J. H. Kyle was educated at the city schools of Urbana, graduating and entering the State University at 17 years of age. Pursued for two years a course in engineering; then went to Oberlin College, taking the full classical course and graduating with the degree of A. B., in 1878, among the first in his class. During 1878-'79 prepared for admission to the bar, which had been his wish from childhood. Changed his plans and entered Western Theological Seminary at Allegheny, Pa., graduating in 1882—same time

in keeping up the present legislative methods, and will contest anything that has the appearance of a change for a more thorough rule of the people. With but few honorable exceptions they will begin a systematic attack upon the Alliance. They will undertake to carry out the programme that has been decided upon by the political manipulators of both parties here in Washington. There will be one

method of warfare in the South and another in the North, but the destruction of the Alliance will be the one object sought. Anything and everything will be done to breed discord and dissesions in the ranks of the Alliance, and thereby seek to break down that unity of action which will surely bring success. Let the brotherhood be warned in time. Let them pay no heed to these wily enemies of just government, but stand together as a unit for home and humanity.

On Tuesday we met Mr. Kyle for a few moments. At his request The Ruralist states briefly his position. He stands unreservedly and enthusiastically upon the St. Louis platform. He is entirely in harmony with the Farmers' Alliance and the Knights of Labor, and in the Senate will stand first and always with and for these people. He is absolutely without pledge to any other party save as these principles are or may be adopted. He goes as an Independent, which in his words is a resultant—the outcome of a failure of both of the old parties to satisfy the demands of the people.

What has been your political affiliations?

I have always been a low tariff Republican, voting with that party until two years ago, when I tried some parts of Democracy, but when the Independents declared their position in June last, I decided to cast my lot with them.

Did you make any trade with the Democrats?

Not any. The Democrats asked none of me, and I offered nothing. On matters not directly involving the Independents, I shall vote where I think best for the people.

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THE new Senator from Wisconsin, Mr. Vilas, may be interested in the fact that there are now more than 200 Alliances in that State. And the members favor free coinage of silver. Perhaps that is not what Mr. Vilas means by old-fashioned Democracy.

FOURTH MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT ALLIANCE.

The Alliance of the Fourth Congressional District of Mississippi met at Ackerman March 5. The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That fealty to the platform of principles and measures of relief put forward and endorsed by the Supreme Council at Ocala is essential to the unity of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, and it is the judgment of this body that all persons holding membership in the Order who publicly oppose them should, in justice to themselves and the organization, apply for and receive withdrawal cards.

Resolved, That we endorse the platform of principles announced by the Supreme Council at Ocala, Fla., and that we reiterate the demands made by that body.

Resolved, That we will not support, in primary or convention, any man for a legislative office who opposes the Ocala platform.

Whereas the press is one of the most effective means of educating the people, and whereas the Alliance of this State has labored under great disadvantage in having so few advocates among the press, and whereas it is essential to the promotion of Alliance principles to have alive, aggressive newspapers; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of this District Alliance be requested to take the necessary steps to establish a district organ.

Whereas, The Mississippian, the state organ, does not advocate the sub-treasury plan and, in fact, seems to ignore the Alliance demands in toto, therefore,

mentally and physically. He has sandy hair and moustach, blue eyes and ruddy complexion. To a powerful musical voice he adds a pleasant and winning smile which never fails to rivet the attention of his listeners. His general appearance and actions are those of a big-hearted, conscientious, brainy man."

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A Missouri Alliance Spec made from Fayetteville Union, Johnson County, Mo.

Whereas our State president, Brother U. S. Hall, virtually admits he was at Springfield, Ill., in the interest of Hon. John M. Palmer, the Democratic candidate for United States Senate, when at the same time the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association, an organization similar to our own, had a candidate in the field, to whom Brother Hall should have thrown his support, provided he had any right there; and

Whereas The Journal of Agriculture, our State organ, in its issue of February 19, in an editorial favoring Brother Hall to the detriment of Brother Macune, which, in our judgment, is calculated to mislead its readers.

Therefore, be it resolved, That we greatly deplore the conduct of Brother Hall in having anything to do in trying to influence the Illinois legislature, believing it to be undignified and detrimental to the Order in our State;

Be it resolved, That we condemn the course taken by The Journal, in said editorial, against Brother Macune as unfair and unjust; and

Be it further resolved, That we endorse the Ocala platform, and that copies of these resolutions be sent to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and Journal of Agriculture for publication.

C. A. HARRISON, President.  
CHAS. E. SCHOFIELD, Secretary.  
March 5, 1891.

Meridian (Miss.) Standard says:

Much is being and has been said of the sub-treasury scheme. It is a bill proposed for the relief of the agricultural classes. The very fact of its proposal and the radical change it suggests in government policy, furnishes the highest evidence of the sufferings of the class it is intended to relieve. The necessity of relief to the overburdened masses of the people engaged in tilling the soil is too patent to require elaborate argument. When you see crops pledged on cruel terms in advance to obtain supplies to make them; farms mortgaged to secure debts contracted, at usurious and ruinous rates of interest; in tilling them; household goods sold for a song, under the cry of the auctioneer when foreclosure of trust deeds are ordered; happy homes destroyed and walls of distress heard on every side from myriads digging ground in the sweat of agony to secure scant rations of daily bread, while capital in untold millions is piling up in the vaults of the few under the inequalities—the injustice and wrong—of a robber tariff, and the oppressions and tyranny of so-called popular government in other directions, surely it is time for men of every class and calling to come to a halt and consider what can and ought to be done to end so horrible a state of affairs.

Meade County Nationalist (Meade, Kan.) says:

The nation which can show the greatest number of millionaires can also show the most abject poverty. The one accompanies the other. Great wealth cannot be amassed unless it be taken from the thousands who created it, to be centered in the hands of the few who hold it. Every luxury enjoyed by one represents its equivalent in destitution and suffering by many. In order to make one millionaire, industrious producers must be robbed of the product of their labor and live in poverty and misery. Are millionaires so necessary to this nation that they must be maintained at such a cost?

Labor's Tribune (Carthage, Mo.) says:

It does seem like foolishness to try to educate a certain class of people as to the cause of the hard times and scarcity of money. Every evidence that is needed to convict a man of murder is now open for the people look at, and while it places the stigma of infamy upon the two old parties, yet many people can see no good except in their old party. Truth cuts no figure now if it is against an old party.

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SCIENCE

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL FARMER and Rural Economy.

INDUST.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY DR. M. G. ELZEV.

WOODSTOCK, MD.

## AGRICULTURAL BUREAUS, ETC.

We have a letter from a distinguished agriculturist of Virginia enclosing several publications by himself urging against the commercial valuation of fertilizers based upon analytical data objections similar to those frequently put forward by the writer in these columns. He thinks these valuations are confusing and misleading to farmers, and of no possible use. This conclusion is demonstrably correct. There is no room for controversy or intelligent difference of opinion about the matter at all. The following quoted from one of the papers referred to puts the matter neatly enough: "With all due deference to the Honorable Commissioner of Agriculture, we ask the question for information, not being a chemist or analyst and not even meet to be called agriculturist, but we think we understand that when an article retails at 3 cents it has not a cash value of 6 cents. For twenty months past acid phosphates containing 16 per cent available acid have sold at \$12.50 per ton. Yet our Commissioner gives the commercial value of the acid at 6 cents and values a 14.64 per cent article at \$18 per ton. The same magnificent exaggeration is observed in the valuation of nitrogen and potash. To farmers such methods are not intelligible nor helpful but misleading and hurtful. They operate to the delusion and to the serious detriment of our farmers and to the advantage, if any, of those dealers in fertilizers, the exposure of whose formulae would demoralize their trade." Here is one of the most experienced, able and learned practical and scientific agriculturist in this country, who declares himself not benefited but bewildered, confused and dumbfounded by reports put out in the supposed interests of practical farmers. This writer does not hesitate to put himself in the same category with his learned friend and to declare again, as he has repeatedly declared, and abundantly demonstrated that these valuations are false and misleading, and they should be promptly abandoned. Public analysis must devise some rational mode of benefiting both honest manufacturers and farmers by their work, or they had better confess their failure and go at something else.

## A NEW CONSUMPTION CURE.

Already we have a new consumption cure announced by Prof. Seibach. His method has the merit of great simplicity and a manly directness in announcing it to the public and the medical profession in strong contrast with the methods pursued in the case of Prof. Koch. The new method consists simply in subcutaneous injection of cantharidate of potash, for the preparation and use of which directions are given, beautiful in their simplicity. The reported results of this treatment are rapid amelioration. All the symptoms

of the disease and of the general condition of the patient, accompanied by diminution of the number and vigor of the bacilli. No evil results of the treatment of any sort have been noted. The extreme cheapness of this new remedy will render it promptly available to the rank and file of the profession and public. Tuberculin may hold its place as a sort of aristocratic medicament, too good for common individuals, but potassium cantharidate bids fair to be an useful remedy cheap enough for extensive use, even in veterinary. The latest reports of the experiments with tuberculin in New York hospitals are decidedly disappointing, and especially as to its diagnostic value. Indications now seem to point toward a probable restriction of the use of tuberculin to tuberculosis of bone and joints. The principle upon which the preparation and use of tuberculin is based seems likely, as this writer at first suggested, to prove of greater truth, they show that there is no alarming increase of the colored people in Virginia. There are said to be 1,014,680 white people and 630,857 colored in the State. An analysis of the figures shows that the colored people are massed in the tide-water counties and in the cities and large towns. In the great agricultural counties the whites very largely predominate. This shows that as agricultural laborers the colored people are less and less to be relied upon as the years go by, and the figures of the census only serve to confirm the common experience. Undoubtedly the general depression of the business of farming, which has been brought about by the policy of the government, has discouraged the labor no less than the employers of that labor, and accounts in part for this desertion of the farms by the negroes; and this in turn intensifies the difficulties which confront the land owner; misgovernment and false legislation are at the bottom of this great evil and of every other in human society.

## TEE RADICATION OF PLANTS.

We have a letter concerning our article on the above subject in which the writer states that the experiment of cross-drilling seed and fertilizer, one-half one way, the other at right angles to the first, has been tried in his vicinity and the practical difficulty encountered of interception of the work by rain so that the first seeding had germinated before the cross seeding could be done. In further discussion of the topic he suggests the idea that the feeding roots of the wheat absorb only by the spongiote or bullet at the extremity of the rootlet, and hence would only be in contact with the fertilizer immediately at the start and would soon penetrate beyond the drill in which seed and fertilizer until the root reached the next drill. First, we suggest that the idea that rootlets absorb plant food only by the spongiote is undoubtedly erroneous; all young and actively growing roots absorb by their whole surface, which is further enormously multiplied by innumerable hair like tubes which project from all the smaller roots on all sides, as the hairs stand out from the body of a caterpillar. Second, the fertilizer deposited in

less. It is better to sell the machine after three years' use and buy a new one than to try to repair the old one. The same is the case with mowers. About three years ago the writer knew a gentleman to be using a mower when a small casting was found to be worn out so that the machine would not operate. The machine had been used only two seasons; the paint on it was still fresh, and everything except this small casting seemed as good as new. The owner determined to send for the casting. It could not be had in Baltimore, and was ordered by telegraph from Ohio. After delay it came and the price was \$8.50, freight added. The casting was worth about thirty cents. The balance was patent rights and royalties. An ax which some time ago cost \$1.50 can now be had for ninety cents, says the scientific statistician of the "bean soup" sort; he forgets to say what is literally true, that one of those dollar-and-a-half axes lasted longer than six of the ninety-cent axes will now last. An old McCormick reaper frequently did good work after twenty years' hard service. You used to have to pay twenty-five cents for axe heads; now you get them for ten cents. True, oh king, but one twenty-five-cent axe lasted longer than ten of the ten-cent axes. This shows that as agricultural laborers the colored people are less and less to be relied upon as the years go by, and the figures of the census only serve to confirm the common experience. Undoubtedly the general depression of the business of farming, which has been brought about by the policy of the government, has discouraged the labor no less than the employers of that labor, and accounts in part for this desertion of the farms by the negroes; and this in turn intensifies the difficulties which confront the land owner; misgovernment and false legislation are at the bottom of this great evil and of every other in human society.

## DETERIORATION OF MACHINES.

Theorists are insisting that the cost of production in agriculture has declined in full proportion to the decline in prices of products. This is by no means true in any line of products, and least of all in agricultural products. But if it be said that the value of agricultural machines and implements has declined faster and further than manufacturer's prices, any practical farmer's experience will confirm that statement. As evidence of the kind of stuff that some men believe, the writer knew a statement of the comparative cost of harvesting an acre of wheat with a self-binder compared with the cost by methods in use thirty years ago made by a practical man, believed by him to be correct and often quoted by others as correct. Yet no estimate was made of the cost of binding twine, and none for wear and tear of machine. Now three harvests will wear out one of these machines, so that the cost of repairs and time lost waiting for repairs are so great that the machine is practically use-

less. It is better to sell the machine after three years' use and buy a new one than to try to repair the old one. The same is the case with mowers. About three years ago the writer knew a gentleman to be using a mower when a small casting was found to be worn out so that the machine would not operate. The machine had been used only two seasons; the paint on it was still fresh, and everything except this small casting seemed as good as new. The owner determined to send for the casting. It could not be had in Baltimore, and was ordered by telegraph from Ohio. After delay it came and the price was \$8.50, freight added. The casting was worth about thirty cents. The balance was patent rights and royalties. An ax which some time ago cost \$1.50 can now be had for ninety cents, says the scientific statistician of the "bean soup" sort; he forgets to say what is literally true, that one of those dollar-and-a-half axes lasted longer than six of the ninety-cent axes will now last. An old McCormick reaper frequently did good work after twenty years' hard service. You used to have to pay twenty-five cents for axe heads; now you get them for ten cents. True, oh king, but one twenty-five-cent axe lasted longer than ten of the ten-cent axes. This shows that as agricultural laborers the colored people are less and less to be relied upon as the years go by, and the figures of the census only serve to confirm the common experience. Undoubtedly the general depression of the business of farming, which has been brought about by the policy of the government, has discouraged the labor no less than the employers of that labor, and accounts in part for this desertion of the farms by the negroes; and this in turn intensifies the difficulties which confront the land owner; misgovernment and false legislation are at the bottom of this great evil and of every other in human society.

## SHEEP HUSBANDRY.

Among the notable papers presented before the Farmers Institute, recently held at Charlottesville, Va., was one on sheep husbandry by Dr. J. A. Reid. The institute thereupon passed a resolution in favor of a dog law. It is probable that this resolution will, like some thousands of its predecessors, fall upon deaf ears. Whenever the people mean business they can have a dog law. This subject has its comical side. There has probably not been an essay written or a talk made on sheep, within a century, which has not contained the customary allusion to the prowl, starving, worthless, sheep-stealing cur, accompanied by the customary denunciation of lawyers and legislators. Yet, strange to tell, it is the farmers themselves who harbor these thieving, vagabond curs, and permit their hired help to keep them.

In Loudon county, Virginia, there is a dog law which taxes dogs, and the fund is kept apart to pay for losses of sheep, the residue to the county school fund. This law works satisfactory and without friction. Instead of glittering and vague generalities let the next essayist and the next resolution specify the Loudon county dog law, and recommend that it be made a State law. That will be business.

The Sub-Treasury Plan.  
Alliance Voice, Batesville, Ark.

"I would like to pay you that small account," said a farmer to a townsmen on our streets, "but cotton is so low that I don't want to sell it now if I can help it." The above self-drun expresses the sentiments of hundreds of farmers who have some debt hanging over them, but who dislike to force their cotton upon a dull and, at present, glutted market. But many thousands of farmers, bound and

fettered by mortgages and wants, were obliged to hurry their year's product direct from the gin to the market, regardless of market quotations or merchants' offers. Money is scarce and its interest-gathering power is valuable, more valuable than to be invested in cotton and await sale in April or July, when the manufacturer will require more in his factory. But now his factory is full, his warehouse is overcrowded, and he has considerable order of futures for the spring and summer. But this fact doesn't help the poor devil who sees his crop go for what it will bring. Relief? Yes, there is a balm in the future for this class of producers, and but for the grasp that money and monopoly has upon the national law-makers, relief would now be at his rescue. Congressmen and false, plutocratic economists declare the trouble to be over-production; but this not carry conviction to the man who is forced to sell his cotton at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  or 8 cents. He is cognizant of the fact that he is not over-supplied with good, comfortable, nice-looking clothing, hats, shirts, socks, and over-coats; his good wife is not burdened with a superabundance of calicoes, ginghams, muslins, sateens, towels, table-cloths, quilts, comforts, blankets, curtains or ribbons; indeed he finds both himself and his neighbors decidedly lacking in these necessities and comforts, and he learns that the farmers and laborers all over this broad land are similarly situated. He knows and feels it is not, or can not be, over production. Now for the relief. Could our cotton producers but come to town and be able to use their own judgment and will in selling or holding their product, and yet be able to meet their pressing debts without being eaten up with interest, the independence and equality of the farmer shall have been made a possibility and a reality. The sub-treasury scheme offers this relief. It comes between the merciless greed of the speculators and the helpless producers. The sub-treasury is a friend safe and reliable, who stores the farmers' produce until there is a demand and a market, gives him a very liberal loan thereon, and at the farmer's pleasure, returns the whole crop back to him as good as when it was gathered, and with the additional beneficial results obtained from the financial backing of a wealthy friend. The plan was not evolved from soulless brain nor warmed to life by a selfish heart. It is not designed to aid the farmer in obtaining higher prices at the expense of those consumers in the cities and manufacturing districts. The sub-treasury will not increase the cost of any article received under its provisions. At best it may cheapen these by bringing the producer and consumer in more direct contract, commercially; its prime object is to stop grain and provision gambling, to eliminate the costly handlings, storages, commissions and profits which are now barricades between the farmer and the manufacturer. The sub-treasury is the safety-valve to our American supply and demand. It is the reservoir upon which the farmer can draw at pleasure, and from which the consumer can take

at necessity's command. It is a missionary of christianity and humanity softening the rugged laws of commerce. The sub-treasury has now been endorsed, and a positive and official demand made for its enactment into law, by the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, the Knights of Labor, the Farmers Mutual Benefit Association, and the Colored Farmers Alliance. It, or something as good or better must come. The old political parties must embrace it and breathe into it the breath of law or they read their death warrant. The issue cannot be evaded or delayed only at their own peril. The people are closely regarding their attitude upon the momentous demand.

## Money.

J. Brad. Beverley in Alliance Farmer and Messenger, Petersburg, Va.

Remember we are looking into the dark deep well of finance, and as each object becomes distinct to us we will announce it. Many, I doubt not, of your readers, are clearer sighted than I, and when my vision fails I trust to some one of them to take my place and gaze and announce what he or they may see. I have seen what money is—a medium of exchange and measure of value for the purpose of exchange only; that it has no intrinsic value; that it is or should be created by law, and whatever the government so creates, stamps, pays out and receives back as taxes, is money.

Money being a medium of exchange it becomes also, according to amount, a representative of the products of labor, for which it can be exchanged. And hence, if I have an idle horse I exchange him for money, although I may want nothing right then in exchange for the money. As I can exchange it at any time for the products of labor, and as I got it in exchange or the products of labor, it represents the products of labor. Now, if a man come to borrow my idle horse, I charge him so much a day "hire" for the use of him. The horse now has been exchanged for money, and if he come to borrow the money, I charge him so much a day or month, or year, for the use of it. This is called "interest." We have now come to the place in this well concerning which various men have made very different reports; and some in their endeavor to see more than was there, have fallen headlong in, and have never been heard from since. Let us look closely, steadily, but cautiously. I charge fifty cents per day as "hire" for the use of my horse. I exchange the horse for one hundred dollars. Should I charge fifty cents per day "interest" for the use of the money? If the borrower could guarantee to return the horse to me as he got it—not tired, not a pound lighter, without scratch or windgall, in perfect health—would the two then be even? Not yet! The horse's life is limited; and the money is not. Each day is that much taken away from the horse's usefulness; each day is that much added to the money. Now look at it from the other side, the borrower's. He uses the horse for a week and saves a crop of corn, and returns the horse and pays his "hire," worth to him his a crop. He uses the money for a week to buy something he considers bargain, and he returns it and pays "interest;" has it, can it have been worth to him as much as a crop of corn? Not once in ten thousand cases. Is then the horse more valuable than his price? For an emergency,

yes, because he has intrinsic value. In the long run, no; because the money never stops, never wears, never dies. It is the old fable of the race between the rabbit and the terrapin; bet on the rabbit for a short distance; bet on the terrapin for a long one. Hence the amount charged for using the money should be far less than the hire of the horse. By fair or foul means some men accumulate money faster than others. As money is limited in amount, and is necessary to carry on business in a civilized community, those who have not the money are forced to borrow from those who have. Those holding the money could take advantage of the circumstances and charge exorbitant interest, which is termed "usury." But governments have passed laws fixing the rate of interest at so many cents on the dollar, and making it a crime to charge more. Thus has the law, on this one point, been framed with the intention of protecting the producer from the power of money to oppress. We have seen that government alone should create money and put it in circulation, and that government has fixed the rate of interest, or how much shall be charged the borrower for the use of it. But how shall it be decided how much shall be created and kept in circulation among the people? We must first see what difference this makes to the people who have to use it. As money is a medium of exchange, and as such is a representative of the products of labor—that is, it stands for so much grain, meat, groceries, or work, we will suppose the whole amount of actual money in circulation in the country, piled up in one corner, and the whole amount of produce, property, and everything that has a money value piled up in the other. One pile stands for the other. Let's divide out. Count both piles and we'll then find how much of one is to go for how much of the other. Suppose we find that fifty cents will have to go for a bushel of corn. Now, to test the thing as to what difference the amount makes (the "supply and demand" as the two piles are generally called), let's double the amount of corn in that pile and count out again. If before counted out fifty cents a bushel; now it must only count out twenty-five cents. Change around, and take away half of the money pile and count out. The same thing comes. It before brought fifty cents a bushel, now only twenty-five cents. So we see, if we double the produce it reduces the price by half. If we cut down the amount of money by half it has the same effect on the price. So you see the amount of money in circulation has as much to do with the price as the amount of produce made. Try it the other way, and take away half of the corn and count the two piles, the price of corn goes up to \$1 a bushel, or double the amount of the money pile, and everything in the other pile doubles in price; corn goes up to \$1.

Georgia Alliance Exchange.  
Southern Alliance Farmer.

The Farmers Alliance Exchange of Georgia, under the superior management of W. L. Peck, Pre-

sident, and J. O. Wynn, State Business Agent, is doing a grand work for the members of our order, not only for the brethren who trade direct with it, but it benefits those living in the most remote sections of our State, by establishing prices that merchants are forced to meet. There is not a month in the year, but that our Exchange saves to Alliance men more than its entire cash capital. Every day evidences of its great benefits to our members are manifested, and we could fill our paper with instances where merchants in Atlanta or elsewhere have to shave their prices, sometimes fifty per cent, in order to compete with the Alliance store. The dealers of Atlanta could and doubtless would, most willingly, pay the State Alliance one million dollars if it would discontinue the Exchange and agree never to establish another. It would be a paying investment even at that price, for this sum could be made back the first season in their increased profits, with such competition out of the way. As an evidence of the great good that the Exchange is doing, a city dealer cut the price of one buggy over \$40, when his customer threatened to buy at the Alliance Exchange. Our State Exchange should be the pride and pet of every Alliance man in Georgia. It is the greatest protection thrown around our members, and saves them, directly and indirectly, incalculable sums of money. Abolish this institution, and our farmers, are again at the mercy of the merchants, who have wrung such extortionate profits from them. Without this safety valve, the Alliance, with all of its power, could accomplish but little in securing relief for its members in the way of reduced prices. It is not the design to make a dollar out of our Exchange, but only to pay operating expenses, and it is managed in the most economical manner. The gains are returned to our members in low prices, that merchants are forced to meet. Even with its present capital, the annual business of the Exchange amounts to about a half million dollars, and if our Alliance men will back it as the greatest good to the greatest number, and when it fails to accomplish this end, it is the right and duty of the people to inquire as to the cause and to apply a remedy, if it can be found. Men are fast learning that one of the chief functions of government is to provide laws under which its people may acquire a subsistence, a competence, and an elevated moral and social condition commensurate with the energy and intelligence which they bring to bear, and to protect them in the happy and peaceful possession of the same. It is prudent, politic or patriotic that we maintain a system of laws under which Smith is allowed to eat bread that Jones has earned? Can we, in the name of justice and loyalty, be asked to support a system of laws under which it is possible for an idler to become an autocrat or a millionaire while there remains a single intelligent laborer who is not well provided with the comforts and luxuries of life? Can we, in the name of humanity and good government be asked to

maintain a system of laws that fosters lying, robbery, and a system of common vulgar thieving (sometimes denominated the tricks of trade)? Can we, in the name of purity and righteousness be asked to support a party or an administration that tolerates brothels and dens of iniquity in the presence of our wives, our sons, and our daughters, yet dare not raise its hand to stay? We have seen these conditions fostered and grow from bad to worse under the protecting care of both the old political parties, until from four score thousand country schoolhouses, those cradles of intelligence and patriotism, can be heard one common protest against their further continuance. We have seen these conditions degenerating the great industrial masses and blighting the prospects and purity of the rising generation until from two hundred thousand churches, those temples of purity and plenty, can be heard one common supplication for a purer state. We have seen these conditions degrading and debauching our families and impoverishing the race, until from ten thousand times ten thousand peaceful firesides, those hotbeds of virtue and humanity, can be heard one common, resolute and determined demand for a better state, for more righteous and intelligent laws, and a more resolute and determined administration of the same. Herein lie a few of the causes which led to the organization of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union. If the above questions may be properly answered in the affirmative, if indolence is an indication of intelligence, if the tricks of trade are to be counted for virtue, if the vicious and intemperate are to dictate the policy of the government and revel in luxury, while industry and decency go begging on the street, it would seem wise that the farmer forsake his plow, the smith his anvil, the mechanic his bench, and that all turn to idleness and throng the streets as one common mass of hungry beasts, preying upon each other without a law to restrain. Fellow laborers, whither are we tending? Stop and think! How shall we avert the fate that awaits us? If there is a change for the better, that change must come through the ballot, yet we are asked not to form a new party lest we weaken the old. How long have we lived under the alternating administrations of the old parties and seen growing in our midst the very evils of which we so bitterly complain. How many of us are watching the movements at our State and national capitals, seeing wholesome measures either defeated or placed at the end of the calendar where they cannot be reached during this session only to be held over as a campaign document in 1892. Just what course the industrial classes will pursue in 1892 has not yet been determined, but politicians who expect to pacify them in such a manner are deceiving themselves, and would do well to obey the injunction of another to fall into the line of reform or seek shelter from the great political storm that is brewing.

#### A Few of the Causes.

Pacific Rural Express, San Francisco, Cal.

Among the Declarations of Purposes of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union we read the following:

To labor for education of the agricultural classes in the science of economic government in a strictly non-partisan spirit, and to bring about a more perfect union of said classes.

From the above quotation it may be inferred that the farmers and laborers of America have concluded that they are not getting an equitable proportion of the fruits of the soil, and that their condition demands on their part unity of purpose and organized action. That he who is at once a constant and intelligent laborer and a prudent liver should lack the comforts or even the luxuries of life, while idlers and vagrants have an abundance; that he whose industry and frugality produces the wealth of earth should be poor and continue to be poorer, while those of some of the so-called "learned professions" spend a large part of their time in dens of iniquity and riotously live on the fat of the land; that the hunger and cold and privations of life should so largely fall to the lot of him through whose efforts all humanity is fed and clothed—is one of the strangest spectacles that intelligent men have ever beheld, and one that may seem to threaten the perpetuity of existing political conditions. Government was instituted for the good of the governed; for the greatest good, to the greatest number, and when it fails to accomplish this end, it is the right and duty of the people to inquire as to the cause and to apply a remedy, if it can be found. Men are fast learning that one of the chief functions of government is to provide laws under which its people may acquire a subsistence, a competence, and an elevated moral and social condition commensurate with the energy and intelligence which they bring to bear, and to protect them in the happy and peaceful possession of the same. It is prudent, politic or patriotic that we maintain a system of laws under which Smith is allowed to eat bread that Jones has earned? Can we, in the name of justice and loyalty, be asked to support a system of laws under which it is possible for an idler to become an autocrat or a millionaire while there remains a single intelligent laborer who is not well provided with the comforts and luxuries of life? Can we, in the name of humanity and good government be asked to

#### THE REFORM PRESS.

The Discussion of Current Topics in the Organized States.

The Alliance is the name of a new paper started by W. I. Vason at Tallahassee, Fla. It contains 56 columns, soundly Alliance to the core, and is entitled to the good offices of the Order everywhere. It says:

The towering and overshadowing issue to day is the question of currency.

Money is the life-blood, the vital force of every nation. The position of the Alliance as expressed by its Supreme Council makes financial reform the burning issue, before which all others vanish into mist. Money for the people, and not alone for the kings, is to become the slogan for the future. The masses are becoming educated as never before; and a deep-rooted conviction prevails that they have not an equal chance in the race of life; and it is their purpose to make a determined fight to break the shackles that chain them to the chariot of Dives. The question whether the dollar or the people is to be the sovereign in this country is to be settled at no distant day.

The old issue of sectionalism went down forever in the political grave of Ingalls; and the force bill is now numbered with the dead and forgotten past.

Through the manipulation of the gold bugs of Wall street, who control the keys to our national treasury, the country to-day is languishing from a want of sufficient currency to transact the legitimate business. As a result, wages are lowered, strikes on low prices for the products of the soil—and general depression prevails everywhere.

The people of the West and South have locked shields and made a common cause in the coming struggle, and they don't mean to hold up until relieved from the clutches of Shylock.

The people of the East are blindly and ignorantly misled by the politicians who pretend that high tariff means high wages.

When these people come to understand that high protection alone benefits the manufacturer, and not the wage worker, they will find that their only safety from industrial slavery is to join the ranks of their friends from the South and West.

Upon this economic question the people are going to win, and are not going to hazard their chances by sticking to favorites.

Let the government foreclose its lien, discharge the prior indebtedness, pay the balance to the stockholders, if any be due, and operate the road as it conducts the postal service for the good of the whole people.

Under the postal regulations the poor man who sends one letter gets the service as cheaply as the man who sends a thousand.

This is the true system. Under existing railroad regulations the poor are made to pay that the rich customer or favorite may ride free.

Let us try the experiment of operating a transcontinental line of railway.

It will destroy any hope of organizing a trust to control western rates.

It will restore to the people a vast area for settlement.

It will serve notice upon competing lines that their only hope for existence is moderation in charges.

It will give all shippers and consumers upon an equal plane and exclude the system of favoritism in rates, which enables favored shippers to break down the business of a competitor.

It is a measure of justice and expediency.

If the government will buy and operate a line of railway from ocean to ocean it will give us a chance to study the effect of this kind of "paternalism"

and an experience in the cost of operating a road that may be applied to the control of all other lines.

Division of through rates with its feeders would give the whole country the benefit of the experiment.

Let's try.

Industrial Educator (Fort Worth, Tex.) says:

The Alliance is the greatest educator of modern times. It has taught the farmers of the South and West that they can vote for whom they please and run for office themselves if they like.

Alliance Free Lance (Springfield, Ill.) says:

The property of the Goulds, Vanderbilts, Stanford et al., has come through operations in railroads. In many States these corporations have been strong enough to defeat candidates known to be favorable to a plan to check their schemes to enrich themselves at the public expense. Under the pretense of employing attorneys they have succeeded in subsidizing judges and public officers. These nominal servants of the people enjoy such splendid opportunities that they become very wealthy on moderate salaries.

From brakeman to president the employees of railway systems enjoy an average compensation greater than the officials of our government or any other occupation of anywhere near equal numbers. A railway magnate, with a salary of \$50,000 per year, finds leisure to accept all invitations to dine, make

annual tours in Europe, and attend every junketing party that promises entertainment and glory, while instead of earning dividends upon the actual value of their stock, railroad officials demand rates that enable them to declare dividends upon watered stock to the amount of two or three times the actual cost. In view of the enormous pay roll to those who are only indirectly, as well as those who are actively, employed in their interests, the wonder is that more receivers are not called for. An honest, economical conduct of the railroad business would reduce expenses half, and if the water were wrung out of the stock until it would represent the actual, genuine capitalization, the rates could be reduced one-half, and still leave a percentage of profit greater than the average business will command. By railway operations Jay Gould has amassed a fortune equal to an empire of a century ago. It represents the earnings of the poor and the fortunes of associates whom he has wrecked. Not satisfied with his store he, by collusion with other money kings, lately exposed the country to the pinches of a money panic. Through the stringency of money, which they kept from circulating, he and his partners added millions to their gains and the management of a line of railway necessary to the control of western transportation. Not satisfied with the ruinous rates which makes corn, which is worth fifty cents a bushel in the east, sell for fifteen cents a bushel in the west, for fifteen years he proposed to form a gigantic trust for the purpose of maintaining higher rates for transportation. Will they kill the goose that lays the golden egg? In a short time the debt which this line owes to our government will mature. This debt is a secondary lien. Let the government foreclose its lien, discharge the prior indebtedness, pay the balance to the stockholders, if any be due, and operate the road as it conducts the postal service for the good of the whole people.

The Alliance Sentinel (Lansing, Mich.) says:

South Dakota, Kansas, and South Carolina—the noblest trio in the galaxy of sister States—may their illustrious examples serve as beacon lights to lead these farmers over whom a cloud of doubt or pall of despair have cast their sombre shadows into the new light of redemption from the curse of the politician and relief from the burdens of class legislation.

Southern Iowa Farmer (Bloomfield, Iowa) says:

Harrison is opposed to silver. So is Cleveland. Harrison is opposed to greenbacks. So is Cleveland. Harrison is opposed to the government issuing our money and controlling its volume. So is Cleveland. Harrison piles the people's money up in the National Treasury instead of paying it out on bonds. So did Cleveland. Harrison lets the banks have many millions of the people's money free of charge. So did Cleveland. Well, then, you may well ask, What is the difference between these two old parties? There is just this difference—one is in and the other wants in.

Alliance Herald (Montgomery, Ala.) says:

The Eastern Democrats and the Southern adherents to the gold-bug idea of Democracy are very persistent in their efforts to try to make the tariff an issue, when every well-informed man knows that the only change that can be made in the tariff is to reduce it on some articles and in the same ratio as to the amount of revenue that will be raised by the change made that the tariff on the other article or articles. How any five men from as many different sections can agree upon this is beyond comprehension.

No committee has ever agreed upon this matter, and none ever will. Neither could the country agree on it, nor could an issue, with only two sides to the question, be forced upon it. It has the appearance of an intentional effort to conjure up humbug with which to bamboozle the people; but the campaign of education has enlightened the people too much for such shrewdness to pass muster without detection and damage to whatever party shall attempt it.

Montague County Independent (Bowie, Tex.) asks:

Will the Alliance permit the old parties to leap-frog over its bended back and bowed head? That is the question. If the Alliance will permit this we shall have a great game of leap-frog, but what is fun for the parties may be a little rough on the frog.

The Southern Mercury (Dallas, Tex.) says:

The cry has been going the rounds among those who opposed the railway commission amendment, that the farmers of Texas desired to confiscate, not regulate the railways of the State, and that should they come into power, this result would follow. The Mercury desires again to emphatically deny such intention upon the part of the farmers, and to again state, the farmers of Texas demand nothing more nor less than simple justice both for themselves and the railroads. They have no desire to cripple our great carrying industries, nor will they allow it to be done. The commission bill as reported by the Senate committee is certainly not what they want. It practically amounts to ruin of the weaker roads.

It shows that cunning manipulation has been at the bottom of the matter, and expresses a hope that its extremity will make the railroad commission "a stench in the nostrils of the people." This bill in the destruction of weaker roads would make J. Gould, Huntington & Co., complete masters of the situation. They would coin millions of dollars out of the destruction of values, that of necessity would follow the passage of such a measure. Indeed, it would bring such confusion upon the people as to make them curse its originators.

To pass the Senate bill is to completely stop the progress of Texas for many years. The people want a measure passed that will afford them ample protection against railroad oppression.

liaisons from buying seats in the Senate by bribing members of the legislature. It will prevent the occurrence of such an unfortunate state of affairs as now exists in the legislature of Illinois. All the elective power in the government belongs to the people, and it should be delegated to representatives only when it is inconvenient for the people to act for themselves. Senators could be easily elected by the people, and we see no good reason why that authority should be delegated to the members of the legislature. Let the people speak for themselves. We are glad to see that this plan of electing Senators is becoming popular throughout the country.

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

The sub-treasury promises to give the producer a chance to get something near the value of his products. What chance has he under the present system of getting it? Yet some fools stand up and argue against it and still offer no substitute.

Rural Workman (Little Rock, Ark.) says:

Land, transportation, and finance are the three living issues of the day. Aliens should not and must not be allowed to own our lands. Our flag should float over the domains of American citizens, not of foreign lords. The lines of transportation must submit to a complete and just government control, or the government must own them. The finances of the country must be run in the interest of the people, and not in the interest of banks or bondholders.

Industrial Union (Kokomo, Ind.) says:

We believe the people of this republic are in favor of a reasonable tariff for the expense of the government, but they are opposed to building up one class of men at the expense of another. The worst enemies to protection are the protectionists themselves. They are killing the goose that lays the golden egg by charging the farmers 30 per cent more for their wares than they are charging foreigners. What is wanted worse than a tariff law is plenty of money to do the business of the country. If we had plenty of money there would be plenty of work and plenty of business, and the tariff would cut a small figure in our politics.

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and at the same time secure to the railroads exact justice. The people have declared conclusively that they desire the commission appointed for the first term and elected for every succeeding term, but the senate bill provides that the governor shall appoint the commissioners for every term. Any person or persons who pay a debt should have the privilege of contracting it. Any man who lives upon the money of the people should be elected by the people. Any one who says that the people are not perfectly competent to select the very best agents to see after their business is not a Democrat. Any one who wishes to place within the hands of the governor this enormous power is more autocratic than Democrat. These truths are axiomatic. Besides these are many other features that if enacted into law would be a blot upon the good name of Texas. The Mercury calls upon the farmers in the legislature to be true to themselves and to their constituency in this emergency, and to urge the passage of a plain common-sense bill which will be protective and practical yet oppressive to none. This abortive mixture of injustice to railroads and uselessness to the people should not become a law. The people expect the friends of a railroad commission, not its enemies, to formulate the measure to which they will give their approval. The Senate bill as reported is bristling with evidence of the fine Italian handiwork of those who desire to make the commission a by-word and reproach. Israel, to your tents.

The Progressive Farmer (Mt. Vernon, Ill.) says:

We do not wish to get in anybody's way, but we do want the people to read reform papers. They must do that or remain in bondage. The party papers will not, they dare not, discuss reform questions. They say nothing about the financial distress of the people. They entirely ignore it. Hence they have neither cause to present nor remedy to propose. They teach only what the politicians teach, and wish things to remain just as they are. How can those who read these papers and nothing else be expected to understand the situation? They struggle with the hard times, and know there is something wrong, that there is something different from what it used to be, but they have no means of knowing what it is, why it is, or how it can be remedied, because their papers never tell them anything about it. Hence we urge the people to read reform papers; if not the P. F., then some of the other reform papers that are now being published all over the country.

Alliance Farmer (Chipley, Fla.) says squarely:

Every Alliance man is in favor of the free coinage of silver, the sub-treasury bill and the abolition of the national bank system, and will not accept any compromise that does not secure all this.

Union Bee (Humansville, Mo.) says: U. S. Hall, they say, wants to be governor of Missouri, and others behind him wish to be advanced to his position. Mr. Hickman's election to the office of railroad commissioner has inspired the officers of the Missouri Alliance with visions similar to Jacob's; they regard the Alliance as a ladder which leads to glory. The successive rounds of the ladder are occupied by ambitious enthusiasts who are looking aloft to kingdom-come, and shouting "Glory, hallelujah," to the brethren below, who are defraying the expenses of their climb into the Democratic heaven.

The Colorado Workman (Pueblo) says:

Doubtless the most remarkable financial experiment the world ever knew was the financial system of Venice from 1171 to the conquest of the little republic by Napoleon by 1796. It originated in a forced loan by the government from the people of 2,000,000 ducats. For this loan the government issued receipts or credit checks bearing four per cent interest. There was no specific basis fraud at the back of this loan, nor any pretense of any. Being legal tender for all debts these checks passed readily as money for a period of more than six hundred years—until the overthrow of the nation by

the French, as stated above. Their unlimited legal tender quality placed and kept them at a premium over gold ducats of 20 per cent—and the Venetian gold currency was the purest in Europe. The interest provision was abolished in 1423 and also with it the promise to pay in gold, and yet for nearly four centuries longer it continued the best currency Europe ever had, giving to Venice (with only 200,000 inhabitants) a degree of prosperity and power perhaps never attained by any other State with no greater resources or natural advantages. This currency in volume amounted to \$15,000,000—\$80 per capita—greater than ever enjoyed by any other people in the history of the world. The saving of interest for 400 years amounted to the amazing sum of \$100,000,000,000. It was essentially a fiat currency after 1423. This is all a matter of history and proves two facts conclusively, that a money absolutely without intrinsic value and circulating freely among the people in sufficient volume, without the consuming burden of interest, is the best possible instrument for exchanges.

Eupora (Miss.) Progress says:

Gen. E. C. Walthall has declared himself against the sub-treasury plan, and thinks that it would bring ruin to those sections where agriculture is the chief product. The General's head is generally very level on national questions, but it does not make it right, (as to our opinion) on this subject, by a long shot. We find numbers of our exchanges that have two or three columns set aside, headed "Alliance Department," that have never given their views even on this bill. Now since Walthall cries out against it they come bellowing "unconstitutional." Such newspaper men are not fit to mould opinion for an Ethiopian.

Farm Record (Ava, Mo.) says:

We see an occasional thrust at the Alliance on its financial demands, being inflationists, etc. All that it asks is that the government issue sufficient currency to carry on the business of the country, and thereby avoid the necessity of going to England to borrow money to do business with. Fifty dollars per capita would make times easy, so that there would be money enough at home to do business on a cash basis. Prices would be good, and when a man needed a little money to do business with he would not have to go to some loan and trust company to get it. Plenty of money will ease the burdens of the laboring man in every station of life.

O'Neill (Neb.) Sun says:

The theory that capital or money employs labor is one of the vagaries of the present accepted economic philosophy that needs relegating to the rear. Labor employs capital, and labor alone makes capital valuable.

Faulkner County Wheel (Conway, Ark.) says:

A great many just at this time are denouncing the sub-treasury plan, when in reality half of them don't know what the plan is, nor why they oppose it. They only know that a bill called the sub-treasury bill was introduced into Congress, and that Mills and others said it was "unconstitutional," and there are many other assertions in regard to it that they can not sustain by the facts in the case.

Farm View (Porterville, Cal.) says:

It is a privilege often granted by the capitalist to let the producer eat bread from the crop he has raised, and it is a privilege some men are grateful for. It is difficult to get some men to understand that they have any rights and to discern clearly what those rights are.

Until the masses do see it and exhibit a determination to defend it, the overthrow of any tyranny by which they suffer can only be of temporary duration.

There are plenty of people acting automatically with the exploiting classes who see the wrong of the present system, but they will let the exploited classes suffer so long as they suffer willingly and without resistance.

Labor Tribune (Carthage, Mo.) says:

U. S. Hall, the State president of the Farmers' Alliance, is getting quite a sifted by the better journals of the reform movement.

Colorado Workman (Pueblo) says:

An illustration of the practicalness of the plan may be, in a measure, found by applying its workings to the great southern staple, cotton. The cotton States, it may be said, raise no other product that will receive the benefits of the bill, as they raise no other product for sale; the amount produced being not enough for home consumption. The average price of middling cotton for the five years ending with 1890 at New York has been 10 cents per pound. The average value of the total crops has been \$33,000,000. The average gross weight of the crops has

been 490 pounds to the bale. Placing the home value of the cotton at 9 cents each and kept them at a premium over gold ducats of 20 per cent—and the Venetian gold currency was the purest in Europe. The interest provision was abolished in 1423 and also with it the promise to pay in gold, and yet for nearly four centuries longer it continued the best currency Europe ever had, giving to Venice (with only 200,000 inhabitants) a degree of prosperity and power perhaps never attained by any other State with no greater resources or natural advantages. This currency in volume amounted to \$15,000,000—\$80 per capita—greater than ever enjoyed by any other people in the history of the world. The saving of interest for 400 years amounted to the amazing sum of \$100,000,000,000. It was essentially a fiat currency after 1423. This is all a matter of history and proves two facts conclusively, that a money absolutely without intrinsic value and circulating freely among the people in sufficient volume, without the consuming burden of interest, is the best possible instrument for exchanges.

Every Farmer Should Know All about the Horse, his diseases, and how to cure them. All about Buggies, Carriages, etc., and where to buy them. The "Complete Horse Book" tells all this. Send 10 cents, silver or stamps, to Pioneer Buggy Co., Columbus, Ohio.

GOLD WATCHES. We want 100,000 trial subscribers for three months, at 25 cents each. One thousand boys and girls can each earn a gold watch in procuring the same. For circulars explaining terms and conditions send a 2 cent stamp to

THE NATIONAL CITIZENS ALLIANCE,  
239 North Capital street,  
Washington, D. C.

Perfection of Railway Travel.

The Inauguration, by the Baltimore and Ohio, Philadelphia and Reading and Jersey Central Railways of the famous "Royal Blue Line" between New York and Washington via Philadelphia and Baltimore, was an event of the greatest importance to travelers, and it is very gratifying to chronicle the great success and popularity it has attained and destined fully for the two cities. We say the best from personal experience, for we have traveled over it and its competing lines, and when we say that over the "B. & O." route the highest realization and perfection of railway travel is attained, we are but giving it just praise. Its trains are the safest, the most rapid, fastest in America, and the most comfortable. A single direct express, equipped so completely and luxuriously as to leave nothing to be desired, is run between New York and Washington in each direction in exactly five hours, which is not only the fastest time ever made between the two cities, but is the fastest train in America, and the splendid record held of this route places it second to none. A single direct express, equipped so completely and luxuriously as to leave nothing to be desired, is run between New York and Washington in each direction in exactly five hours, which is not only the fastest time ever made between the two cities, but is the fastest train in America, and the splendid record held of this route places it second to none. 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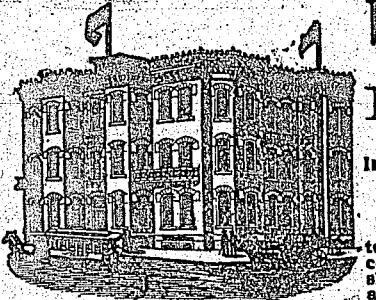
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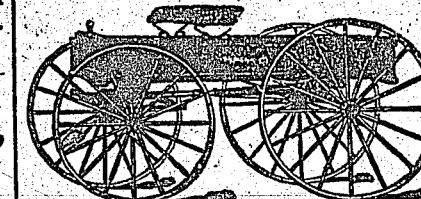
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March 21

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# THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION

DEVOTED TO SOCIAL, FINANCIAL, AND POLITICAL ECONOMICS

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THE order in Ohio has the requisite membership and will probably be chartered as a State Alliance in April.

THE Order in both North and South Dakota seems to be on a boom. Reports from that section are very encouraging.

PRESIDENT ADAMS has organized a lecture bureau for the State of Louisiana. The brethren of that State are up and doing, and the Order is prospering in consequence.

LEWIS G. DEVORE, of Georgetown, Ohio, writes that there is quite a boom in the Alliance, and that the old party politicians are quaking in their boots. In Ohio there are now over 200 subs, of which Brown county has twenty-five with several applications for charters.

STATE Organizer D. F. Allen writes Secretary Turner that New York has five county organizations, and there are six other counties with dates set for organization. New York will add another to the roster of organized States sometime in April.

THE center of population as shown by the present census is about twenty miles east of Columbus, Indiana. The center of corruption, however, lies at the head of navigation on the Potomac.

APRIL 6 to 15 six county Alliances will be organized in Southwestern New York. Congressman Jerry Simpson will attend the meetings and deliver addresses.

## FREE SILVER.

The whole United States, from North to South and East to West, has taken a dose of a silver discussion without a parallel since the foundation of the government; after Wall street has organized as never before to defeat the measure in Congress, and the administration has had to exert itself to the utmost to keep it from passing; after the Democratic party had to undergo the shame and disgrace of having enough of its members desert their standard to vote against it in order to beat the measure, Kansas, bleeding Kansas, by its hayseed legislature, comes forward with one assertion of legislative will and teaches democracy a lesson in State rights and the world a lesson in economics. The following resolution was passed by the House of Representatives in the State of Kansas:

Section 1. That the gold and silver dollars and half dollars coined by the United State shall be, and the same are hereby declared to be a full legal tender for all debts and dues made and entered into by any persons, corporation, company or co-partnership within this State, and all contracts specially made and entered into by any party or parties in violation of this act, whose contracts are to be enforced under the laws of this State, are hereby prohibited and shall be void.

This simply means that Kansas says that all contracts made in that State may be payable in silver, no matter whether the contracts specify gold or not. This makes free silver practically. Never did a little bit of legislation create a greater stir on Wall street than this simple action of the Kansas legislature. Never has a better lesson in State rights been presented to the democracy of the country than comes from the Republican State of Kansas. Suppose that all the States in favor of free silver should enact a like law, how powerless would the government or the other States be to resist the effect. This practically settles the silver question. If States demanding free silver are in earnest, all they have to do is to make a law of this character and silver will no longer be an issue in national politics. This is of much more importance than our readers may suppose. The fact is that Wall street has no reason to

object to free silver. It has had plenty of time to prepare, and it knows that free silver will not increase the volume of circulating medium to any appreciable degree. No argument has been presented, and no one has yet been able to show why Wall street should be so bitterly opposed to the passage of the recent free silver act. The facts are, the real facts, the reason for the opposition, undoubtedly is that Wall street wanted to keep free silver before the people as an issue in the next election. It is a harmless issue that does not hurt Wall street, no matter which way it goes, and it keeps the attention of the people away from something that might hurt Wall street. That is to say, that Wall street can get a nominee of one party who is in favor of free silver and still in favor of a Wall street policy of conducting the finances of the government. It also thinks it can secure a nominee for the other party who is opposed to free silver and is in favor of a Wall street policy. It doesn't care a cent about the free silver, so it gets the man whose heart beats in sympathy with the interests of those who manipulate finance in Wall street. It will donate liberally to the campaign fund of both the great parties, tie up the candidate to its interest firmly and seek to keep the people evenly divided so that it might carry a balance of power in favor of the man most fervently devoted to Wall street interests. But the people of this country are beginning to wake up to the fact that the politics of the nation is a big game played by different players, and that the effort to keep them divided equally on the tariff question and on the free silver question are simply means by which the exploiting class works to a given end—that is to say, to give Wall street a balance of power that it may have its friends in places to benefit it. Wall street dreads nothing on earth so much as an effort on the part of the people that will rob money of its power to oppress and break up the present discriminations against agriculture, and it will spare no means on

earth to distract the attention of the people from such measures. If after spending millions of money to keep the tariff as the leading issue the money power finds its efforts attended with failure, and if after spending like sums to make silver attract the whole attention of both sides and get the farmers of this country to fight one another upon that issue, it also finds its efforts attended with failure, it will resort to other means that seem to be better calculated to arouse the prejudices of the different sections, and if that too fails the struggle becomes a life and death fight between the power of money to oppress and the independence of the productive interests of this country, and should the productive interests manifest a wisdom and intelligence broad enough that shows that they understand their rights and dare to maintain them, this unscrupulous opposition of the exploiting class will resort to the most violent means of distracting public attention from these issues. It may not stop short of an effort to embroil the country in a foreign war over some trivial pretext or excuse, but it is believed the intelligence and education of the people has at last become aroused to such an extent that no effort can distract their attention from this gist of the fight, and they will contend for their rights until they secure them, regardless of every side-track presented. To do this there must be no agitation, no haste, no bitterness or asperity. The silent column must move forward guided by intelligence and determination to a given fixed point, allowing nothing on earth to swerve or turn the people from their object.

## THE SUB-TREASURY AND DEMOCRACY.

The sub-treasury plan is at present being viciously attacked by the partisan press and political bosses of the Democratic party. It is claimed to be undemocratic, and inimical to Democratic doctrine. Let the founders of that doctrine be examined on this point. Jefferson said:

And so the nation may continue to issue its bills as far as its wants require and the limits of its circulation will permit. Those limits are understood to

extend with us at present to \$600,000,000, a greater sum than would be necessary for any war. But this, the only resource which the government could command with certainty, the States have unfortunately foisted away, nay, corruptly alienated to swindlers and shavers, under the cover of private banks. Say, too, as an additional evil, that the disposal funds of individuals to this great amount have been thus withdrawn from improvement and useful enterprise, and employed in the useless, usurious, and demoralizing practices of bank directors and their accomplices. In the war of 1775 our State availed itself of this fund by issuing a paper money bottomed on a specific tax for its redemption, and to insure its credit, bearing an interest of 5 per cent. Within a very short time not a bill of this emission was to be found in circulation. It was locked up in the chests of executors, guardians, widows, farmers, etc. We then issued bills bottomed on a redeeming tax, but bearing no interest. These were readily received, and never depreciated a single farthing. —Opinions of Thomas Jefferson in 1813; his letter to John W. Eppes, June 24, 1813; Jefferson's Works, volume 4, pages 40, 41.

The question will be asked, and ought to be looked at, what is to be the recourse if loans can not be obtained? There is but one—“*Carthago delenda est.*” Bank paper must be suppressed, and the circulating medium must be restored to the nation to whom it belongs. It is the only fund on which they can rely for loans; it is the only recourse that can never fail them, and it is an abundant one for every necessary purpose. Treasury bills, bottomed on taxes, bearing or not bearing interest, as may be found necessary, thrown into circulation will take the place of so much gold and silver, which last when crowded, will find an efflux into other countries, and thus keep the quantum of medium at its salutary level. Let banks continue, if they please, but let them discount for cash alone or for Treasury notes. —Letter September 11, 1813, volume 6, pages 199, 200, 201.

Could the farmer of Monticello, who penned the Declaration of Independence rise from his grave, he would take his proper place in the front rank of the Farmers Alliance, and contend for every principle contained in its demands. John C. Calhoun said:

Why compel the people to pay interest on government credit through the bank, when said credit could be extended direct to the people without interest?

Should any one doubt his Democracy or challenge his knowledge of what true Democracy consists in? President Jackson said:

The question is distinctly presented, whether the people of the United States are to govern through representatives chosen by their unbiased suffrages, or whether the power and money of a great corporation are to be secretly exerted to influence their judgment and control their decisions. It must now be determined whether the bank is to have its candidates for all offices in the country, from the highest to the lowest; or whether candidates on both sides of political questions shall be brought forward, as heretofore, and supported by the usual means. —Message of Dec. 3, 1833.

Will any one deny that Jackson was a Democrat, and knew what Democratic principles were? Let those who are contending that the sub-treasury plan is contrary to Democratic principles compare the above statements of the founders of that party with the acts and methods of its present leaders before passing judgment.

A Democratic Congress, headed by Mr. Mills, authorized a Democratic President (Mr. Cleveland) to

begin the purchase of bonds before they were due at a high premium. About \$60,000,000 of the people's money has been squandered under this authority. A Democratic House passed the largest appropriation for rivers and harbors ever made. The last Democratic administration borrowed gold coin in Wall street without even the shadow of law to prevent the possibility of a payment of silver on the bonds. A Democratic comptroller of the currency, under the last administration, recommended the withdrawal of the greenbacks from circulation and interest-bearing bonds issued in their stead, and a Democratic President (Mr. Cleveland) used his influence during and since his term of office to prevent the remonetization and free coinage of silver.

Are these measures a part of Democratic doctrine? Do they comport with that doctrine as laid down by the fathers of that party? Most assuredly they do not. The sub-treasury plan would act as a vigorous purifier upon such a mass of incongruities, and bring the party back to the condition in which its great teachers and founders left it. In Mississippi an effort is being made to drive out the party all who champion the sub-treasury plan. Why not turn out those who favor the measures named above? Which contain the elements of true Democracy? Is the right to differ upon economic questions denied to members of the Democratic party? Must blind, partisan leaders continue to be followed by a slavish, obsequious membership. Let the party persist in this course, and the result will not be satisfactory to the political bosses. There is no revolt among the people against pure Democracy, it is against unscrupulous partisan leaders. Let there be no mistake about this. The people have called a halt, and demanded of the politicians an account of their stewardship. Those who have been honest and true have nothing to fear, but those who have not had better accept the inevitable at once and step down and out. The same conditions obtained in Kansas; it was not a war against true Republicanism; it was a rebellion against bigoted, plutocratic, political leaders, and as such was a success. The people were victorious there, and will so continue until a genuine republic, founded upon a pure democracy, shall bless the people.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

During the last session of Congress quite a number of amendments to the Constitution have been proposed in one house or the other, but none of them has received the sanction of both houses, as the law

requires, in order that they may be submitted to the people for ratification. There seems to be, especially upon the Democratic side of Congress, a very great dread of taking any action that will in any manner modify the provisions of the Constitution. This is commendable in just that degree that the Constitution can be proved to be perfect, and no further. If a constitution could be made that would be exactly what it purports to be, no modification of it could ever be tolerated.

This is a very broad assertion, and perhaps needs some explanation. A constitution as such should be the organic law of the land (organic as distinguished from the statutory), and a constitution expressing simply the organic law of the land would have no provisions except such as established principles, defining them accurately, expressing powers and limiting responsibilities. At this point it would end, and having dealt only in principles, never could be subject to any modification, because principles never change; but neither this country nor any other that has ever been known to history has had a written constitution, but it is worthy of note that a good and laudable sentiment, that is the sentiment against any change in the organic law, should have defeated these measures and others equally as meritorious, which in themselves are good measures calculated to express the wish of the people and benefit the laws of the country. Congress, evidently from lack of confidence in itself, and from veneration for our institutions, has neglected to perform an important duty. Veneration for the constitution and a desire to let its provisions remain unchanged is a laudable sentiment that should be encouraged to the highest degree, but such provisions of the constitution as are statutory in character, and not organic, must be changed as time progresses, and to delay is only to increase the necessity and the dangers that naturally surround them. The greater the veneration for the constitution the greater must be the desire to have it perfect, and it can only be made perfect by eliminating as rapidly as possible all statutory features and boiling it down to a clear and concise statement of the principles involved and a limitation of the powers and responsibilities conferred. All questions should be subjected to this analysis, and if they are found after an examination to be statutory in character, no matter though they may be part of the constitution, there should be no hesitation whatever about submitting them to such changes as the execution

and is well calculated to subvert one of the fundamental principles of this government, which was that the lower house, the most numerous branch of the legislature, should be composed of men who came fresh from the people with all their wants and desires, and instructed so as to represent their interests according to the popular voice. To hold them out of the position for thirteen months after they are elected is beyond doubt finely calculated to neutralize this fundamental principle of our government, that the lower house would express and represent the popular wish of the people. An amendment changing this clause of the constitution was proposed by Mr. Crane, of Texas, during the last session, which provided that instead of Congress convening in December it was to convene on the first Monday in January after the election of the Congressmen, and the date of the inauguration of the President was to be postponed from the 4th of March to the 30th of April. These are both, for obvious reasons, very wise suggestions that will no doubt meet the approval of the people during the next session, but it is worthy of note that a good and laudable sentiment, that is the sentiment against any change in the organic law, should have defeated these measures and others equally as meritorious, which in themselves are good measures calculated to express the wish of the people and benefit the laws of the country. Congress, evidently from lack of confidence in itself, and from veneration for our institutions, has neglected to perform an important duty. Veneration for the constitution and a desire to let its provisions remain unchanged is a laudable sentiment that should be encouraged to the highest degree, but such provisions of the constitution as are statutory in character, and not organic, must be changed as time progresses, and to delay is only to increase the necessity and the dangers that naturally surround them. The greater the veneration for the constitution the greater must be the desire to have it perfect, and it can only be made perfect by eliminating as rapidly as possible all statutory features and boiling it down to a clear and concise statement of the principles involved and a limitation of the powers and responsibilities conferred. All questions should be subjected to this analysis, and if they are found after an examination to be statutory in character, no matter though they may be part of the constitution, there should be no hesitation whatever about submitting them to such changes as the execution

of the laws and wishes of the American people may demonstrate to be necessary.

#### FEALTY AND DISCIPLINE.

The following communication from Brother Frank P. Cook, of California, will be appreciated by the readers of THE ECONOMIST on account of its good doctrine and force. Nevertheless he is in error as to the position taken by THE ECONOMIST upon the question quoted. Had THE ECONOMIST expressed the sentiment understood by Brother Cook many correspondents would have replied denouncing the position most forcibly, as it is this is the only response received, and shows, therefore, that Brother Cook has understood the article differently from what the public generally has, and certainly very differently from what was intended. The position taken by THE ECONOMIST, in the article referred to, was that brethren who were delegates to the Supreme Council and participated in the discussion of the subjects that were acted upon, were bound before the outside world to support the conclusions reached, that their constituents, if they did not repudiate such action in a reasonable length of time, would also be bound before the outside world to its support, and this would follow as to the constituency clear on down to the individuals of the subordinate body. Under no circumstances did this preclude any one from having the broadest liberty of opinion and exercising the greatest freedom of debate in opposition to any measure within the Order, but within the Order is the place to express his objections and urge his arguments, and if after a full hearing and faithful discussion he finds himself in a minority and is unwilling to yield to the majority, the proper place for him is on the outside, and it is wrong for him to stay in and yield to it obedience or submission to the action had, and then, before the outside world, proclaim and denounce it, showing discord and dissension and giving the enemies reason to believe that the Order is not a unit, as it so firmly claims itself to be. Had Brother Cook understood THE ECONOMIST in this light, it is not likely he would have made the criticism which he does, and which he justly makes understanding it as he did. Here follows the communication:

I greatly admire THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, and have so far pushed its circulation, as I shall continue to do, believing it to be the best paper for members of the Farmers Alliance to take; but it is said that the best of us make mistakes occasionally, and I question whether THE ECONOMIST is just right in regard to how much fealty individual members of our Order owe to the opinions set forth by the Na-

tional Alliance delegates. If the view of the duty of State, County, and subordinate Alliances and individual members of the Order expressed by THE ECONOMIST in its first editorial on page 300, issue of January 24, 1891, is to become law in the Order, then it seems to me that the spirit of the Order will be changed from what it is, and its phraseology will have to be. It now invites all farming people to come together to find what the interests of farming are in every way; but if the view taken by THE ECONOMIST in the article referred to were adopted it would invite only such as were exactly in accord with the opinions expressed by a majority of the Supreme Council. Instead of continuing to be, as now, a place for the free discussion of public affairs, with regard to their effect upon the farming interests, the Alliance would become a stagnation political party. It seems to me that the effect of what THE ECONOMIST has proposed would be to add another requirement for eligibility—a requirement touching political opinion. Would not that make the laws of the Order contradict the ritual? I think it would. It is now specifically stated to candidates that the obligation they are required to take will not interfere with their religious or political views. If the new view of the duty of members is to be taken, then this assurance should be stricken out, as it could not be truthfully given, and an addition should be made to the obligation somewhat as follows: “I also solemnly affirm that I will not express disapproval of the views on public affairs adopted by majority vote of the National Alliance delegates, unless permission to do so is given me by majority vote of the State, County, or subordinate Alliances in the jurisdiction of which I belong.” I think the effect would be to soon reduce the membership of the Order to those who wholly agreed with the views expressed by the National Alliance delegates. Whether such reduction in membership is desirable I do not argue now; but I submit that if such action is to be taken—if such change in the Order is to be made—it should be made in a straightforward manner, by an addition to the eligibility clause, an addition to the obligation, and the striking out of the assurance to candidates that the obligation will not interfere with their religious or political views. This would seem necessary, because while they might agree with this year's declarations of this year's national delegates, would they agree with next year's declarations? What then? Out should they go? By the time such changes were made, I think the N. F. A. and U. W. would have become what many honest people now think it is—a narrow, class, political party. At present that is a misapprehension, and one of the worst things organizers have to work against.

I cannot respect very highly the person who opposes the views of others and does not offer his own. I believe it to be the duty of any man who opposes a method proposed by others to try at least to propose a better one. I am not merely a kicker. I believe that the spirit of what THE ECONOMIST proposes is right, but I believe the method it offers to secure the state of things wished for is unwise. Is there not some better way? If I understand the writer of the editorial in THE ECONOMIST rightly what he dislikes is disorder and uncertainty. So do I dislike them. I want to know to a certainty what the majority opinion of the whole membership of this order is on topics of public concern. I want to see a spirit of order manifest in our organization; but I do not want to see a stiff and unbending condition of things. I love flexibility and freedom and adaptiveness as well as order and unity. Individual liberty is the first requisite of growth. We want, I believe, liberty to grow; organization, that the will of the majority may be presented, sustained, and, if possible, executed upon the public, not against a good part of ourselves with the effect of decimating ourselves; and a spirit of order and fraternity resulting from the practical application within ourselves of the doctrine of equal rights in the matter of expressing the opinions of the order at least. What can the method be by which these things may be obtained?

In arriving at answer to that ques-

tion, there is one feature of our daily life that needs to be seen just as it is. The delegates to county, State, and National Alliance are not “representatives.” That last word is as persistently misused as the word “very.” The political system which we are every day using is not a “representative” system. It was designed to be. For awhile in the history of this country, owing to the gracious condescension of legislators, it was to a large extent. But that day is past. Men who seek such places have learned that they are under no legal or business obligation to “represent the views of those who reside in his district, although he carries their delegated political power in his breeches pocket. He is a “delegate;” the one to whom others have delegated all their political power for the time being, but he is under no legal obligations to follow the wishes of a majority of them in the use of that power. The word “represent” is more properly “re-present.” “Re” is the Latin equivalent of the English word “again.” So “re-present” means to “present again.” A man can present again the views of a majority, or others only when it is definitely presented to him; and for such presentation on the part of the people the political system, which our order has copied in the main, does not provide, serve in case of constitution and constitutional amendments. How many delegates to county Alliances are definitely instructed as to the majority opinion in their sub>Alliances on all public questions, upon which it may be desirable for the Order to express itself? How many delegates to the Supreme Council and participated in the discussion of the subjects that were acted upon, were bound before the outside world to support the conclusions reached, that their constituents, if they did not repudiate such action in a reasonable length of time, would also be bound before the outside world to its support, and this would follow as to the constituency clear on down to the individuals of the subordinate body. Under no circumstances did this preclude any one from having the broadest liberty of opinion and exercising the greatest freedom of debate in opposition to any measure within the Order, but within the Order is the place to express his objections and urge his arguments, and if after a full hearing and faithful discussion he finds himself in a minority and is unwilling to yield to the majority, the proper place for him is on the outside, and it is wrong for him to stay in and yield to it obedience or submission to the action had, and then, before the outside world, proclaim and denounce it, showing discord and dissension and giving the enemies reason to believe that the Order is not a unit, as it so firmly claims itself to be. Had Brother Cook understood THE ECONOMIST in this light, it is not likely he would have made the criticism which he does, and which he justly makes understanding it as he did. Here follows the communication:

I believe this method of ascertaining and expressing the majority opinion of the Order would promote personal interest, fraternity, a feeling of justice and promote intelligence among ourselves as no other method can. I believe it would bring about that feeling of orderliness and unity which THE ECONOMIST so earnestly and rightly desires, and without interfering with freedom of individual opinion. When we have all had a fair say in a matter and a fair vote upon it, we feel satisfied and a vote counted, “for” or “against” as the case might be. Knowing our own opinions in this Order, we should have some solid basis for work.

The method here proposed has already been adopted in two of the largest counties in California, so far as relates to opinions presented in the name of the Order in either of those two counties, as the inclosed County General Laws of San Joaquin county will show you.

**THE ALLIANCE IN NEW YORK.**  
The following extract is taken from the Alliance Leader, of Bolivar, N. Y., and shows that the lesson of Alliance doctrine is beginning to assert itself in that State. It is predicted by those capable of judging that during the coming year the Alliance will hold the balance of power over the entire State of New York:

We have begun the reform. As we look down the list of supervisors that have been recently elected and who are to be the legislators of Allegany county for the coming year, we find that the Alliance has had an awful effect. At least seventeen of the twenty-nine of the next Board Supervisors will be Alliance men. In reading the party papers we find nothing said about the aid which the Alliance lent in their election, but simply says Republican or Democrat, and this is all right since they are republicans and democrats the same as of old.

But they are not the same class of men whom these old parties have been in the habit of electing. We are not working this reform for honor, but for profit and the welfare of the country at large.

**WHEAT CROP OF THE WORLD.**  
Only a few of the leading wheat-growing countries of the world put forth official estimates of their annual product. For other countries it is necessary to adopt what appears to be the most reliable of

cial estimates. In the following compilation, showing the estimated crop of the world for 1890, the figures for the United States, Ontario, Austria-Hungary, France, United Kingdom, Russia, Sweden, India, and Australasia are official, though in some cases not final. For other countries they are commercial estimates.

## Countries.

## Bushels.

North America:	
United States.....	399,262,000
Canada:	
Ontario.....	25,231,412
Other provinces.....	14,000,000
	438,493,412
South America:	
Argentine Republic.....	41,703,683
Chili.....	18,597,360
	60,271,043
Europe:	
Austria.....	51,440,667
Hungary.....	165,345,000
Belgium.....	19,573,075
Denmark.....	5,776,512
France.....	338,902,124
Germany.....	94,899,320
Great Britain.....	75,666,617
Ireland.....	2,639,399
Greece.....	12,378,240
Italy.....	126,640,746
Netherlands.....	6,189,123
Portugal.....	8,252,161
Romania.....	63,954,240
Russia in Europe (exclusive of Poland).....	197,739,200
Poland.....	22,343,125
Serbia.....	10,315,200
Spain.....	70,143,360
Sweden.....	3,856,043
Norway.....	412,608
Switzerland.....	2,475,648
Turkey and dependencies.....	37,134,720
	1,316,177,644
Asia:	
India.....	235,345,600
Asia Minor.....	37,134,720
Persia.....	22,693,440
Syria.....	12,378,240
	307,552,000
Africa:	
Algeria.....	22,693,440
Cape Colony.....	3,713,472
Egypt.....	8,252,160
Tunis.....	4,256,250
	38,915,322
Australasia.....	42,480,131
Total.....	2,203,889,552

## TRICKS THAT ARE VAIN.

For pure, unadulterated partisan gall command us to the leaders of the twin that predominates in Missouri. Hon. T. J. Hendrickson's joint and concurrent resolution No. 1, embracing the demands of the Ocala meeting, a copy of which was published in the Union some time ago, was ordered to engrossment. A copy of the engrossed resolution with the title so changed as to make it appear as the work of the Democrats of the Ocala meeting was sent to Representative Hatch, who had it printed in the Congressional Record and lauded it to the skies as good democratic doctrine. He forgot (?) to state that it was perverted from the original as introduced by a champion of Union Labor. The idea that government loans to the people and government ownership of the means of transportation and communication are "good democratic doctrine" will surprise the Wall street branch of the faithful.

The above from the Union, Butcher, Mo., is a fair example of the methods that a certain candidate for the speakership is making use of. All such efforts at deception will prove ineffectual, and ultimately injure the cause of any man for that position.

## PROCLAMATION.

To the Members of the Farmers Alliance of Texas.

Whereas, There exists a great necessity for vigorous work in propagating the educational features of this great reform effort during the coming season and

Whereas, The time of the regular sessions of the State Alliance must be principally devoted to the business of the order, thereby making it impossible to properly organize and instruct the various lecturers at that time.

Whereas, The State Alliance does not possess the necessary funds to employ and pay an efficient corps of lecturers for the purpose of prosecuting the work in that manner, therefore this great educational work must depend upon the efforts of the State, district, county and subordinate officers, and

Whereas, For such officers to prosecute this important work with vigor, effectiveness and unity of purpose it is necessary that they be all called together for the purpose of thorough instruction and discussion of the principles of our order, the work to be accomplished, and the best methods of performing such work, to the end that each may profit by the experience of all the others, and the officers and lecturers of the entire State work as a unit to accomplish the same object by the same methods, thereby insuring absolute certainty of success, and

Whereas, The constitution of the State Alliance of Texas does not by any expressed provision authorize its president to call a meeting of this character and pay the expenses of same from the State treasury, hence it is necessary that such meeting be self-sustaining.

Now, therefore, as president of the State Alliance of Texas, I do hereby issue this, my special request or call, that a meeting be held in the city of Waco to convene on the 21st day of April, 1891, at 10 o'clock A. M., to be known as the Alliance Annual Conference or Association, and that said meeting be composed of the following brethren:

1. The officers and executive and judiciary committees of the State Alliance.

2. The lecturers of the various District Alliances, also the presidents of the District Alliances, if possible.

3. The lecturers of the County Alliances, or such other brethren of the County Alliance as may be chosen.

4. All true Alliance brethren in good standing who are willing to put their shoulders to the wheel and work faithfully for the good of the order.

A special effort will be made to secure reduced railroad rates and an active committee will make arrangements for board at a very low rate. I would suggest that Alliances, so far as practicable, pay the expenses of sending their lecturers and any others that may choose, and that all brethren able to come at their own expense do so, as they will be ample repaid by what they hear.

I am not fully prepared to give a programme in detail, but after a free conference with the brethren I am authorized to announce the following features:

FIRST DAY—MORNING.

Opening address, by Evan Jones, President Farmers State Alliance.

AFTERNOON.

Subject—Transportation.

Address by L. F. Livingston, President Farmers Southern Alliance of Georgia, followed by free discussion by all present during afternoon and night session.

SECOND DAY—MORNING.

Subject—Finance.

Address on necessity for financial reform and the sub-treasury plan as a remedy, by C. W. Macune, followed by discussion of the financial question by all present without limit.

THIRD DAY—MORNING.

Address—Political action, or the farmer in politics, by E. T. Stackhouse, ex-President Farmers State Alliance, of South Carolina, followed by free discussion.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Address—Insurance in the Alliance, by Alonzo Wardall, of South Dakota, member national executive board, followed by full discussion.

## FOURTH DAY.

And remainder of the session devoted to the methods of lecture work and deciding upon the exact plan of action for the next six months, in which all are expected to be heard. Other important speakers will be secured from abroad and many interesting and important features added to the programme before the meeting assemblies.

All persons who will attend are requested to send their names to C. M. Wilcox, Waco, Texas, to be used by the committee of arrangements in securing entertainment. This should be sent at the very earliest day possible.

EVAN JONES,  
Pres. F. S. A. of Texas.

## The Third Party Movement.

BY RICHARD V. GAINES, MOSSING FORD, VA.

That great orator and eccentric statesman, John Randolph of Roanoke, when once engaged in a very active and bitter political contest, was informed by a friend that certain parties were very inimical to him and were doing him a great deal of injury—that they would, unless pacified in some way, turn the tide of the canvass against him. His reply was, "If you will save me from my friends, I will take care of my enemies." The Alliance movement has reached that point in its history when its most dangerous foes are those of its own household. Let us look back for a moment and

What is the Alliance? Taking its constitution and declaration of purposes as our guide, we would define it to be a secret, fraternal, ethical, social, educational, co-operative, financial, industrial, political body, composed of farmers and farm laborers, mechanics, country school teachers, doctors and preachers, editors of strictly agricultural newspapers and their wives, sons and daughters above sixteen years of age bound together by mutual ties and mutual interest, and working together for the amelioration of their social, moral, intellectual and material condition.

It is moreover a body politic and corporate, and as such a reform organization, having for its ulterior object the blotting out of all partisan and sectional lines, the education of its members in the topmost of all sciences, viz., the science of economic government. Surely this is enough, and all must concede that it is a high and holy ambition. On the other hand, it has excluded from membership among other classes, lawyers, merchants, manufacturers and politicians, bank officers and railway officials and their employees.

We have excluded lawyers because, according to the dictum of Voltaire, "they are the conservators of ancient abuses." Our movement is reformatory. We have excluded merchants because they are "middle men." They do not produce anything; they do not add anything to the value of the products which they handle, but simply act as a medium of exchange, performing among classes and individuals in society the same function which money performs among economic goods.

We wish to bring the producer and consumer together. We exclude manufacturers because they are the peculiar foster children of the government. Through its agency they levy a tax upon all consumers for which they render no adequate return. We exclude politicians because if we admit them our own chosen leaders will be immediately relegated to the rear. Our doctrine is that laid down by Abraham Lincoln. A government by the people, for the people, and of the people. Theirs is a government by the office-holder, for the office-holder, and of the office-holder, and they have reduced this system to a science already. We have excluded bankers because they hold the purse-strings of the government, have dictated its policy, have manipulated its legislation, and elected its officials. Their wealth to us would be an element of great danger. Poverty is a bond of union, and also a powerful stimulus to our membership. We exclude railway officials because they have appropriated to their own private use and benefit the rights, privileges, and franchises which are the heritage and common property of all the people; because they have appropriated the unearned increment of our wealth and population and material resources; because they have capitalized the people, the public domain, the minerals, the productive resources of our country, and even water, pure, but not distilled, and sold the bonds issued to foreigners, who will through all time collect in dividends these taxes from the wealth-producing and burden-bearing classes of this country. The annual revenues of all these corporations are levied upon the productive resources of the country, and the annual increment of wealth is thereby absorbed by these privileged classes, to the detriment and impoverishment of all other classes in society.

By this means the people of the country have been divided into two classes. On the one side we have the great masses, wealth-producing and burden-bearing; on the other we have the privileged few, created by special enactment, and appropriating under the forms of law the annual income of the entire country. Hence the two crimes of the age, which have led to this Alliance movement, are the unequal distribution of the burdens and benefits of government and the unequal distribution of the profits of labor and capital.

Surely this is enough, and all must concede that it is a high and holy ambition. In the selection of the constituent elements which enter into the formation of our organization union we have endeavored to draw the lines sharply, but in doing so we have only indicated certain great classes, which are included or excluded upon the grounds of mutual ideas and mutual interest. But there are individuals in all classes who are eligible to membership in our Order when tested by this standard, and hence, in the formation of subordinate bodies, which form the basis of representation, each individual applicant is examined, and qualification and merit alone form the basis of an election. So long as we maintain the distinctive features of our organization and adhere rigidly to the principles which we have laid down for our guidance, this flexibility in our constitution will add greatly to our strength and expand wonderfully our field of usefulness. But the moment we de-

we shall find ourselves at sea without rudder or compass, and our grand Order will be shipwrecked upon the breakers of party strife and sectional conflict.

Having shown what the Alliance is, and what classes in society form its constituent elements, and why certain other classes have been excluded from its organization—the next question is: What are its principles?

1. The maxim: In things essential unity; in all things charity.

2. Equal rights to all, special privileges to none.

These great fraternal, ethical, political precepts have been made the corner stone of our Order. In other words, the brotherhood of man, the equality of man before the law, and the right of each man to his "life, his liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

To guide us in the application of these principles and the solution of social, industrial, and political problems, we require as a condition prerequisite faith in an all-wise and infinitely good and merciful God, and have taken as our chart the eternal principles of "faith, justice, and equity," as laid down in His word. Standing upon such a platform, and cemented together by such ties, in one common brotherhood, our first and highest aim is, to elevate the manhood and womanhood of our Order, and to ameliorate their moral, social, financial, industrial and political condition by educating them in these righteous, eternal and inscrutable principles.

## OBJECTS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED.

To accomplish these high and laudable purposes, it is essential that we should maintain the purity and integrity of our Order, and to maintain the purity and integrity of our Order partisan politics and sectional issues must be rigidly excluded.

Should the Alliance as a body, or in combination with other kindred organizations, enter the dirty arena of political strife it would lead to the dissolution of our Order and the prostitution of our high and holy principles to the base and corrupt practices which have disgraced partisan politics. But what would be considered even worse still, and by those who advocate such a policy, the defeat of our Order and the prostitution of our high and holy principles to the base and corrupt practices which have disgraced partisan politics. But what would be considered even worse still, and by those who advocate such a policy, the defeat of our Order and the prostitution of our high and holy principles to the base and corrupt practices which have disgraced partisan politics.

It would be a sight at which angels might weep! "And this above all, to thine own self be true. And it must follow, as the night the day, Thou canst not then be false to any man."

There is one other fact which demands our serious and thoughtful attention. The Farmers Alliance is a

## SECRET FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION.

Is it not in conflict with our "bill of rights," and the whole tendency and spirit of free institutions to undertake to form a political party out of such materials. We have been taught that the "flesh pots of Egypt;" nor was Xerxes, with his millions of barbarians, able to stand before the three hundred Grecian patriots, led by Leonidas. There is no strength in numbers, but in organization, and drill, and the courage

## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

of your convictions. When the Alliance men have been so disciplined that they can form a Macedonian phalanx and can stand the shock of battle with their spears crossed and their shields locked, then we may assume the aggressive.

We must first learn to defend ourselves against the attacks of our foes before we undertake to wage an offensive warfare. The integrity of the body politic comes first. This must be secured and maintained as a condition prerequisite.

If on the other hand we could be satisfied with the thorough organization and discipline of our forces, and a campaign waged solely for education, keeping our order free from all entangling alliances, and leaving the individual members free to exercise their influence in the election of candidates, true, tried and standing up on the Alliance platform, our victory would be assured. We should then have the co-operation and assistance of the best men in all classes and all parties, conscientious and patriotic lawyers, merchants, manufacturers, bankers, politicians, Democrats, and Republicans would flock to our standard because upon it is inscribed those eternal and immutable principles of truth and equity. If the spoils of office shall prove a temptation too great to be resisted, if this grand order, whose coming has been hailed with such a flourish of trumpets, is to be disorganized, demoralized and disrupted by the heart burnings, jealousies, and the passions engendered by a political conflict, ending in overwhelming defeat, then there remains to be added but one more sad, black page to the history of this country.

In conclusion permit me to ask if at this early day we are to falsify our record and trample upon our "declaration of purposes." We have pledged ourselves to accomplish the high and noble task which we have undertaken in a "strictly non-partisan spirit;" "to constantly strive to secure entire harmony and good will among all mankind and brotherly love among ourselves;" "to suppress personal, local, and sectional and national prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry and selfish ambition." Shall these pledges and this great reform movement, upon which such large expectations have been based, so soon come to grief? Surely this is a sight at which angels might weep! "And this above all, to thine own self be true. And it must follow, as the night the day, Thou canst not then be false to any man."

There is one other fact which demands our serious and thoughtful attention. The Farmers Alliance is a

been promised by both the Democratic and Republican parties, to these eighteen years, to restore it; each claiming that the act was done in some mysterious inexplicable way, unaccountable by their Senators and Congressmen—and yet, through some like mysterious power that dominates the government, it remains unrestored. And now the money power, fearing the passage of free silver coinage, throws off its mask and proposes taking the debtor class by the throat and compel a change of bonds and mortgages payable in gold, unless the agitation for the restoration of free coinage of silver is stopped.

"Lay on Macduff, and damned be he who first cries hold, enough." Such threats, instead of intimidating an intelligent people, knowing their rights, only makes their cause the more just. Free coinage is no longer a debatable question in the attitude assumed by the money power. It has subjugated both the Democratic and Republican organizations. It commands and the treasury vaults of the government are thrown open for its use, and its autocratic whisper arrests and sticks legislation. The momentous question that forces itself as a political issue to be determined by the suffrages of the people is, whether this is "a government of the people, by the people and for the people?" Or whether it shall be a money oligarchy? In the canvass it will be a stand up fight on the one side, on the other side it will be the strategy of all the deceptive means and the corruptions of many known to old party organizations and a subsidized press that money can command. Prominent antagonistic leaders of both the old parties whose interest and sympathies are with the money power, will unite and will draw their partisan camp followers with them. Some of the noted chiefs are now shaking hands across the partisan chasm. The disintegration of the old parties and the abandonment of their obsolete pernicious issues is inevitable. They have both outlived their usefulness, "they are back numbers" to be filed away among other archives of a past age. New parties and issues are being developed to keep pace with the progress of our civilization and the enlightenment of the age. The demand is improved political conditions that will promote the social and financial opportunities of the great mass of the people whose labor produces everything, and who are sharing the least of the comforts of life. This is the movement inaugurated by the enlightened yeomen of America and the wage workers in the factories, in the mines and on the railroads. And it is not confined to this country, it is the absorbing theme of the down-trodden, but enlightened masses of Europe.

The Philosophy of Parties.  
BY J. M. WHITEHEAD.

Parties are necessary evils, but it does not follow that they should be perpetuated. They are simply organized effort acting in concert in the interest of some principle lying back of it. If a majority of voters in the United States

one mind on a given question, by organization and a common agreement to act as one man they will engraft the principle into the constitutional or legislative framework of this republic. After this principle has thus been made to succeed, what sense can be urged for holding this mass of voters together with no object in view, except it be the desire for spoils? How is it possible for honest, earnest thinking men who agree or have agreed on some issue of the past to be expected to agree on every issue that may possibly arise? The voter who always agrees with his party never thinks for himself. If he thinks for himself, and differs with his party but votes the party ticket, he is untrue to himself and the country. We talk of the principles of this or that political party as if they were always the same. The truth is, no two platforms of any party have ever been alike. They change as time and circumstances change. Politics is inconsistent with itself. It applauds the fidelity of its members who never, under any circumstances, bolt the ticket, and at the same time lauds to the skies the patriotism of the people when they repudiate at the ballot box an unwise policy or an unworthy candidate in the defeat of one or the other party. And at the same time it is well understood that this result could never have been accomplished but for the action of thoughtful men who had the courage of their convictions and the moral manhood to assert their independence in casting their vote. If every man should always vote his party ticket, regardless of the fitness of the candidate or the principles announced in the platform, elections would prove nothing except that the victorious party possessed the larger membership. This machine method of manipulating elections requires neither intelligence nor patriotism. An animal that could be trained to deposit a ballot would be as safe a citizen as the man who always votes blindly the party ticket as he is directed to do by the party bosses. What sense is there in a man's boasting that he is a Democrat because he voted for Andrew Jackson and was in favor of moving the deposits, or that he is a Republican because he voted for Abraham Lincoln and was opposed to secession? These are dead men and dead issues. They were living and vital in their day, but the day is as much a part of the past as is that of Julius Caesar or Alexander the Great. The Alliance is grappling with the living issues of to-day. The Republican and the Democratic parties are subsisting on the dead issues of thirty and fifty years ago. The people are aroused and see their danger, but some of them are like the poor helpless creature seized with nightmare in his sleep. He struggles to cry aloud and to break loose, but alas! finds himself bound hand and foot by a mysterious charm that holds him fast in a deadly vice-like grasp. It is party spirit that holds him. His affections have been wrought upon, and his prejudices worked up in favor of a mere name, and if he were asked to give a reason for

this intangible tie that blinds him to a mere word, a sentiment, he could not tell his life depended on it. The remedy is education, intelligence, information. Let the voter see clearly the real issues, and where his interest lies, and he will not be long in shaking off the nightmare and breaking through and over party lines, and taking his stand side by side with those whose interest and convictions are identical with his own. And if sacrifices of party allegiance are to be made, he will be as ready to make them as to exact it of his neighbor.

The Purpose to Educate.  
BY S. WELFORD CORBIN, PRINCE  
GEORGE, VA.

The aim of a farmers' institute is to educate, enlighten, and elevate the followers of agriculture. Thus the ground to be covered would absolutely include the social and intellectual as well as the material advancement of the farmer. These institutes are the outcome and result of the needs and necessities incident to the enlightened and successful pursuance of the profession in free society. Some of us in Virginia have not yet accepted and gracefully submitted to the inevitable and positive changes necessary to a successful conduct of farming operations now, as compared with the manner in which we did these things forty years ago. The only parallel that we are likely to retain, as between the two systems, is that then, as now, the most valuable and profitable crop that we raised was the splendid harvest of men, women, and children nurtured upon the bosom of Virginia. History affords many precedents and examples of more advanced, profitable, and thrifty farming than characterized old Virginia in the fifties, but nowhere was or has there ever been a happier agricultural community than could then be found in this fair land. Suffice it to say that in the great economies of the "survival of the fittest," the favored few that occupied, at that time, so social, elevated, and pleasant a position as did the whites of the South, here had to step down and let their fellows share the blessings that God has showered down upon this South land. The ordeal requisite to accomplish the change from then to now was a fearful one; revolution and bloodshed alone could accomplish it. Note the opportunity offered to the patient and skilled agricultural laborer, if he had been industrious and economical, to possess himself of the land. Why did he not avail himself of this chance? He will tell you with childlike mirth that God did not make him that way. "The Ethiopian cannot change his skin or the leopard his spots." God alone knows and the future will show what the destiny of the black man in America is to be in competition with his white brother in the race for life. Suffice it to say that the diplomacy of a Tallyrand, the cunning of a Machiavelli, the wisdom of a Loyola, and the manners of a Lord Chesterfield are all requisite, yet inadequate, in attaining the end of profitable farming, on a big scale, in growing wheat and corn in these days in Virginia. Our chief crop

now, as heretofore, must be harvested from the cultivation and growth and elevation of the citizen into an independent, self-reliant, self-respecting, conservative and prosperous man. The gentle influence of home, the patriotism born of local attachments, must permeate and leaven the life. Small farms, extensive farming, rosy orchards, the conservatism born of the possession of happy homes, is the soil in which we must plant and grow the farmer of free society. The debauchery of the profession incident to the system of renting land upon shares, for part of the crop, should be done away with; it is alike disastrous in its effects, materially and morally, to both tenant and landlord.

The Farmers Institute is the child, the white-winged messenger of glad tidings of higher aims and ends, and of the way to attain them, resulting from the desire of the farmers of free society to better their condition socially, morally, intellectually, and materially. And with this advancement comes the healthy determination, on his part, to become the powerful factor in politics that his numbers and his taxes entitle him to be, and to no longer bear unjust legislative discrimination. Our burdens come through unjust and inequitable legislation. We can redress these grievances only by repeal, modification, and enactment of law. We can grasp the power to attain these ends through the votes of our friends in the halls of legislation, both Federal and State. Farmers are about equally divided in their affiliation with the two great political parties. The time has not yet come for a third party. Let the farmers unite in the purpose to attain certain ends, bind themselves to secret oath, if necessary, to work with the single purpose of inducing each to stand by the other in solid, unbroken front; and then decide upon certain specific changes which they intend to bring about, and, no matter whether the candidate for election be Democrat or Republican, let him be pledged to support such measures as the farmers demand. When such specific measures are called on the calendar let the farmers' friends form, what is analogous to, "the center" in the halls of French legislation. Democrats and Republicans can come together and meet upon this common ground, and, as the center will, in all probability, hold the balance of power as between the followers of caucus of both parties, they can thus procure the enactment of laws which are demanded by the farmers, and which are necessary to strike off the shackles which now bind the agriculturists of the country in slavery. The first great step in accomplishing this end is to get the farmers to combine, to coalesce, to become a unit in aim, and purpose, and as a unit they could accomplish any change they desired. The remedy for and the amelioration of the conditions that now oppress them, lies within themselves. Will they avail themselves of this power within their grasp which only required united action on

their part? Is it possible to get farmers to act in concert? Is there not some subtle law of nature which will deny them this power? Did not God impose a confusion of tongues to stop the building of the Tower of Babel? What dire results from the building of the tower of Babel, are to be compared with a starved and naked humanity? Two ends quite within the power of a combination of the agriculturists of the world.

Does not the geologist teach us that nature has written with the finger of time upon tablets of rock, the indisputable fact that certain growths were provided to absorb and control excessive and superabundant products and exhalations that, if left unchecked, would result in disaster to the great end in view? Do we not know that it is a law of nature that certain animals, birds, fishes and insects are created to prey upon specials, which, if left unchecked and uncontrolled, would multiply and become so powerful as to threaten and remove the balance of life?

In all callings other than that of the agriculturist, the congregation and propinquity incident to the execution of the business, favors and invites concert of action on the part of the individual followers. Unions are formed whose cardinal features are to make intensive the effort for the advancement of certain aims and ends, the accomplishment of which ends results in great good to the promoters of the combination, and in no appalling harm to the rest of the body politic. Contemplate for an instant, the possible results within the power of attainment by a union of all the agriculturists of this country! Is not the contracted prejudice engendered by the isolation of his calling, the result of a law of nature to prevent the agriculturists from combining and becoming exacting and oppressive to the balance of the body politic? What more illustrative object lesson do we need of the power of the farmer, when he sees proper to act in concert, then the recent defeat of Hampton in South Carolina, and of Ingalls in Kansas, each a prototype and synonym of the popular sentimentalism of his section. But the farmers decreed that they should go, and they stood not on the order of their going. With like power and force could the agriculturists of the country, if acting as a unit, command, dictate and compel the enactment of legislation fair and equitable and thus relieve ourselves of the unjust and unequal burdens that we now labor under. But will we unite and act in concert? Or will we still continue the suicidal policy of idle dissensions within our midst, and of lack of confidence in each other, and thus become for all the time in the future as in the past, a submissive prey to the exactions of all other callings, who regard us as the ignorant "hewers of wood and drawers of water" for the rest of mankind, when in fact we are (if we will only assert ourselves) and should be the masters of the world! Every agriculturist in the United States should join the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union and hold his oath of fealty

sacred; for it is a holy duty that each farmer owes to his calling, to his wife, his children and to himself, that he who feeds and clothes the people of the world should awake from his lethargic sleep, throw off the pall of ignorance, narrow prejudice and pessimistic despair that now envelopes him as with a garment, and manfully assert his independence, ennoble his profession and take pride in an intelligent pursuit of it. For 'tis the man ennobles the work, 'tis not the work degrades the man. By concert of action which he can compass better within then outside of the Alliance, he must see to it that he and his interests are recognized and get their fair share of protection and representation in the legislative halls of the country.

"God helps those who help themselves."

The Cattle Product of Western Politics.  
BY MERLINDA SISINS.

The following quotation appeared in a leading Republican paper of this State: "The Colonel saw Jerry Simpson, the Sockless Sage of the Kansas Alliance." He says "his appearance at Washington has done much to uncover the illusion and disgust intelligent men of all parties with the cattle product of western politics."

"The Colonel" has lately visited Washington and this is a part of the report of what he saw, as published in his home paper. This Colonel is one of the prominent leaders of the Republican party in his State; has been an editor nearly all his life except the past few years, during which time he has been a farmer; also has been an internal revenue collector, as well as an ex-member of the legislature. I speak of these things to show his prominence as a life-long party leader, and thereby incidentally to ask the producers of this country, and especially of noble Kansas, if it is not a fact that the party leaders of both of the old parties look upon their struggle for bread and butter in the same spirit of hatred that the "Colonel" does when he stigmatizes the new Alliance Congressmen as the "cattle product of western politics?"

If this is a fact, then can those producers, whether farmers or laborers, expect to better the condition by voting with either of their old parties and thereby clothing these same leaders with power to destroy the people? Or will it be wiser for them to repeat the noble work done in Kansas, although they have entrusted their destinies in the hands of the "cattle product of western politics?" If there is any evidence wanting to show that these leaders of the two old parties feel and have felt, as this hell-born quotation shows, let the producers examine the wicked legislation of the past thirty years and witness its results in the impoverished condition of the masses, in the creation of 3,100 millionaires and 2,000,000 tramps, with the great middle classes, sinking under billows of mortgaged indebtedness, together with tariff, trust, land and transportation robberies, in the overflowing prisons, almshouses and insane asylums; in the record of murders and suicides, and in the constantly increasing army of both sexes of our rising generations, that for want of

bread is marching into the jaws of death, within the jaws of infamy. And yet when the people protest against the cause of these crimes by electing men from their own ranks, those whom they have chosen, are called the "cattle product of western politics."

While there have been many good and noble men in Congress, let us ask this question: Had the seats of all those who planned and voted for this wicked legislation, been built over into stalls and filled with cattle wouldn't the people be better off to day?

This quotation from the Colonel is a twin to that other famous declaration, "The public be damned." The first comes from that class of subservient agents who have been the instruments through whom the spoliating class, to which the author of the second quotation belonged, have been able to crush the people. This same spirit was exemplified in King George III as against the colonists, in the slave oligarchs now supplanted by a new and enlightened generation who see the iniquity of human slavery, and now by the plutocratic oligarchy of the money power whose chariot wheels are grinding the producers of America into powder.

The question we Alliance men must settle agreeably is this, will we take part in the two old monopoly-ridden parties, or form a new distinct party of our own? That which will benefit a Democratic laborer will benefit a Republican laborer. We can never draw the Republicans into the Democratic party, more than we can draw the Democrats into the Republican party. We Alliance men would rather not be drawn into either old party, for both are owned, controlled, and run in the interests of the millionaires, the greedy capitalistic thieves that are sapping the life blood out of the working people all over this great country of ours. We can never join hands with either of the two leading parties because we must necessarily be divided. Either old party will use every means fair and foul to beat the other party. We can never succeed in our reform movement so long as half of our brothers are fighting the other half.

Third Party Question.  
BY THOS. J. DAVIS, ANDERSON, IND.

The first purpose, principles and aims of the Alliance and all other industrial organizations are education. The second purpose is the action, the good, the benefit we may obtain as a result of such education. The public press of to-day controls and leads public opinion. If we read capitalistic papers, we'll get capitalistic news; if we read old party papers and advocates, expect to better the condition by voting with either of their old parties and thereby clothing these same leaders with power to destroy the people? Or will it be wiser for them to repeat the noble work done in Kansas, although they have entrusted their destinies in the hands of the "cattle product of western politics?"

If this is a fact, then can those producers, whether farmers or laborers, expect to better the condition by voting with either of their old parties and thereby clothing these same leaders with power to destroy the people? Or will it be wiser for them to repeat the noble work done in Kansas, although they have entrusted their destinies in the hands of the "cattle product of western politics?"

One of the most important questions, and one that interests us more, perhaps, at the present time, is the Alliance in politics. Is it necessary that we should take a hand in politics, which is the science of government. All true thinking men will agree with me that, if we ever expect to get out of this depressed condition we are in now, we must take a hand in legislation. If we are satisfied that we have equal chances and

advantages with other classes of men engaged in other pursuits, then perhaps it would be unwise to enter politics. The time was when a man, by his personal magnetism, powerful intellect, and individual wisdom, could lead men in any direction, into any reform he chose. That time is past. All true reforms must come through the people themselves hereafter.

The Alliance is purely educational, but is surely political. It brings the laborers and wealth producers together and encourages them to study, to think; to investigate the gigantic evils which surround mankind, and impresses upon our mind, the duty, the responsibility that rests upon us as American citizens. It wakes us laboring people up to a realization of the fact that we are surrounded by corporations, monopolies, trusts and combines, and teaches us that we can never successfully compete with such combinations unless we come together, lay aside our selfishness and prejudice, talk together, think together, act together, and vote together.

The question we Alliance men must settle agreeably is this, will we take part in the two old monopoly-ridden parties, or form a new distinct party of our own? That which will benefit a Democratic laborer will benefit a Republican laborer. We can never draw the Republicans into the Democratic party, more than we can draw the Democrats into the Republican party. We Alliance men would rather not be drawn into either old party, for both are owned, controlled, and run in the interests of the millionaires, the greedy capitalistic thieves that are sapping the life blood out of the working people all over this great country of ours. We can never join hands with either of the two leading parties because we must necessarily be divided. Either old party will use every means fair and foul to beat the other party. We can never succeed in our reform movement so long as half of our brothers are fighting the other half.

We admire Brother Clarke Lewis' statement when he says he stands "flat-footed on the platform of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union," but we don't know if he is in earnest or not; we think not, if he still persists in being a Democrat. Come, my worthy brothers of the South, and join forces with us laboring people of the North, and let us start this great reform movement on the road to victory before it is everlasting too late. Brother Lewis' plan might work in the South, where the majority of the Order are Democrats, but it won't work here in the North where the brothers are so evenly divided between the two leading parties we know; for we've tried it. We know if we join hands with either of the two old parties, we simply place a club in the hands of monopolies with which they may beat out our own brains. The brothers of the North and West, and I believe a great portion of our southern brothers, are willing to bury the bloody shirt, lay aside our prejudices, and forever extinguish the

fires of sectional hate that have been burning and keeping the toil-ing, slaving masses divided so long, and join hands in this, the greatest, the grandest struggle for freedom that has ever swept over this fair land of ours. We do not oppose a man so much for acquiring an immense fortune if he does it honestly and fairly, but we do condemn a system of government that allows millionaires and corporations to spring up and grow on one hand, and tramps and toiling, starving masses of working men and women on the other hand. Will we come together and try to suppress these growing evils or will we let "Shylock take the last pound of flesh"? We point with pride to the finger board on THE ECONOMIST's editorial page, N. R. P. A., and wonder if all the brothers know what that means, and we imagine they do, and we can't refrain from saying, Amen! and shouting, Glory! Glory! May God speed the day when the labor and wealth-producing masses will rise up and declare and show by their action that they are independent, freethinking men, who will strive to secure the "greatest good to the greatest number."

Come, you brothers of undeniable and unquestionable faith in our platform of principles and as Brother Cockrell says, "Meet us half way" in independent action. We've got the principles, let's have the party; not an Alliance party, but a people's party. And as proof of our position, we will take for example Georgia and Kansas. Which one has proved the most successful in the last election? The answer comes rolling back: Georgia will forever remain in the shadow of doubt, while Kansas stands first and foremost in the sunlight of victory, the bulwark of American patriotism, and the leader of the grandest and greatest reform movement that has ever been known to the civilized world.

**ATTENTION FARMERS!**

The executive committee of the Maryland State Alliance has arranged with Hon. J. F. Willerts, of Kansas, national lecturer of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, to deliver a series of public lectures at the following places and dates:

Leonardtown, Thursday, March 26.  
Upper Marlboro', Friday, March 27.  
Bel Air, Saturday, March 28.  
Salisbury, Monday, March 30.  
Chestertown, Tuesday, March 31.  
Ellicott City, Wednesday, April 1.  
Hagerstown, Thursday, April 2.  
Cumberland, Friday, April 3.  
Westminster, Saturday, April 4.  
Other Alliance speakers will be present. Meeting will begin at 10 o'clock a. m. All County and sub-Alliance officers, particularly lecturers, are earnestly requested to attend these meetings.

**BRO. J. H. TURNER, NATIONAL SECRETARY,** has just sent charter outfit to the first sub-Alliance in Canada. Other organizations soon follow.

**STATE LECTURER R. D. BRADLEY,** of Maryland, has changed his residence to Baltimore, where he has accepted the position of managing editor of the Farmers Alliance Journal. His new address is 217 Courtland street, publication office of the Journal.

**THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST**  
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE  
NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND  
INDUSTRIAL UNION.  
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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 \$5,000 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 therefor;

Be it resolved by the 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.

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.

THE ECONOMIST perhaps owes its readers an apology for not discussing the census returns concerning mortgage indebtedness. The fact is that all efforts to obtain information from the census bureau touching this subject have so far been flat failures. Superintendent

Porter has given a synopsis, or what purports to be one, to the great metropolitan dailies, but has so far refused to give THE ECONOMIST any information in regard to the matter. Mr. Porter opposed the collection of these statistics in the beginning, and has been forced to do what he has; it now appears as though he wanted the information to reach the people through the medium of the partisan press in order that they may be prepared to receive the unwelcome intelligence that an honest statement must convey. As soon as the official information can be obtained the people will be apprised of the results.

THE sub-treasury plan is a proposal to furnish the people with a representative money, a money or medium of exchange that is under the control of labor in production. When this object is attained a representative government in the full meaning of the term is possible, until then it is even beyond a probability. A representative money is as necessary for the preservation of free institutions as the purity and integrity of the ballot. The adoption of a representative system of money should be the first step toward a return to a people's government, and is absolutely necessary before any other measure looking to that end can be successfully maintained. It has long since

passed into an axiom that "those who own the money control the people." This is as true in a republic as it is in a monarchy or any other form of government, and can be used with more blighting influence on human rights and labor efforts in a republican form of government than any other. The two old parties are attacking the sub-treasury plan because it will, if adopted, furnish the people with a money practically their own. The ownership and control of money by any class of people signifies class laws, class distinction, and the rule of the classes against the masses.

A representative money, through the medium of the sub-treasury plan, will lift the people from their "slough of despond" and again place them in touch with the liberties and possibilities guaranteed and expected by the founders of the republic.

VOL. 1, No. 1, of the Alliance Watchman, printed at Marshall, Saline county, Mo., has just been received. It is a fifty-six column paper and filled full of good sound Alliance doctrine. It is just the kind of a paper that the Order should be proud of, and the brethren help to support. A newspaper of this character is bound to succeed.

THE partisan press are just now giving out with evident satisfaction that an Alliance Congressman-elect from Mississippi, Mr. J. H. Beeman, has repudiated the sub-treasury plan. The fact is well known that Mr. Beeman was elected as an out and out Democrat, and was always opposed to the sub-treasury plan or anything else in the line of political reforms that did not accord with strict Bourbon Democracy. In his published interview he makes use of the same old objections, interspersed with the fear of negro rule, and the perfect safety of relying on the Democratic party for all needed reforms. Mr. Beeman may have cause in the future to read his silly screed in silence and alone.

BROTHER D. F. ALLEN, State organizer, writes that Alleghany county, New York, has sixty-five sub>Alliances. At that rate New York will be heard from in the near future.

SENATOR WALTHALL, of Mississippi, wrote a letter in opposition to the sub-treasury plan, and supplemented it recently with another withdrawing from the senatorial race. Such a course is entirely satisfactory, as it obviates the necessity of a bitter contest that was sure to come. If Senator George would do likewise, the people of that State will have but little difficulty in electing Sena-

tors who will represent their sentiments. If put to a vote at the present time the people of Mississippi would declare for the sub-treasury plan by an overwhelming majority. These hard money, old fogey representatives, both North and South, had better study the wishes of the people they are supposed to represent.

THE sub-treasury plan is opposed by some who fear the effects of inflation. They seem to forget that it was not the inflation that brought disaster, but the contraction which was forced upon the people. Inflation gave this country its greatest prosperity, it inaugurated an era of good times, good prices, plenty of labor and no debts, while contraction brought about by scheming manipulators has produced the present distressing condition seen on every hand, filled the land with tramps and the nation with bankrupts. The sub-treasury does not propose an unlimited inflation, but does design a just and proper increase of the volume of money, that "the power of money to oppress" may be eliminated.

A PLAIN, square, common-sense statement of the national finances from the Treasury Department would be hailed with delight by every one interested in keeping the run of monetary affairs. The February statement shows that the national debt has increased \$2,994,750.58. This statement is untrue, as the national debt has not increased; but it is perfectly safe to assume that there are not twenty-five members in either House or Senate that can explain this condition satisfactorily. The public debt statement should be so simple that plain people could understand it. The present methods are not understood by one in a thousand. Secretary Foster can bring about a great reform in this direction if he will.

THE Meridian (Miss.) News in a recent issue takes editorially the erroneous position of desiring an increase of circulation by a national bank issue, encouraged by removing the 1-per-cent tax and allowing the national banks to issue up to the full amount of their bonds, and in order to get a stable bond basis for the issue have the government fund the present bonded debt at 1.25 with 2-per cent bonds. What a harvest the News would make for the capitalists who desire their money invested in national bank security, and what big crops the farmers of this country will have to plant, tend and gather in order that the banker's harvest may be reaped, and we may enjoy their blessing, that boon of a circulating medium which the government

cannot supply direct, but must supply to a privileged class in order that they may profit thereby.

If the politicians who are acting in the capacity of a steering committee for the Democratic party are not arranging for that party to repudiate the people's demand for free coinage of silver, the signs of the times have no political significance. In fact such a course may be considered a political necessity. While the Republican party, through its wanton and reckless extravagance in the appropriations and creation of federal offices by the Congress just closed, have made ample provision for a corruption fund for 1892, the Democratic party has that important matter to attend to during the next session of Congress.

Both parties are compelled to go to Wall street for their supply of funds, and as a natural consequence must pay homage to that power. The money owners of the country will never furnish aid to any party that advocates the free coinage of silver as demanded by the Alliance. It will become necessary, therefore, that the Democratic party make a choice between free coinage and Wall street assistance.

That such a condition confronts that party at the present time there should be no doubt; that the Democratic party is preparing to abandon the demand for free coinage is quite clearly foreshadowed by the utterances of the leading party papers and the expressions of leading politicians. As proof of this the following extract from a recent interview with Senator Carlisle is given:

The silver issue is likely to be a paramount one. It would not surprise me to see the Democrats and Republicans of the North, and portions of the West and South, supporting the same candidate on that issue. New England, the Middle States, Virginia, Alabama, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, California, and really the bulk of the great States of the West—the States that have the electoral votes—are opposed to free silver.

THE absurdity of this statement is only equaled by its unfairness, and discloses the usual want of information regarding the true situation among the people that is usually found among members of the United States Senate. The greater part of this "American house of lords" have lived so long without "putting their ears to the ground" that they know but little about the trend of sentiment among the people. There is, doubtless, not a single State outside of New England that would not give a large majority vote for free coinage. Politicians may continue in the attempt to side-track this demand, but the people are fully roused, and are determined to have free coinage, and the men or party that stands in the way will certainly

be overthrown. The people have been hoodwinked long enough in regard to this matter, and will consent to no further postponement or deception.

THE following table showing the amount of freight paid foreign vessel owners, and the amount of revenue from tariff, was prepared for Representative Farquhar, of New York, at the Treasury Department:

Year.	Revenue from tariff.	Foreign ship freight charges.
1870	\$194,530,383	\$95,312,000
1871	206,270,408	121,102,800
1872	216,370,286	127,100,250
1873	188,089,522	146,136,900
1874	163,103,833	141,725,450
1875	157,167,722	143,449,700
1876	148,071,984	155,500,800
1877	130,956,493	129,954,000
1878	130,170,680	132,268,500
1879	137,250,047	137,450,300
1880	186,522,064	184,233,090
1881	198,159,676	191,018,400
1882	220,410,730	182,736,000
1883	214,706,496	180,908,310
1884	195,067,489	170,386,200
1885	181,471,939	162,893,640
1886	192,995,023	162,052,500
1887	217,286,803	175,848,000
1888	210,001,173	177,361,449
1889	223,832,741	183,948,450
1890	229,668,584	207,083,310
Total	3,951,112,157	3,317,170,140
Average	188,148,198	157,960,483
Av. ten years past	209,260,074	180,323,625
Av. two years past	226,750,662	195,515,660

Total..... 3,951,112,157 3,317,170,140

Average..... 188,148,198 157,960,483

Av. ten years past..... 209,260,074 180,323,625

Av. two years past..... 226,750,662 195,515,660

State would give an overwhelming majority in favor of that measure should it come to a vote. Mr. Vilas is a relic of Cleveland's administration, and owns the legislature. Why should it not vote for free coinage, or anything else Mr. Vilas may desire?

THE following is the concluding paragraph of a circular letter sent out by Brother S. O. Dawes, Secretary-treasurer of the State Alliance of Texas, under date of March 2, 1891.

It does not indicate a split in the Alliance or any difficulty, whatever, but does show a remarkably healthy growth of the Order in that State. The Alliance brethren of that grand old State are perfectly able to care for themselves:

The growth of the Order is quite encouraging; 100 new sub>Alliances have been chartered since the 12th day of December last, and 350 old Alliances have been reorganized. Also several new county Alliances have been formed. Life and enthusiasm are being developed in every part of the State. Bros. Jones and Perdue are devoting the whole time lecturing in the field. We may confidently look for a bright future for our Order in this State. You should give these faithful brethren, with others who are in the field, your undivided support and encouragement.

ACTING Secretary Nettleton, of the Treasury Department, made the following statement yesterday afternoon in regard to the report that the department has decided to call in the government deposits in national banks:

The government has no present or immediate need to use any part of the funds now in depository banks. Doubtless during the next eight months a part of the deposits will be required, but they will in such case be called installments, and only on reasonable notice, as heretofore. Inasmuch as these deposits, when so called, will doubtless be disbursed to meet current requirements of the government, the funds so used will be almost immediately returned to the channels of business.

How kind and considerate.

The attention of the mortgaged farmer is called to the fact that these banks are paying the government no interest upon this loan, which now amounts to \$30,125,535; also, to another fact, that perhaps this same farmer is paying his part of the \$3,012,535 that these banks are receiving annually as interest on this vast sum.

THE following statement is made by a prominent Congressman:

I think that there ought to be, and will be, a change in the present plan of Congressional funerals. It is certainly an abuse of the power of appropriation, if, indeed, there is any power for such a purpose, to send large committees to accompany the remains of a dead Senator or Representative to the place of interment. These committees, instead of being genuine mourners, are usually pleasure excursions or junkets at the expense of the public treasury.

The funeral of Senator Beck cost \$2,000, while that of Senator Miller cost \$8,000. This train which has gone to California with Senator Hearst's remains will help to swell the cost of his funeral to \$100,000. It matters not how obscure or inconsequential a member may be, if he dies in official har-

ness, he is expensively buried, and then eulogies are pronounced upon him. These fulsome effusions are printed in a volume, with steel engravings frontispiece, and at an average cost of \$20,000 for the volume.

The above is but one of the many instances that might be given which cry aloud for reform. It is just such extravagance as this that has filled the land with distress, and when properly understood will fill both branches of Congress with better and wiser men.

THE judiciary committee of the Pennsylvania State Senate has reported favorably the following bill, which has passed first reading:

An act to prescribe the mode of payment of debts contracted to be paid in money or bullion.

Be it enacted, etc., that from and after the passage of this act all obligations of debt contracted to be paid in money or bullion shall be payable—all stipulations to the contrary notwithstanding—in either the notes, silver or gold coin, authorized by the Congress of the United States as a legal tender.

The measure is favored by both Republicans and Democrats. It is urged by manufacturers and by men in active business pursuits, and especially the Grange and Alliance.

A few more turns of the screw and all labor in production as well as all business efforts will alike feel "the power to oppress." It makes a great difference whose ox is being gored.

A Solution of the Problem.

BY T. H. RUSSELL, HAMILTON, S. C.

The great question pressing upon the farmers of the United States for solution is, What course shall we take as an organization in the election of '92. Certainly not as a tail to either one of the old political parties. Great efforts are being made by the politicians of the South, both within and without the Alliance, to induce the belief that the principles advocated by this powerful organization are the same as those advocated by the Democratic party. A more fallacious idea could scarcely be conceived. On the two leading principles of the St. Louis and Ocala platform, to wit, the sub-treasury plan and government loans direct to the people on land and crops, where is the Southern Democrat of the old issue that presumes to declare in favor of these great leading ideas on which the Alliance stands? Oh, but did they not vote for the free coinage of silver, and did not the Republicans in the Senate pass that bill over a year ago, and was it not at last defeated in the House a few weeks ago by Republican and Democratic votes? The free coinage of silver, if enacted into law, would not give us the increase in the volume of currency which the necessity of the case demands. And then, in connection with the recent vote in Congress on the subject of free coinage and Mr. Cleveland's anti-silver letter, it is expressly declared by many leading Democrats that his position need not be changed in the present plan of Congressional funerals. It is certain an abuse of the power of appropriation, if, indeed, there is any power for such a purpose, to send large committees to accompany the remains of a dead Senator or Representative to the place of interment. These committees, instead of being genuine mourners, are usually pleasure excursions or junkets at the expense of the public treasury.

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the face, for any true Alliance man to stultify himself by pledging allegiance to the National Democratic party, and thus sacrificing the party fealty, the dearest principles of the Order. No, no, a thousand times no. They can come to us, as they themselves declare, without a sacrifice of principle. The Alliance cannot affiliate with them or any other political party at present in existence, without not only a sacrifice of principle, but an absolute destruction of our organization in all its essential properties.

What, then, is the course of wisdom for the Alliance or any difficulty, whatever, but to take as a political organization in the gigantic contest of '92. Maintain, as we have done in the past, an independent attitude toward both the old parties, clinging to our declaration of principles as the sheet anchor of our hopes for the future, and when the time comes for action, determining for ourselves, without any outside interference, which course to pursue as voters to advance our principles. If by co-operation, let us co-operate; if by a third party, why let it come. In either case move as one man and success will crown our efforts.

Garden City Alliance (San Jose, Cal.), a brand new Alliance paper, begins volume 1, No. 1, with some good sense. The average politician of to-day finds that there was more truth than poetry in what Abe Lincoln said when he declared: "You may fool all the people all the time; but," said he, "you can't fool all the people all the time." We have been cajoled by party politicians until we find that we who are holding but 25 per cent of the wealth of this great nation are compelled to pay 80 per cent of the taxes. We are drawing the line right here and will be fooled no longer. Our votes are our weapons of defense; election day the day of battle; the protection of our homes is our object. Brothers, "trust in Providence and keep your powder dry."

The Kentucky Farmer is a new paper at Shepardsville, Ky., which indorses the Alliance demands. It says: In the next issue of The Farmer an effort will be made to learn the position of

## APPLIED SCIENCE

In Agricultural and Rural Economy.  
EDITED BY DR. M. G. ELZEV.  
WOODSTOCK, MD.

## ECONOMY OF PRODUCTION.

It is pretended by the advocates of demonetization and contraction of the currency that agriculture falsely complains of a reduction of prices without taking into account an equivalent reduction of the cost of production. There is no such equivalent reduction in fact. It can not be held that taxes of interest are reduced. It can not be shown that the wages of agricultural laborers are reduced, but on the other hand it can be shown that the labor is less efficient and a day's work shortened by several hours. If it be held that the agricultural implements and machines are cheaper, it can be shown that the average life of such machines is more than correspondingly reduced. If it be held that fertilizers have declined in price it is in evidence that they have more than correspondingly declined in value. Wool has gone down and lambs have gone down, but it costs fully as much to maintain a flock of sheep as before. Yet the Mills bill put wool on the free list with no corresponding reduction of tax on woolens, and Mr. Cleveland when president made a special argument against sheep owner, saying they were mostly poor folks any how, and did not own, upon the average, more than twenty or twenty-five sheep. Yet the same men who rant and rave against the small measure of relief to be afforded by free coinage of silver urge that the re-election of Mr. Cleveland to the presidency and the enactment of "tariff reform" on the lines of the Mills bill is all that is necessary to our "agricultural salvation." On the other hand the present administration promulgates officially the doctrine that "diversification is necessary to our agricultural salvation," and all that that implies. As to transportation the experience of the writer last year was that it cost him one-fifth of his corn crop to send it 24 miles by rail and sell it in the city of Baltimore. There are an infinite variety of ways in which the cost of country living is enhanced. Take the matter of corn meal, it is hardly possible in many neighborhoods to get a grist of corn ground any more, the grist mills have been driven out of business by the destructive power of associated capital. We used to take our corn to mill and get 48 pounds of meal for 56 pounds of corn. Now we sell the corn for less than 50 cents a bushel net, and pay \$1 a bushel for meal.

Instead of 48 pounds of meal for 56 pounds we get only 24 pounds of meal for 50 pounds of corn. A ration of meal enters into the cost of a day's labor, and it takes just twice as much corn to get a ration of meal as it used to do. But some man will say why don't you buy a small steam engine and a patent mill and grind your own meal? First, where's the money? Second, when you add the interest on the money in the steamer and mill, the wear and tear and re-

pairs of both, the labor of grinding and the cost of the fuel, what do you save? The fact is beyond dispute that the scarcity of money prevents farmers absolutely from being able to avail themselves of those economies in production which they could avail themselves of if there was a sufficiency of currency, and prices advanced accordingly. The false assessment of property, and the cunning devices of indirect taxation together, in the meantime throw upon the shoulders of agriculture an enormously greater share of the public expenses than is equitable, just and right.

Edward (bean soup) Atkinson is out in a declaration that improved processes have reduced the cost of production so that prices have gone down and wages gone up, and he thinks, therefore, labor should stick to the standard gold dollar. But inasmuch as labor is the chief item in the cost of production there is a self-stultification in this statement unless it be shown that the cost of production has been reduced more by the use of machines than it has been enhanced by the increase of wages. Yet how often have we been told by the organs that the McKinley bill has sent prices up and sent wages down. This same person was lately advising labor to get even with capital when wages were cut by learning how to reduce the cost of production of bean soup by scientifically reducing the ratio of beans to water, and yet extracting the same amount of nourishment, by improved digestive processes, out of the same quantity of soup. This man thought silver should be demonetized because it was at a premium, and should not be demonetized now because its demonetization has sent it below par. This "bean-soup" statistician being asked what is the cause of poverty answered, "Ignorance and incapacity."

Are you a poor man? If so, the New England statist pronounces that you are ignorant and incapable. Transportation enters into the cost of production, and transportation rates, says Mr. Atkinson, are largely reduced. Here is a good example of the stupidity of confounding the measure of value with the standard of value. The farmer does not make beef, he makes wheat and corn and beef and cotton and other necessities of life, and it takes the net price of a larger percentage of his product to pay for the transportation than it did in 1873, since when Mr. Atkinson thinks the cost of transportation was so largely reduced. So it is by the gold standard, but largely increased if estimated in kind. Here is proof that Judge Hughes is right when he says, judged by the general level of prices, gold is now at a premium of above 20, instead of silver being that much below par. In the same way it can be shown to be true that it takes a greater percentage of the crop to pay wages. Therefore the farmer has a smaller portion of his product at all. The art of pharmacy is almost operated by alcohol. It does not matter what persons of extreme views may say, alcohol is in itself an indispensable medicine. Noth-

ing, however, seems to stand in the way of the government assuming control of the manufacture, and producing alcohol only for such necessary purposes as referred to above, never to be sold or used as a beverage. Law can put anyone who illegally manufactures alcohol on the same footing with the criminal who counterfeits money. The government could make a considerable revenue by the manufacture of it for necessary uses, and reduce taxes by that much. If it is unconstitutional, why make it constitutional. Nothing stands in the way of any State or Territory monopolizing the manufacture as far as the State is concerned; but let people give up the thought that alcohol can be done without in the sciences and arts.

## ORGANIC MATTER IN SOILS.

In a late number of the American Farmer is a letter from an intelligent farmer in Germany advocating the growth of green fallows as a source of nitrogen for the benefit of succeeding cereals. He states that some of their farmers had attempted to make grain crops by the use of chemical manures alone, but that the practice was unsatisfactory. He says that, although good harvests were gained, the soil lost its good physical condition, became so stiff and hard that ploughing and working were difficult, and besides that the soil became so poor in organic matter that its lost its power of retaining sufficient moisture. The managers of the farms were compelled later to use lime for loosening the soil, and also plough under green plants to enrich it again in organic matter.

The experience here detailed confirms the position long ago assumed by the writer that deficiency of organic matter in the soil, the result of too exclusive use of grain and chemical salts to produce grain crops, is the weak point in American agriculture. This point can not be too emphatically urged at this time, such is the importance of the matter that no apology is made for recurring to it again and again in this place. The writer here quoted says: "The production of meat, butter, cheese, wool pays nearly the expenses of good feeding." He does not pretend that under the conditions surrounding upon labor, the national bank, and all its creatures and dependents, and by that national incubus upon German agriculture these products fetch a price equal the cost of production, but the value of the resulting manure he thinks more than makes up the deficit. It is clear that the grain crop is the German farmer's reliance for a money crop, and he hopes to make it exceed in value the cost of its production by abundance of organic matter in the soil, produced by animal manures and green fallows; and by the supplementary use of guano and commercial manures. He concludes that a green fallow gives abundant nitrogen. "So that nothing else but phosphates, and sometimes potash, are requisite for the following crops." This is the practice so often urged upon the attention of our farmers under the headings, green fallows, animal manures, and commercial fertilizers, by the present writer.

## ALCOHOL.

Prohibitionists want the manufacture of alcohol put a stop to. They do not reflect; many of them do not know that alcohol is in many ways so valuable that in our artificial state of society it is one of the necessities of life. The science of chemistry can not do without it at all. The art of pharmacy is almost operated by alcohol. It does not matter what persons of extreme views may say, alcohol is in itself an indispensable medicine. Noth-

## NORTH CAROLINA OYSTER LAWS.

11

The people of North Carolina are a people exceedingly practical and

sensible. When they say a thing they mean it; when they resolve to do a thing they do it. The conclusion having been reached that they would protect the oysters in the waters of the State they enacted laws for that purpose as follows:

1. No non-resident shall catch oysters in the waters of the State, and if any non-resident does, in defiance of law, he shall be fined and sent to jail, and his vessels, boats, and oystering implements confiscated.

2. No person shall take oysters in any other manner than with oyster tongs, and whoever does so, in defiance of the law, shall be fined and imprisoned and his vessels, boats and oystering apparatus confiscated and sold.

No ifs ands about it. No oyster navy to make the State ridiculous and be supported at the expense of the tax payers, while illegal fisheries are defiantly pursued,

knowing that the laws are constructed with patent thief-escape attachments for the benefit of law breakers. It will be found that North Carolina protection protects. If any oyster thieves believe otherwise, let them go down and try it.

## THE AMERICAN BOOK OF THE DOG.

We have received from the author, Mr. G. O. Shields, a copy of the work above named, which is just out of the press. The origin, development, special characteristics, utility, breeding, training, points of judging, diseases and kennel management of all breeds of dogs, are treated from the American standpoint, each by an American author. The volume contains over 700 pages and about one hundred illustrations, and the copy before us is bound in full morocco with gilt edges. There is a table of contents and a general introduction by the Hon. John S. Wise.

The type is clear and the print excellent, and many of the portraits of celebrated dogs are very accurate and handsome. Mr. Wise in the introduction states that the sporting and pet dogs of America represent an actual cash value of several millions of dollars.

Mr. Waters, the writer of the article on English setters, states that a sporting dog of popular breeding and a field record, will fetch from \$500 to \$2,000. The peculiarity of form and instinct displayed by the different breeds of dogs constitute an interesting topic for the general reader, and at the same time the professional fancier will find much information and instruction in this excellent book.

## Farmer Financiers.

New York Herald.

## WASHINGTON, D. C., March 8.

Leaders of the National Farmers Alliance complain that much of the adverse criticism on their sub-treasury scheme is due to the fact that the principles underlying the necessity for it are not properly understood. Dr. C. W. Macune, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Alliance, in speaking of the scheme, said:

The necessity for something of this kind has been developed by the onward march of material progress. For the last twenty-five years

the demand for its use would be as 2 is to 4, and would only require that every dollar in circulation be used two times in each year to satisfy this demand. This relation is partially uniform throughout the year.

The gross value of agricultural products is about \$7,500,000,000. Suppose two-thirds of this product is used for home consumption and seed and one-third is marketed during the last three months of the year, and that this only changes ownership twice, the demand thus created would be for the use of \$5,000,000,000, which, upon the above basis, should be represented by the figure 10, and which added to the regular demand, 4, makes the demand during that time 14.

## THE SEASONS SHORTENED.

Twenty-five years ago wheat was raised by farmers throughout the North generally as one of their leading money crops. Nearly all the work of gathering and marketing it was done by hand, local mills, thickly scattered over the country, ground the flour for local consumption, and the balance was sold when the price suited the farmer. All of this guaranteed a moderately even sale of wheat by the farmer from August until the next June or July, and it was, in fact, very common for a farmer to have his wheat on hand over a year.

Now the development of railway systems has brought the great West so close to market that wheat can no longer be profitably grown in the East, while in the West, the great wheat growing district, the wheat is cut and bound by machinery, taken to immense steam threshers and from the thresher goes in hot haste into the elevator upon the railway, always close at hand, and the moment it strikes the elevator it is on the markets of the world. The season, therefore, in which the farmer realizes from his productive effort is reduced from ten or twelve months to a period that does not, in its utmost limit, exceed three months.

For the same reasons the season for marketing the cotton by the farmer has shortened as much or more than that of marketing the wheat.

## EFFECT OF MODERN IMPROVEMENTS.

These changes, brought about by the modern improvements that have substituted the railway train for the ox cart and the telegraph for the courier, make some other changes necessary, one of which, the one of all others the most important, is a modern instead of an ox cart system of finance.

Under the old system the demand for money to handle the products of the country being nearly the same throughout the year, the marketing of the products of agriculture produced no great effect upon the money market. But under modern conditions it produces a most powerful effect.

## THE VOLUME OF MONEY.

The volume of money in circulation in the United States at this time is variously estimated at from \$600,000,000 to \$1,400,000,000, — say \$1,000,000,000. Represent that sum by the figure 2. The gross output of manufacturing of all kinds is about \$5,000,000,000. Suppose all the manufactured commodities change ownership between the manufacturer and the consumer three times. The demand then, throughout the year, for the use of money on account of manufactured commodities, would equal \$2,000,000,000. Represent that sum by the figure 4, and the relation of the volume of money to

the consumer would have paid him still later was 100.

These changes are due to the reduction of general prices that must follow the violent contraction of the relative volume of money, a condition that is unavoidably the result of a fixed and inflexible volume meeting a great and suddenly augmented demand.

## HARD ON THE FARMER.

The conclusion from all this is plain. The farmer makes his investment when the volume of money is relatively larger and prices higher. He realizes from his investment during the season in which prices are depressed on account of the excessive demand for money meeting an inflexible supply. The result is, and has been for twenty years, that he sells at a time when prices are 40 per cent lower than they were when he bought. This is largely represented at this time by mortgage indebtedness and is an actual tangible discrimination against agriculture of 40 per cent annually.

## ONLY THE SPECULATOR BENEFITS.

No class is benefited by this discrimination except the exploiter.

Every useful and productive interest in this country should be deeply interested in securing a line of flexibility for the voter. The nation puts that will be a — and buys up all the voter. Prices reduced by their the true cost of grain once out of the condition of agriculture.

The methods of the proposed sub-treasury system are such as will exactly meet this condition, and thereby benefit all classes of society. It is the settled policy, and correctly so, of this government to forbid any issue of money except by the government itself.

There are at present only two ways for the government to get it in circulation. One is to sell it and the other is to lend it to the national banks and let them lend it to the people. As a modification of this, owners of silver bullion are now authorized to deposit it in government warehouses and the government lends them money on it.

Now, if the sub-treasury system will enlarge one of these channels for the distribution of money and provide for an emergency issue that will increase the volume so as to keep place with the suddenly augmented demand created by dumping the year's product of agriculture upon the market without increasing the relative volume of money above what is the normal mean average, and, provided also, that such emergency volume shall be of such a character that it will always pass current on a par value with gold coin, then the sub-treasury plan must be admitted to be a conservative and efficient remedy for the financial question, otherwise not.

## WILLING TO STAND THE TEST.

To this severe test the advocates of the measure are ready and willing to submit.

The sub-treasury system is an enlargement of the present national banking law, the only modifications being that the load of the bills by the government be not restricted to certain corporations, but extended to all people having the required collateral to deposit, and

## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

that the collateral so deposited, instead of being restricted to government bonds, a simple evidence of debt, be extended to a few leading products of agriculture that form the basis of the export trade of this country and are positive evidence of wealth.

## IT IS SAFE.

Money put out under the proposed system could never augment the consumer's price, because it could never abnormally augment the relative volume. Therefore the highest prices, or those which now obtain with the consumer, would not be increased, but the tendency would be to bring the lowest prices, or those now realized by the producer, up to the mean price toward which the consumer's price must also tend.

This government now maintains about \$346,000,000 of treasury notes that circulate on a parity with gold; that are based on nothing but the government credit. Several members of Congress have recommended that the amount of such notes be increased.

This may be done and the amount materially increased, without depreciating such notes from the gold standard, but all must admit that there is a limit, to go beyond which would depreciate such notes, and that such limit is constantly changed by circumstances.

## MAINTAINING GOLD STANDARD.

I claim that the amount of treasury notes that would circulate when based on wheat and cotton would be self-limited to an amount that would always keep them on a parity with gold, and that none of the disturbing influences which affect government credit would have any tendency to depreciate such notes from the gold standard.

In considering this proposition it must be remembered that the farmer is not compelled to deposit his wheat and cotton. It is a generally recognized fact that the prices of these products are regulated by the export markets

which are using the single gold standard of money, and therefore the prices of the products so estimated would be gold prices, and whenever the increase in the volume of domestic currency augmented the general prices of commodities to an exact equality with such gold quotations for these products, the equilibrium of price would be established, and no more would be deposited by the farmers, because any further additions to the volume of the circulating medium would increase local prices in local currency so that it would pay better to sell than to deposit, and the products would come out of the warehouses and the money go into them, and consequently out of circulation, thereby automatically establishing and maintaining the equilibrium of prices.

## A GREAT ECONOMIC TRUTH.

In this connection there is a still more important consideration. If it be true that of such products as are leading commodities of export the domestic price is regulated by the export market, then this sub-treasury plan must be admitted to be the discovery of a great economic truth. The price

of these products being fixed by the export price, it depends, of course, upon the supply of gold and the demand for its use in such foreign countries; therefore the fluctuations here do not correspond with the general level of local prices expressed in local money, and the producer and consumer are alike at the mercy of the speculator. If the domestic price is governed by foreign quotations, then effective measures should be inaugurated for preserving the same ratio between the supply and demand for the money that prevails in the foreign markets. This is effectually done by utilizing the domestic product which is priced abroad as a basis for a domestic issue of currency.

This system says, practically, "We have been hampered by having domestic prices of these products based on foreign gold, and we now propose to utilize foreign gold as a circulating medium in this country for the purpose of handling these products which it prices."

Now, certificates are issued against gold and silver bullion deposited in government warehouses, while under the proposed system certificates would be issued against gold coin in circulation abroad, but represented by wheat and cotton deposited in the government warehouses here. This must fully establish the wisdom and conservatism of the system.

## WILL BENEFIT ALL.

The effect of the introduction of this system will be of direct benefit to the farmer only as it removes discriminations against him. The benefit will come from the fact that money is put in circulation when it is needed to keep prices from falling.

The result then will be a powerful tendency toward the stability of price, no discrimination for or against any class, but an equal benefit to all.

## The Sub-Treasury Plan.

Alliance Defender, Excelsior Springs, Mo.

The sub-treasury proposition is the plainest, fairest and most equitable financial plan ever devised by man. Although it is but little discussed through the partisan press, yet there is positively no objectionable feature, and people cannot but indorse it when it is once understood. The proposition is this: For the government to build warehouses for the shortage of the great staple agricultural products, wheat, oats, corn, cotton, and tobacco, and advance the owners thereof certificates to the amount of 80 per cent of the market value of said products at the time of storage, such certificates to be used as money to be full legal tender for all debts. The benefit arising from this plan, should it ever be embodied in law, would be manifold, principally increasing the volume of money right at the time when the crops are thrown upon the market and money is required to transact business and make exchanges. It is a recognized principle of financial economy that the volume of money always determines prices, all other things being equally balanced. Prices may be affected in three ways. First, by a change in the money volume,

either through inflation or contraction; second, by an increase or decrease of population, the money volume remaining the same; or, third, by an increase or decrease of business, securing a greater or less volume of money. This is plain, and can be illustrated thus:

Divisor.	Dividend.	Quotient.
Products,	Population,	Money volume.
Business.		Prices.

It is only a question of arithmetic, and any one ought to be able to understand it. This being the case, it is easily to be seen that when millions of dollars' worth of farm products are thrown upon the market, it requires an increase in the volume of money sufficient to keep pace with the increased business.

Again, it is said to be unconstitutional.

Now money lenders have great love for the constitution all at once. How long has it been so? Those who say the sub-treasury plan is not in accordance with our fundamental law are the same fellows who had silver unconstitutionally demonetized in 1873. Constitutions don't stand in the way when the appetite of the money-monger is to be gratified, but they can set up a dismal howl if the people demand legislation in their favor. But much as may be said to the contrary the constitution is intended to promote the welfare of the people and any measure looking to this end is certainly according to the spirit thereof.

## Wheat and Garden Seed from Washington.

North Dakota Independent (Grand Forks, N.D.)

Those Congressmen and United States Senators who depend much upon the influence of garden seed sent out by the Agricultural Department under their frank, would do well to look a little into that department and sample their seeds and test their growing qualities, particularly if they desire that such seeds shall have a strengthening influence upon their political fences. About thirty bushels of wheat and garden seeds were sent into this State the past year from the Agricultural Department under the frank of Congressman Hansborough and Senator Pierce which were a great damage to our people. The wheat instead of being pure Saskatchewan had no less than four different kinds in each quart package, also oats, barley and cockles; hence it was a failure. The garden seed was too old and failed to grow. We do not know how far the influence of these seeds extended politically, but we do know that a good many of us were beaten out of a good garden last year, and have lost faith in the Agricultural Department; and members of Congress who have an ambition to succeed themselves would do well to put but little faith in the assistance they may get from scattering worthless garden seeds among their constituents, and thereby bringing down wrath upon their devoted heads. We don't like to be humbugged at our own expense.

Of one thing you can rest assured; the Farmers Alliance of this State has got through making applications for seeds from this department, for we sometimes think the action last year was a plan to destroy our organization and by

## THE REFORM PRESS.

## The Discussion of Current Topics in the Organized States.

Maryland Republican (Annapolis, Md.) says:

The corruption that has marked Maryland politics for years past has been a source of demoralization to the social and material welfare of the State. The business prosperity of the State has seriously been affected. Taxes have been increased, sources of revenue have been diverted from their legitimate channels and been made tributary to political work. And even the legislature has been invaded, and the hard-earned money of the people has been wasted in reckless expenditures and appropriations often solely for party purposes. Not a branch of the State government but has been infected with the poison and curse of corrupt politics. In spite of all this, a dust has been raised and an attempt made to create a popular sentiment in favor of upholding the old political leaders, and continuing in power men who have time and again abused the confidence reposed in them. The cry, on the other hand, that comes from the very heart of the people is for new men and new methods. The State will never be prosperous in its business interests or secure for the people until a great change comes about, and the politicians so long in power shall give way for new men, the choice of the people.

The Industrial Union (Kokomo, Ind.) says:

There is plenty of law in this country, but little justice. A man may commit almost any crime and if he has plenty of money he will get off either free or with a light sentence; or if he has not money, but is real sharp, he will evade justice in some way. We hold that one man is no better than another in the eyes of the law, and that if a rich man does wrong he should be punished just the same as though he were poor; and if he is sharp he should be made to feel the law as keenly as though he were ignorant.

The San Miguel (Colorado) Messenger says:

There are many who imagine that

the demands of the Farmers Alliance are for class legislation in their interest, and that their interest is to take up war with all other classes. Such unreasoning persons should ask themselves what benefit to the farmers would a national telegraph system be if run at a cost as they demand. Those corporations, merchants, and manufacturers whose telegraph service runs up to the thousands every month, and not the farmer, who, perhaps, does not expend on average over 50 cents a year for such service, are the ones the Farmers Alliance are fighting for. In freights and the fares for their army of drummers it is the same. The farmer, of all classes, is the most stay-at-home, and where a dollar is saved by the farmers on freights and fares, thousands are saved by those who ignorantly are arraying themselves against the Farmers Alliance on partisan grounds. In common with the rest of the young nation, restrictions that should have entered the organic law were left out. The founders of the young republic had no idea of the revolutions that were about to be brought about in the system of transportation and the dissemination of information. Washington, Adams, and Jefferson, while being wise men for their day, never dreamed of a magnetic telegraph, or a railroad system that was destined to link all the widely separated sections of our country together. Neither of them ever thought it possible for the speculators to so firmly organize themselves together as to be able to practically confiscate the property of a large part of the citizens of our country at any time they saw fit. In offering unlimited opportunities to the citizens of our country, those old patriots never dreamed that those same opportunities would in the future be used to rob a large number of the very rights they sought to protect. These men never dreamed that in a little over one hundred years there were to grow out of these privileges a power that can prac-

tically make serfs and slaves out of more than half of the people. With the advent of steam came a power that was great for either good or evil. While steam—properly controlled—can be of untold blessing to the poor, it can also be made an engine by which those same poor can be held in bondage. As the power and importance of this force in nature began to expand, corporations were formed for the purpose of utilizing it on a grander scale than any individual or ordinary partnership could do. At first the corporation was a blessing, because these large associations of brains and capital could accomplish wonders. It was simply a grand system of co-operation. To guarantee the success of the grand enterprises (for they were then blessings) the government was asked to grant these corporations special privileges and protection. These things were well enough for the corporations and the people while the wealth of the nation was small, and while much of the country remained undeveloped. 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false to the great trusts of public confidence. What but the present great uprising of the working people can assure their safety? What administration of this great government but that of representatives chosen from the fields of manly toil can suffice to stem this great flood of abuse turned loose upon us? Away with the politician. Bring forth the representatives from the producing masses as did the French of 1790. Create a new public policy from the county up to the national government. Let this policy be broad enough to accommodate the growth of the intellectual and moral forces. Nothing less will suffice.

The Alliance Sentinel (Rogers, Ark.) says:

The Alliance does not expect to get every reform that is needed at once, but it sets out what is required to be done, and will keep them prominently before the people, pressing forward—turning neither to the right nor to the left, but pushing for the prize at the end of the contest, good government for all the people.

The "Newspaper" (California, Mo.) says:

The Second Congressional District Union held at Chillicothe, Mo., February 20, endorsed the amended demands of the Farmers and Laborers Union, as adopted at Ocala, Fla., and elected as a delegate to the State Union H. A. Newman, of Randolph county, and declared for the Missouri World as their choice for official organ.

The Farm Record (Ava, Mo.) says:

The fact that is now forcing the merits of the great labor movement on the minds of the people so forcibly is, "Has labor been receiving her just share of remuneration?" Will it take an argument, our farmer friends, to answer this question? Show us a farmer who by hard and persistent labor has made even a good living, clothed and educated his family, and we will show you twenty who have labored early and late, lived hard, and are no better off than they were ten years ago. It is true that some farmers have made money, especially if they had capital to work on, for when money is scarce it is easy for a man who has money to make it bring more, because the poor man must sacrifice what should have been his profits to meet his obligations. Has the farmer who started out to make himself and family a home found ready and remunerative markets for his products? Every fair-minded person will answer, no. What then is the trouble? Our land is a land of peace and plenty; our people are economic and industrious. It is not because there is no demand for the products of the farm, for while the farmer is almost compelled to give away his surplus, thousands are hungry and starving for need of them. It is because the life-blood of business has been sapped by the contraction of currency, and interest gathering has taken the place of business investments. Legislation has become a partisan quarrel, and legalized schemers and class legislation have robbed the workingman of the entire products of his labor. This condition of affairs will continue until the people, who are the sovereign power, call a halt.

The Alliance Vindicator (Sulphur Springs, Tex.) good advice:

Every Farmers Alliance should keep its members alive to the interests of the Order by keeping questions constantly before the members for discussion in which they are interested. A very good plan is to have a speech or essay at every meeting from some one of the members previously selected for the purpose. Questions in which there is a large field for thought and investigation could be dealt with in this manner to the instruction, improvement, edification, and enlightenment of every member of the Order. Take up the Ocala demands one at a time and qualify yourselves to intelligently discuss them and defend the propositions set forth by the Order of which you are a member. There are many questions that might be similarly dealt with that would be profitable. A review of the history of the Alliance. What it takes to make an Alliance man. Our relations to one another as members. Politics, what it is and what it ought to be. The elective franchise, how it is used

and abused. The relation of the citizen to the government, etc. These questions and many others might be studied with profit by each individual member and an interchange of opinions in pleasant manner is always advantageous. Don't let interest lag but push on the work of education and let every member feel that it's his or her indispensable duty to keep up the organization.

The Industrial Educator (Fort Worth, Tex.) says:

The old party man thinks it a knock down argument to say "you can't legislate money into the pockets of the people." But every beginner in the study of economic science knows very well that this government has legislated a vast amount of money out of the pockets of the people. It is a poor rule that will not work both ways.

The Alliance Eagle (Ellisville, Miss.) says:

Our Senators, George and Walthall, are out in letters opposing the sub-treasury bill, and this fact brings on more talk, and will be an issue in the election of next legislature. We have a very high opinion of these gentlemen, and are proud of the laurels they won in the United States Senate, and regret to see them go astray on the sub-treasury bill.

The Colorado Workman (Pueblo, Colo.) says:

We publish in full the land-loan bill

of Congressman Featherston on our sixth page of this week, and we hope our readers will read it carefully, as it is believed to be the best measure of the kind so far proposed. It differs from the Stanford bill in a number of important particulars and is an improvement on most of them, in that while the Stanford measure would mostly benefit the extensive landholder and speculator, the Featherston bill would aid the actual cultivator in saving and improving his homestead.

Weekly Arbor State (Beatrice, Neb.) says:

Those statesmen who say that the ideas advanced by the Farmers Alliance will soon blow over seem to be hitting very near the bullseye of truth. Those ideas are being blown all over the country on every passing breeze, and the breezes threaten to become cyclones by the time some of the scoffers are ready to stand up asking for re-election. The fate of Senator Ingalls should be carefully considered, of public men, and the rocks upon which his senatorial sail went to pieces should be conspicuously remarked upon the navigation chart of politics.

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

When generations shall have passed away and others taken their places, the principles of the Alliance shall still be before the people, as they are equality and justice between man and man in all cases whatever. Study them and consider them, they will ever be worthy of your attention and consideration.

The Alabama Mirror (Selma) says:

The Alliance cannot afford at this late day to allow distrust and dis-sensions to enter its ranks. To do so would be to lose all for which it has fought, to lose all for which it has suffered, and to lose all for which our fathers shed their blood—the right of self-government. In things essential, unity is one of the cardinal principles of the Order which the membership would do well to ponder. The crucial test is how being applied, and we must show to the enemy a bold and united front. It is too late in the day to question the right of the Alliance to require a strict account from the membership of their shortcomings in the support of the principles of the Order as laid down in the declaration of purposes. They are the foundation stones upon which was built all the platforms of the Order, and to not live up to them to the best of our ability after joining the Order is to be derelict in duty to ourselves, our neighbors, God and country. An Alliance man in name only is of the same material and make as the Arnolds of history, only awaiting the time, temptation, and opportunity to prove himself worthy of his prototype. It is such as he who, watching the course of the fight, takes

occasion to stab the leaders of the Order by insinuations as to their motives at the critical time. It is such as he who does the dirty work of the enemy and earns the reward of infamy. It is to be expected that when the test of fitness for membership in the Order is to be applied, which is to mark them for all time as fully up to the standard or cast them out as unfit, that these kind of Alliance men should struggle to put off the (to them) evil day in order to get in as much work as possible in creating distrust in the minds of the least educated membership as to the motives of the chief officers of the Order. These men can be readily spotted by the casual perusal of those papers whose columns are filled with abuse of the leaders of the Order. He that is not for us is against us, and to purge the Order of these barnacles is a duty we owe to our own good and to posterity. In things essential, unity.

Kansas (Wichita) News says:

The old party man thinks it a knock down argument to say "you can't legislate money into the pockets of the people." But every beginner in the study of economic science knows very well that this government has legislated a vast amount of money out of the pockets of the people. It is a poor rule that will not work both ways.

The Alliance Eagle (Ellisville, Miss.) says:

And now the scared ones are making the remark, "that if the farmers vote as they picnic, there will be the greatest political revolution Kansas has ever known." Gentlemen, that is just the way it is going to be done. These farmers are getting tired of doing things on the halves. They go the whole hog or none at a picnic, and that is the way it will be worked at the polls this fall. The whole hog will be the animal in question, and it will be a

buster.

The Weekly Examinet (Hartford, Conn.) says:

There is no doubt in the fact that the money power of the country is now specially at work to undermine the Farmers Alliance. The plan seems to be the subsidizing of as many of the agricultural papers as can be secured. And the old-established and conservative ones seem to be secured without trouble. Here is a quotation from the Farm and Fireside, claiming a quarter of a million circulation:

"It is a noteworthy fact that while

all the old reliable farm journals are

in hearty sympathy with the farmers' movement, very few of them advocate

the two schemes of government loans

or paper money on lands and farm products.

A number of them are warning the farmers that the movement will be wrecked if these schemes are not abandoned. Last month the American Agriculturist, the best monthly farm journal published, contained an economic analysis of the proposed sub-treasury scheme, by President Andrews, of Brown University. The article is fair, candid and concise, and clearly exposes the fallacies and errors in the fundamental principles of the agricultural sub-treasury.

This is easy reading between the lines. The confidence man who wants

to get you in his clutches is always

your "friend" at the start. "The old reliable farm journals are in hearty sympathy with the farmers' movement," but they oppose the cardinal tenets of the movement—the only things that are worth the struggle. It will be noticed that these "reliables" are ever crying Stop! Stop! They do

not want the farmers to pursue the policy marked out by themselves, yet never suggest what they must do instead.

The farmers know that they must do something to be saved from the clutch of the usurer and the rack-renter, but their "reliable" friends tell them if they undertake to keep on in the direction they are now going they will run into a quagmire worse than that they would escape. The essence of the advice lies in the intimation, of course, that the poor fugitive must stay where he is and let shlock keep on with the fleeing.

Some one has said: "Let me have the

making of the songs of a people and I care not who makes their laws." The money power would paraphrase this by saying: "Let us control the press of a country and we control the destinies of its people."

There is no doubt but these "old reliable" agricultural papers are having their influence. Every farmer is not in possession of a thinking machine, and when he runs counter to that of a college professor he's lost. None are better aware of this than the politician; and now after what is imagined to be the excitement of the movement is over, it is thought the favorable time to

set out in the work of discouragement and disorganization. What the effect will be time alone will tell. The manipulators, of course, look for success, or they would not have embarked in the enterprise.

What He Did With It.

He bought the Buggy of the Pioneer Buggy Co., and then took Maud for a drive. But he kept on the good side of the father, by presenting him with a copy of the "Complete Horse Book," which we send free for 10 cents, in stamps or silver. Pioneer Buggy Co., Columbus, Ohio.

GOLD WATCHES.

We want 100,000 trial subscribers for three months, at 25 cents each. One thousand boys and girls can each earn a gold watch in procuring the same. For circulars explaining terms and conditions send a 2 cent stamp to

THE NATIONAL CITIZENS ALLIANCE,

239 North Capital street,

Washington, D. C.

Perfection of Railway Travel.

The inauguration, by the Baltimore and Ohio, Philadelphia and Reading, and Jersey Central Railroad, of the famous "Royal Blue Line" between New York and Washington, the Philadelphia and Baltimore man an event of the greatest importance to travelers, and it is very gratifying to chronicle the great success and popularity it has attained. It deserves it fully, for it is emphatically the best line ever run between the two cities. We say the best from personal experience, for we have traveled over and the Royal Blue Line and when we sat down on the "B. & O." route, the highest realization and perfection of railway travel is attained, we are but giving it just praise. Its trains are the safest, the finest, and fastest in America and are "run on time." A vestibuled limited express, equipped so completely and luxuriously as to have nothing to be desired between New York and Washington on each direction in approximately five hours, which is not only the fastest ever made between the two cities, but is the fastest train in America, and the splendid road bed of the route permits the speed with perfect safety. One can realize what a fast train this is when it is considered that the distance from New York to Washington is approximately the same from Boston to New York, whereas six hours is the fastest time ever made between the latter cities. The Royal Blue Line's trains from Jersey City to Washington perform their journey in four hours and forty-eight minutes. Notwithstanding the superior equipment and training service of this line, no extra fare is charged, except for baggage, which is carried at day rates. We can assure a passenger that the Royal Blue Line's trains are all the best. Any one who can well afford a "Royal Blue" Harness from us, we will give a 10% discount to anyone who sends us for them. We give no credit, and have

ONE PRICE ONLY  
Platform, 2-Spring or Combination Wagons, \$60; same as others sell at \$80.  
Top Buggies, \$65; good as sold at \$80.  
Phantoms, \$10; same as others sell at \$15.  
Fine Road Cart, with dash, \$15.  
Small rates of damage shipping, \$10.  
OUR HARNESSES  
No. 1, Farm Harness, \$24.50  
No. 2, Full Nickel Harness, \$10  
No. 3, \$30  
No. 4, \$40  
No. 5, \$50  
No. 6, \$60  
No. 7, \$70  
No. 8, \$80  
No. 9, \$90  
No. 10, \$100  
No. 11, \$110  
No. 12, \$120  
No. 13, \$130  
No. 14, \$140  
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never before, and will not longer submit to be made a foot-ball between the two parties for the amusement of Wall street and the profit of the politicians. The need of the times is for one of the parties, or a new party, to announce in favor of the fundamental principles of this great nation, and then conduct a campaign on principle, having no campaign fund, and accepting contributions from no source, unless it be a trifle from every voter alike. Neither of the old parties dare do that, and some of the loudest mouthed agitators for a third party would lose interest in a move of that kind.

#### A SAMPLE SUBSIDY.

The following is the full text of perhaps the most dangerous and pernicious bill passed by the last Congress. In one form or another a similar measure has been before Congress for a long time. Regular trained lobbyists, some of them ex-Senators and ex-judges, have haunted the corridors of the capitol for years, seeking through every means known to that craft to fasten this particular act of financial speculation upon the people. At last their efforts have been crowned with success, and the farmer, in connection with all other producers, can now be robbed under due forms of law to further profit and enrich already powerful and prosperous enterprises. This law is very skilfully and adroitly framed. Neither aggregate amount nor time of payment is stipulated, thereby placing it purposely outside the regular annual appropriations. In this the will of the people, as well as their rights, are practically defeated by denying their representatives the prerogative of meeting the yearly expenditures of the government by the usual annual appropriations. It takes from the treasury of the people an unknown and unlimited amount of their hard-earned money under the false assumption of public benefit, and because of this, is nothing more or less than a gigantic steal, a piece of national pillage that does not end with the present raid, but opens the way for future and greater robberies. It is one of the most unconscionable acts of legislative corruption that has passed

Congress for many years, and if not repealed will prove an abiding curse to the people. It is unjust in principle, founded upon a wrong conception of the equities that should obtain under a republican form of government, and is in direct contravention of such legislation as must be found where the will of a majority is the law of the land. It is a vicious, unwarranted usurpation of legislative power, and an example of class legislation in

its most harmful and objectionable form. The property of the private citizen is taken through this law, and handed over to these corporations of vessel owners as absolutely and completely as if it were done at the muzzle of a shot gun. Every bushel of wheat, pound of pork, bale of cotton, or day's labor contributes its share of the tribute paid these corporations without the least shadow of a return. No one has ever been able to show where or how it would be of the least advantage of any one who labors in production. The measure deserves the condemnation of all fair-minded citizens and should be repealed at once:

An act to provide for ocean mail service between the United States and foreign ports, and to promote commerce.

Section 1. That the Postmaster General is hereby authorized and empowered to enter into contracts for a term not less than five nor more than ten years in duration, with American citizens, for the carrying of mails on American steamships, between ports of the United States and such ports in foreign countries, the Dominion of Canada excepted, as in his judgment will best subserve and promote the postal and commercial interests of the United States, the mail service on such lines to be equitably distributed among the Atlantic, Mexican Gulf and Pacific ports. Said contracts shall be made with the lowest responsible bidder for the performance of said service on each route, and the Postmaster General shall have the right to reject all bids not in his opinion reasonable for the attaining of the purposes named.

Sec. 2. That before making any contract for carrying ocean mails in accordance with this act, the Postmaster General shall give public notice by advertising once a week, for three months, in such daily papers as he shall select in each of the cities of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, Saint Louis, Charleston, Norfolk, Savannah, Galveston, and Mobile, and when the proposed service is to be in the Pacific Ocean, then in San Francisco, Tacoma, and Portland. Such notice shall describe the route, the time when such contract will be made, the duration of the same, the size of the steamers to be used, the number of trips a year, the times of sailing, and the time when the service shall commence, which shall not be more than three years after the contract shall be let. The details of the mode of advertising and letting such contracts shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in chapter eight of title forty-six of the Revised Statutes for the letting of inland mail contracts so far as the same shall be applicable to the ocean mail service.

Sec. 3. That the vessels employed in the mail service under the provisions of this act shall be American built steamships, owned and officered by American citizens, in conformity with the existing laws, or so owned and officered and registered according to law, and upon each departure from the United States the following proportion of the crew shall be citizens of the United States, to wit: During the first two years of such contract for carrying the mails, one-fourth thereof; during the next three succeeding years, one-third thereof; and during the remaining time of the continuance of such contract at least one-half thereof; and shall be constructed after the latest and most approved types, with all the modern improvements and appliances for ocean steamers. They shall be divided into four classes. The first class shall be iron or steel screw steamships, capable of maintaining a speed of twenty knots an hour at sea in ordinary weather, and of a gross registered tonnage of not less than eight thousand tons. No vessel except of said first class shall be accepted for said mail service, under the provisions of this act between the United States and Great Britain. The second class

shall be iron or steel steamships, capable of maintaining a speed of sixteen knots an hour at sea in ordinary weather, and of a gross registered tonnage of not less than five thousand tons. The third class shall be iron or steel steamships capable of maintaining a speed of fourteen knots an hour at sea in ordinary weather, and of a gross registered tonnage of not less than two thousand five hundred tons. The fourth class shall be iron or steel or wooden steamships, capable of maintaining a speed of twelve knots at sea in ordinary weather, and of a gross registered tonnage of not less than fifteen hundred tons. It shall be stipulated in the contract or contracts to be entered into for the said mail service that the said vessels may carry passengers with their baggage in addition to said mails, and may do all ordinary business done by steamships.

Sec. 4. That all steamships of the first, second, and third classes employed as above and hereafter built shall be constructed with particular reference to prompt and economic conversion into auxiliary naval cruisers, and according to plans and specifications to be agreed upon by and between the owners and the Secretary of the Navy, and they shall be of sufficient strength and stability to carry and sustain the working and operation of at least four effective rifled cannon of a caliber of not less than six inches, and shall be of the highest rating known to maritime commerce. And all vessels of said three classes heretofore built and so employed shall, before they are accepted for the mail service herein provided for, be thoroughly inspected by a competent naval officer or constructor detailed for that service by the Secretary of the Navy; and such officer shall report, in writing, to the Secretary of the Navy, who shall transmit said report to the Postmaster General; and no such vessel not approved by the Secretary of the Navy as suitable for the service required shall be employed by the Postmaster General as provided for in this act.

Sec. 5. That the rate of compensation to be paid for such ocean mail service of the said first-class ships shall not exceed the sum of four dollars a mile, and for the second-class ships two dollars a mile, by the shortest practicable route, for each outward voyage; for the third-class ships two thirds of one dollar a mile for the actual number of miles required by the Postoffice Department to be traveled on each outward bound voyage: Provided, That in the case of failure from any cause to perform the regular voyages stipulated for in said contracts, or any of them, a pro rata reduction shall be made from the compensation on account of such omitted voyage or voyages; and that suitable fines and penalties may be imposed for delays or irregularities in the due performance of service according to the contract, to be determined by the Postmaster General: Provided further, That no steamship so employed and so paid for carrying the United States mails shall receive any other bounty or subsidy from the treasury of the United States.

Sec. 6. That upon each of said vessels the United States shall be entitled to have transported, free of charge, a mail messenger, whose duty it shall be to receive, sort, take in charge and deliver the mails to and from the United States, and who shall be provided with suitable room for the accommodation of himself and the mails.

Sec. 7. That officers of the United States Navy may volunteer for service on said mail vessels, and when accepted by the contractor or contractors may be assigned to such duty by the Secretary of the Navy whenever in his opinion such assignment can be made without detriment to the service, and while in said employment they shall receive furlough pay from the government, and such other compensation from the contractor or contractors as may be agreed upon by the parties: Provided, That they shall only be required to perform such duties as pertain to the merchant service.

Sec. 8. That said vessels shall take, as cadets or apprentices, one American born boy under twenty-one years of age for each one thousand tons gross register, and one for each majority fraction thereof, who shall be educated in the duties of seamanship, rank as petty officers, and receive

such pay for their services as may be reasonable.

Sec. 9. That such steamers may be taken and used by the United States as transports or cruisers, upon payment of the same at the time of the taking, and if there shall be a disagreement as to the fair actual value of the same at time of the taking, between the United States and the owners, then the same shall be determined by two impartial appraisers, one to be appointed by each of said parties, they at the same time selecting a third, who shall act in said appraisal in case the two shall fail to agree.

#### PERTINENT QUESTIONS.

B. B. Turner, Broad Run Station, Fauquier county, Va., writes THE ECONOMIST the following letter, setting forth some questions of wide interest:

I have just read in your interesting columns that most interesting and instructive article by Judge R. W. Hughes, "Silver Coinage." May I ask a little further explanation upon one or two paragraphs. He says "But complete remedy can be supplied only by the co-operation of Great Britain and Germany, the countries holding the great bulk of bonds of the world." He then goes on to say that there is no probability that these two monster creditors will abate anything of their demands of gold for the interest on their bonds. Then it is a fact that these countries can, on account of our indebtedness to them, dictate to us what shall be our domestic currency? Suppose we do have to pay to them the interest we owe them in gold, may we not render that gold a little less expensive to be had by finding something to take its place for home use?

Again, is the character of those bonds such that we may not pay them off by changing the debt we owe to them to a debt to our own people, as was done by France at the close of the Franco-Prussian war?

Might not this change be made so as to really benefit our people by giving them in legal tender a sufficient supply of money on which to do business on a cash instead of credit basis? We are told that two years after France had made this payment, great as it was, to Prussia her people were in a more prosperous condition than those of Prussia, and that she had actually more gold in her possession than she had paid out. Now why would not a similar action on our part produce a similar effect for our benefit? If our financial legislation is to be controlled by our creditors, then our situation deplorable indeed and the sooner we realize it the better.

Judge Hughes goes on to say that Germany "deprived silver of the privilege of the mint and of the legal tender functions in 1873, in part because she desired to cripple the power of France, whose people are the richest in the world," etc. Did not she fail in that part of her undertaking? and did not France actually benefit from it?

These questions are asked, not in any wise to criticize the position taken by Judge Hughes, but only for the information of the writer and the public at large, who are woefully ignorant upon these points.

Judge Hughes' idea of what comprises a complete remedy is inferred from his article. So far as the bonded debt of the United States is concerned, that is not owed to foreign countries, but to individuals and fiduciary corporations, nearly all in the United States. These bonds are payable in American coin, either silver or gold, the only legal stipulation being that the coin be of the present weight and fineness, and it was apparently to prevent their payment in silver coin that metal was first demonetized by the financial masters of the American p-

ople. Now that the public debt is small, and its final payment easily foreseen, the money power is devoting its energies to attach to the payment of the several billions of bonds and mortgages owed by the American people the hard condition of the gold standard. If Judge Hughes is in error in the position first quoted, it is because he fails to recognize that all the vast debt of the American people, wherever held and to whom ever due, is payable in American money, and secured by bonds, mortgages, or debentures of record in the jurisdiction of American courts. If the foreign creditor should refuse the lawful money of the United States, he must sustain his demand for payment before an American court, in no wise differently from the manner prescribed for an American creditor.

There is no international money. Gold bullion goes by weight everywhere, just as does wheat or cotton, and pays debt only when acceptable to the creditor. To allow the financial condition of this country to be dictated by foreigners, is to accept the position of colonies or dependencies. The task set to those leaders of American politics who aspire to the standing of statesmen, is to inaugurate a policy by which the people can, by use of a true representative money, reduce and finally liquidate the enormous sums payable to foreigners. By their success in grappling with this all-important question, their constituents will honor and history gauge their standing. It is to the existence of this great debt that England owes her power to profit by a trade condition in which she buys of the products of American labor yearly \$250,000,000 more than she repays in products. The balance of trade is paid in interest due each year on the money Americans owe her citizens. That the quantity of money should be increased until sufficient to do business on a cash basis, and thus avoid debt hereafter, is the natural security against a deeper floundering into the mire of debt. That an increase in the money volume would raise the prices of the products of labor, meeting this annual drain of interest on debts already contracted with less effort until the principal shall be paid, all the precedents of history go to prove.

But the impediment to the true and final solution of this great question is not in our relations to the subjects of Germany or England. The opposition that will tell most effectively is that of American citizens who enjoy the advantages of special privileges conferred by the existing laws. These men are athwart the way, and by the exercise of the patronage of gov-

ernment and control of the great

parties, will leave no method untried to maintain the financial status quo.

#### HAS GOLD ADVANCED?

Suppose, for example, that the long standing and well worn position that it is unfair to take 80 cents' worth of silver and make a dollar out of it, is changed to the declaration that it is more dangerous to the welfare of the people and the just distribution of the fruits of labor in production to take one hundred and forty cents' worth of gold and make a dollar of it. It is the cheap dollar that makes the dear day's work, which brings proper remuneration for labor; while the dear dollar brings the cheap day's work and results in starvation wages. At the present time the silver bullion in the silver dollar will exchange for about the same amount of the production of labor as it always would, while the gold bullion in a gold dollar will exchange for a large per cent more. There is no doubt of the fact that gold has increased in value instead of silver having decreased. The following, taken from the New York Tribune in 1885, shows the results obtained from the only fair method of computation and comparison that has yet been devised. A careful study of the figures given in these tables will be of service to the reader, and enable him to discover the causes operating to produce either financial distress or universal prosperity among the people. The quotation is as follows:

1875, Jan. 1...\$113.01 \$112.37 \$100.37  
1876, Oct. 1...97.30 110.00 88.45  
1877, May 1...99.29 106.75 93.01  
1878, May 1...82.09 100.31 87.51  
1878, Oct. 1...77.94 100.37 77.65  
  
RESUMPTION,  
1879, Nov. 1...\$93.48 \$..... \$.....  
1880, Jan. 1...103.42 \$..... \$.....  
1881, Jan. 1...95.98 \$..... \$.....  
1882, May 16...105.59 \$..... \$.....  
  
THE RECENT DECLINE.  
1883, Mar. 13...\$97.82 \$..... \$.....  
1883, Nov. 1...88.71 \$..... \$.....  
1884, Jan. 1...88.37 \$..... \$.....  
1884, Nov. 21...78.47 \$..... \$.....  
1885, Jan. 1...79.66 \$..... \$.....  
1885, May 9...80.22 \$..... \$.....  
1885, Aug. 22...74.56 \$..... \$.....  
1885, Nov. 1...75.35 \$..... \$.....  
1885, Close....78.53 \$..... \$.....

It is not only clear from this comparison that the prices of 1885 have been the lowest in our history for twenty-five years, but that there has been a general tendency toward lower prices. From 1866 to 1871, and again from 1872 until 1878, and again from 1882 until 1885, prices fell quite steadily. Indeed, had not the short crop of 1881 caused a temporary advance in the spring of 1882, the range of January, 1880, would have been the highest of the later period, and it might have been said that the present era of declining prices had continued with little intermission for six years. None will fail to observe how swift and sharp the advances have been—about 12 per cent from November, 1871, to May, 1872, and 25% per cent from October, 1878, to January, 1880. But these spasmodic advances, by which the general tendency downward is interrupted, only serve to make it more clear that prices have been tending irresistibly toward a lower level than that of 1860, not only during the period of paper depreciation, but since gold has been the measure of value.

One remarkable feature in this connection is that such an article should have appeared in a journal making a bitter war on silver. If the above tables prove anything, they prove that gold has advanced in value 23.86 per cent since 1860.

There must have been a general decline in the price of all the products of labor as well as in labor itself, or else an advance in the value of gold. Which is most reasonable? Gold being a commodity

rather than the prices of May 16, 1862, when \$106.59 was required to purchase the same quantities of the same articles that cost in August last \$74.56. Here has been a decline of more than \$32 in the gold price of the entire list of commodities, legal tenders having been equivalent to gold for several years prior to 1882. The sums in currency which, from data thus far obtained, appear to be equivalent in purchasing power at different periods, selected to illustrate the extremes of upward or downward movements, are given in the first column of the following table. It is proper to add that the completion of the inquiry may warrant small changes in these figures, but probably not changes of importance. In the second column is given the price of gold in currency at the dates named, and in the third column the gold value of the sums in currency which appear to have had equivalent purchasing power at the different dates prior to resumption:

like all the other products named, it is not unreasonable to presume that gold alone has remained unchanged.

#### A BIT OF ANCIENT HISTORY.

An old and valued friend sends the following clipping taken from a daily paper in 1886. It is well worth a careful reading as it throws a flood of light on the methods made use of by this same servant of plutocracy in the recent silver contest:

Mr. Edward Atkinson, a prominent member of the board of trade of Boston, has recently sent a letter to Hamilton Hill, secretary of the national board of trade, explaining how President Grant, while he was president, in the interest of capital, was induced to veto a bill for the increase of the volume of currency. General Grant had made up his mind to sign the bill. He thought the country would not sustain him in any other course. Vice-President Wilson requested Mr. Atkinson to have boards of trade and chambers of commerce of the country send petitions to Grant to veto the bill. Mr. Atkinson sent the following telegrams to the officers of the boards of trade and chambers of commerce in Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and other cities:

"Rain in upon the President protests against the inflation bill from every point you can reach. Such action is necessary and will be welcome."

The bills sent in caused President Grant to veto the bill. General Grant subsequently made the following statement to Mr. Atkinson in regard to the matter:

"I had of course no previous knowledge of the currency question until the responsibility was forced upon me of determining my course in respect to measures enacted by Congress. I distrusted my own convictions, because I thought it probable that on such a question as this, Congress might rightly reflect the opinion of the country. I had therefore prepared a message to accompany the inflation bill, approved by me, giving such reasons as seemed suitable to me for signing a bill with the terms of which I did not fully concur. I should have signed the bill, and should have sent in the message with it, except that before it had become necessary, petitions urging me to veto the bill came to me, especially from the West, signed very numerously by the most substantial men of western cities, many of whom were known to me to be men of the soundest judgment. I had written to accompany the bill signed. I said to myself. The reasons you have given are all sophistries. You do not believe them yourselves, and no one else will believe them. I tore up that message and prepared the veto message consistently with my own convictions of right, and nothing has ever gratified me more than the manner in which the act has been sustained by the business men of the country."

Mr. Atkinson makes the following comments upon General Grant's statement:

"I think it is also due to our western friends to tell this story. All of them are still alive, still working, still vigorous, and still preparing to resist the continued coining of the present silver dollar, of which the results may perhaps be as disastrous and more difficult to surmount than those which might have followed from the inflation of legal tender notes. It may be suitable for those who now take the active part in the commercial conventions and in the boards of trade to repeat what we did so many years ago."

It will be seen from these statements what influences are used by capital to insure or defeat legislation. This same bean soup statistician of Boston made use of the same tactics in his effort to defeat free coinage during the last Con-

gress. A man that will resort to such shameless methods to defeat the expressed will of the people should be held up for the execration of all fair-minded citizens.

What do the Farmers Want?  
BY REV. T. J. MORRIS, COLUMBUS, TEX.

When people are prosperous and happy they are apt to take things easy, to be content with the "status quo," politically and otherwise. But when they are painfully cramped in spite of their most diligent exertions, both in laboring and practicing the most rigid economy, they become restless and unhappy. The last named condition is that of all the laboring people of this country to day. They are unavoidably restless and unhappy—have been for years and are becoming more so every year as the grip of the money power lightens upon them. They have cast about to find the cause of their distress, and the most speedy and efficient means to remove it and give them relief, for they are becoming irritated to the last degree. And their efforts in this have been rewarded, for they have discovered to their horror and deep mortification that their chosen representatives in the government have entered into the diabolical schemes of a few heartless tyrants to enslave them. These representatives forced the people into debt by withholding money, and then handed them over to the tender mercies of a company of shysters to whom they gave power to supply the people with money on their own terms. These men now virtually own the whole country, for they collect tribute from every source, from every hand engaged in honest labor, and from every business enterprise that requires the use of money. If a railroad is to be built heavy tribute has to be paid to them for the necessary funds. And after it is in operation the labor of the country must pay the company this tribute back again in addition to a fair profit, to say nothing of subordinate scheming whereby through the watering process all of this tribute levied upon the people is doubled.

Farmer Jones thinks he owns his farm, and that he is a free American citizen. But when he buys a plow, the price must cover the legally exacted tribute to the iron king and to the manufacturer for their protection in keeping foreigners from bringing cheaper implements to his doors; likewise the tribute these must pay for the use of money in their respective lines of business, plus a fair profit to them and the middlemen all around. And when this poor fool's cotton is ready for market he learns that money, which has been made designedly scarce all along, is extremely tight, and his cotton is very low, because the buyer must put the price down low enough not only to enable him to realize a good profit on his transactions, but he must also make good to himself the heavy tribute to the money power for the use of money wherever with to handle cotton. And so it happens that while Jones dreams that he is a free sovereign American, the wiley politician and the usurer are pocketing all the pro-

ceeds of his ceaseless plans and labors, except just enough to enable him to keep in fair working condition till he can gather another crop.

But Farmer Jones is now a rare type, which is easy to understand; he lives on Owl creek, in a sparsely settled neighborhood, too far from the nearest sub-Alliance to attend, and though he may go to town often he carries no reform papers home with him. On the contrary, the majority of farmers and laboring people generally have discovered the treachery by which they have been enslaved, and are now studying out the best means of carrying into effect a general emancipation proclamation. These unprincipled tyrants, in their mad greed for gold, have probably overreached themselves. They have killed the goose that laid the golden eggs, for their oppressions have awakened the people to the realities of their deplorable condition. The laboring people have discovered the government robbing them of their little property under the sanction of law, and bestowing it upon a number of rich men, for whose sole benefit it would seem the government is designed. They have seen that they are taxed by every possible means, even beyond their ability to pay and live decently, to amass vast fortunes for these favored ones, that they may live in luxury off the hard earnings of the poor, and augment with each turn of the wheel of fortune their power to oppress, to enforce their despotic exactions.

Now, how shall relief be had? What do the farmers want in this emergency? Do they want to capture the Democratic party in the South and bring it into their service, and the Republican party in the North? For it is evident that, as these oppressions have come through national legislation, relief must come through national legislation. Now, the farmers have been taught that a third party is a great evil, and therefore a few might think for a little while that to capture the two G. O. P.'s would be best. But they must soon see that the success of the reform movement must depend upon the united action of farmers and laborers North and South. And, further, that the attitude of the two old parties is about the same. Each has the same object in view—to get in; and each for this purpose plays into the hands of the money power. They are all equally opposed to the labor organizations, and equally negligent and even contemptuous of the farmers' demands. They are both machine manipulated in the interests of exploiting politicians, and have alike little sympathy with the great masses of the people. Now, in view of these facts, it is not reasonable to expect Republicans to leave the Republican machine to support the Democratic machine, or that Democrats would leave the Democratic machine to support the Republican, and if the laboring people divide between the two we will have the same old sectional status which has been forging fetters for the American people for more than twenty-five years.

What do the farmers want? The success of the dear old party or the triumph of liberty, justice, and humanity? As for me and my house, we have done with political parties; for they are the hotbeds of corruption and national decay. Let the safety of the nation rest with the unfettered, intelligent, and patriotic devotion of her prosperous and happy citizens untrammeled by any intermediary device. If we would be a free people let us see to it that no permanent political party shall flourish upon American soil; but that every one shall have the opportunity to vote in accordance with honest convictions, to align themselves upon all questions under the dictation of their own enlightened judgment. And now to show it can be done, let us emblazon the St. Louis and Ocala demands upon our standard, hoist it aloft, have a grand people's rally and march to victory in 1892.

RALPH BRAUMONT, Secretary  
National Citizens Alliance, is now  
lecturing in New England.

President Andrews on the Sub-Treasury.  
BY HARRY HINTON.

Professors and presidents of our universities and colleges, like judges of our courts, are considered as occupying positions beyond the reach of bias and pecuniary advantage, and accordingly their opinions carry more weight than those of any other class of men, not only on this account, but also on account of their learning and supposed mental calibre. However, some judges are not as other judges; and some presidents of our colleges are not like other presidents. We quote from an exposition of President Andrew's treatise, as recently published:

"It is a mistake to think that harvest brings a sudden accession of exchangeable wealth calling for an expansion of circulating medium." But, "he recognizes the peculiar needs of money in agricultural localities after harvest time, but the remedy for this," he says, "is the extended use of banking facilities in the way of deposits and checks." This precedent denies the necessity of a flexible currency, and then admits it in the same breath and applies the remedy, which is, that farmers must have money in bank to check upon. So far, so weak.

The sub-treasury scheme "is artfully framed to fleece the farmer by forcing him to sell at low prices and buy at high." Then, we ask, why does plutocracy oppose it? It is the very thing they want. The other day they said it would enable the farmer to make a huge corner, so as to sell high; now this president says it will force the farmers to sell low and buy everything he needs high. Beautiful reasoners and kind friends! Driven from pillar to post to antagonize the interest of the people, they cut the throats of each others' arguments. So far, so weak.

"The scheme would effect a ruinous permanent inflation of the currency." Here is a contradiction of all the above reasoning. If the inflation is permanent, prices will remain proportional in what the farmer buys and what he sells. No advantage to any class in par-

There are some agricultural papers, backed by much capital and profusely illustrated to catch the

eye, which are perhaps good authority in raising onions and potatoes and making chicken coops, but in matters pertaining to politics or finance they are the poorest friends in the land. All journals who desire patronage from the lower walks profess a wonderful friendship for the farmers. This is the clap-trap of the trade and deceives no one. But when a journal comes forth and in the same breath accuses the sub-treasury scheme as one artfully contrived to fleece the farmer, and then says it is class legislation in his behalf, we get a pointer which shows that the farmers are strangers among his acquaintances. We will put up some finger boards for the wayfaring farmers to read as they walk.

First. The farmers have been unjustly and injuriously treated in the management of the national finances. If you find a journal which does not preach this doctrine put it down as plutocratic and irrational, especially if they are going to be "fleeced."

The president's arguments all point to money on a coin basis, for "every one knows what the inevitable tendency is when prices have lost relation to a coin foundation," therefore he is in favor of repealing the national bank issue and the greenbacks. This is money issued without a coin foundation and has a tendency upon prices. The writer quotes Laws' bank and the French assignats as a scare without showing wherein they are parallel. This is a species of begging the question. The cases are not parallel on the points at issue. The farmers advocate the issuing of no money in the sub-treasury scheme without an adequate property value, and all referable to a coin basis. There is no doubt that there will be an attempt made to depreciate money issued for the peoples' benefit and not in the benefit of the plutocracy.

Archbishop Whately in his Logic says: "The fallacy of objections is the stronghold of bigoted anti-innovators who oppose all reforms and alterations; for there never was or will be any plan proposed against which strong and unanswerable objections may not be urged; so that unless the opposite objections be set in the balance on the other side, we can never advance a step." That the present financial system has been cruel, inhuman, unjust, and tyrannical, tending to destroy freedom and the perpetuity of the government, will pass, we suppose, with no need of proof. Should one scheme be proposed to make it more just it would meet with serious objections from the anti-reformers: so would the second, the third, and any, and all. So would the religion of Jesus Christ. It is easy, quite easy, to raise objections, but is difficult, very difficult, to propose any scheme for the amelioration of mankind not open to bigoted objections. It never has been done. This makes it so difficult for man to progress in any social or political reform; for if the opponents can by skill in sophistry persuade man to hesitate to resolve, he has already resolved to live under present conditions. If in slavery to remain a slave; if in heathendom to remain a pagan; so we find that plutocracy holds a strong hand and the people must shut their ears to the charmers, let them sing ever so sweetly.

"The scheme would effect a ruinous permanent inflation of the currency." Here is a contradiction of all the above reasoning. If the inflation is permanent, prices will remain proportional in what the farmer buys and what he sells. No advantage to any class in par-

There are some agricultural papers, backed by much capital and profusely illustrated to catch the

If they wish to contract the circulation they withdraw all of their money from the banks and then borrow all the banks can spare. These men put their heads together, for instance, and decide to gobble up some railroad like the Union Pacific. The stocks of nearly all of these roads are carried by the banks as collateral security. Gould & Co. want this stock that they may get control of the road. These stocks are deposited on what is known as call loan—that is, when the banks run down to their reserve they call on the railroads for the loan made to them. Gould & Co. have borrowed and withdrawn all the money in all the banks. The railroad people go to the bank with which they have been doing business and ask for money to respond to the call. They are told that the bank has none to spare—it has already loaned down the lawful limit. They go to another and another, only to be met with the same reply. The truth flashes on their bewildered minds, the gold bugs have made a corner on money. This results in a sale of the stock held by the banks as security at whatever it will bring. In this way Gould & Co. are enabled to gobble up millions of railroad stock at a single deal for a mere song. But it does not end here. The whole commercial world is thrown into a state of congestion; business is paralyzed, values depleted and confidence destroyed, all to gratify the grasping, avaricious ambition of a few purse proud millionaires. Gould has recently main in circulation, while the land could be put on the market for sale on homestead, and by the growing and rising generation rapidly taken up. I dread to see the day when there will be no government land. When that day comes Gould & Co. will begin to make tenants on land, and then woe be to the poor laboring people of this country. The chance then for a poor man to own a home will be slim indeed.

Third fingerboard. We have two national parties in existence, whose main incentives are hero-worship, place, and plunder. If you find any journal subservient to party interests at any sacrifice to the people's demands put it down as plutocratic and hostile.

Fourth fingerboard. All departments of science and art are progressing. So if you find any journal objecting to social and political progress by objecting to any scheme proposed without proposing one better in its opinion, put it down as plutocratic and hostile.

Many other tokens might be given by which the ordinary reader may at once distinguish the plutocratic press from that printed in the interest of the nation. This, however, will amply suffice. By these signs you shall know them.

#### The Vice of Contraction.

BY J. M. WHITEHEAD.

We hear it said frequently that the national banks have the power to expand or contract the circulation at their pleasure, but exactly how they are enabled to do this is not stated. In the first place it is not so much within the power of the banks to do this as it is in the power of a few millionaires who own the money. It is the miserable system that enables these plutocrats to so oppress the people. Under the national banking law the banks are required to keep an amount of money on hand as a reserve, and are not allowed to let out by loan or otherwise this reserve on the penalty of a forfeiture of their charters. Now Vanderbilt, Gould, Sage, Rockefeller, and Co. can control more money than the government itself.

this plan, taking mortgages, and that the people would keep the money and let the government keep the land. He says values would change. Yes, but all economists tell us that an increase of money enhances values. If mortgaged at half its value at first, and values afterward enhance, where is the prospect that the government would get any land? If the mortgagor did not redeem there would likely be some thrifty neighbor to step up and pay this debt and take the land. But let us suppose that some land—large quantities of it, would fall back on the government, who would be hurt? We now have a regularly organized land office in the Department of the Interior—(perhaps Dr. Field is not aware of this). Unless some thing is done in a few years this office will have to be abolished for lack of business. But under the land loan system all lands not redeemed, would become public lands, and thus grist would be afforded the government mill to grind upon. If the government lost on one tract it would gain on the other, and the average would be about equal; so that the loss or gain in the aggregate would be small. Just suppose—which is not a supposable case) that one half of the lands in the country would be mortgaged, and that one half of this would fall back on the government unredeemed. Who would be hurt? For all land redeemed, the borrowed money would be returned, and for all not redeemed, the money would remain in circulation, while the land could be put on the market for sale on homestead, and by the growing and rising generation rapidly taken up. I dread to see the day when there will be no government land. When that day comes Gould & Co. will begin to make tenants on land, and then woe be to the poor laboring people of this country. The chance then for a poor man to own a home will be slim indeed.

The imagined aristocratic power of the President is the purest speculation. He could only execute the law, and when the mortgage fell due if the money was offered, he must take it; if not paid, he must foreclose and take the land, and that would be the end of his power.

Dr. Field thinks there would be rebellion on the part of the people at having to pay 2 per cent interest. This is the wildest guess work. They are now paying to money lenders from 8 to 25 per cent, and no indication of resistance. When they have the money, they cheerfully pay it. When they have not they quietly submit to be sold out of house and home, and have their horses, cattle, etc., knocked off to the highest bidder. Many times they know that debt is purely usury, but they let it go, and with their wives and little ones move off and start again. Money on long time at 2 per cent would look to them like a blessing from above, and would be hailed with loud hallelujahs.

Dr. Field says it would demoralize the farmers, for whom he entertains the most reverential regard. He "cannot be" reconciled to the idea that stalwart American farmer should become dependent

on the favor of the government, a position which would be humiliating to a body of men heretofore so high-spirited and self-respecting. "Now, my dear doctor, this is calculated to test to the utmost the patient equanimity of Job himself. You certainly lose sight of the fact that these people for whose welfare and prosperity you are so extremely solicitous, have had their nose to shysters' grindstone at 10 to 20 per cent for the last twenty years, compounded every twelve months. Their backs and heads are bent under the burden, they are prematurely wrinkled and gray. If they are not demoralized, what in the name of common sense will it take to do it? Is it even more demoralizing to be dependent on the government at 2 per cent for ten or twenty years, than it is to be enslaved to a remorseless money monger at 10 to 20 per cent with the power to close at the end of the year, when crops have failed or sickness has intervened to prevent making the money? The people are the sovereigns under our system of government; they use the government. The money in the Treasury is their money on deposit. When they borrow this money they borrow from themselves, and give their land as security to protect the other partners in the firm. Instead of being demoralizing there is something inspiring about it to feel that the humblest citizen is a sovereign and a partner in the greatest and best government the world has ever seen. Why should it humiliate such a sovereign of such a country to feel that the State is able and willing to help him by a loan of its credit when clouds obscure the sky, and shadows darken his pathway? Away with such sentimental nonsense.

#### Two Parties Needed.

BY J. M. SMITH, GARFIELD, WASH.

Considerable discussion has lately appeared in your paper, from both the advocates and opponents, of a "third party." I can not agree with any of them since it appears to me their arguments are based on wrong premises. They claim there are two great parties and we can or can not form a "third party." I hold that there are now really only two parties in existence, the party of the oppressed and the party of the oppressor. The names Democrat and Republican are terms of distinction without any difference; these parties so called are in a chaotic state, and, as parties, are dead. Their mission is ended. Out of them a great multitude are forming in line that will constitute a new party; the remnant of both are and will make another party. The alarm has been sounded recently by a prominent partisan journal on this coast saying: "Millions are now in this farmers' craze, and millions more are likely to embrace it. It will not be necessary for the opponents of this craze to longer remain a Democrat or a Republican on old party lines." Here is an invitation for the "lion and the lamb to lie down together." This trumpet will be heard all along the line as they see our strength increasing, and will result in the consolidation of

two heads of the plutocracy in order to secure the spoils they have so long enjoyed. In some places this has been recently done. In another sense it will be the party of luxury and wealth opposing the other party of poverty and distress. We of the latter party claim to have buried partisanship—as it is called—in the adoption of our platform at St. Louis in 1889. Therefore, it is folly to say, I am an Alliance man and a Republican, or I am an Alliance man and a Democrat. It is absurd. Moreover it is hypocrisy, as well say I am both a Baptist and a Presbyterian. We can not serve God and mammon at one and the same time. "He that is not for us is against us." The Alliance alone will not form a party to the exclusion of those who are ineligible and who are in sympathy with us, and of those who desire to co-operate with us. It will be formed in co-operative council for active work in the near future by securing to the laboring classes the greatest amount of good; we hold to the principle that all monopolies are dangerous to the best interests of our country, tending to enslave a free people and subvert and finally overthrow the great principles purchased by the fathers of American liberty. We therefore adopt the following as our declaration of principles:

#### KINDRED ASSOCIATIONS.

In view of the great discussion now active throughout the United States, in which the feasibility of massing the political force of the great labor organizations of the country for reform takes a leading place, the declarations and demands of several are given by THE ECONOMIST for information and comparison:

National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union.

#### DECLARATION OF PURPOSES.

Whereas the general condition of our country imperatively demands unity of action on the part of the laboring classes, reformation in economy, and the dissemination of principles best calculated to encourage and foster agricultural and mechanical pursuits, encouraging the toiling masses—leading them in the road to prosperity, and providing a just and fair remuneration for labor, a just exchange for our commodities, and the best means of securing to the laboring classes the greatest amount of good; we hold to the principle that all monopolies are dangerous to the best interests of our country, tending to enslave a free people and subvert and finally overthrow the great principles purchased by the fathers of American liberty. We therefore adopt the following as our declaration of principles:

1. To labor for the education of the agricultural classes in the science of economic government in a strictly non-partisan spirit.

2. To endorse the motto: "In things essential, unity; and in all things, charity."

3. To develop a better state, mentally, morally, socially, and financially.

4. To create a better understanding for sustaining civil officers in maintaining law and order.

5. To constantly strive to secure entire harmony and good will among mankind, and brotherly love among ourselves.

6. To suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudices, all unhealthful rivalry and selfish ambition.

7. The brightest jewels which garners are the tears of widows and orphans, and its imperative commands are to visit the homes where lacerated hearts are bleeding; to assuage the sufferings of a brother or sister; bury the dead; care for the widows and educate the orphans; to exercise charity toward offenders; to construe words and deeds in their most favorable light, granting honesty of purpose and good intentions to others; and to protect the principles of the Alliance unto death. Its laws are reason and equity; its cardinal doctrines inspire purity of thought and life; its intention is "on earth peace and good will toward men."

#### OCALA DEMANDS.

1. We demand the abolition of national banks; 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 2 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 circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

2. We demand that Congress shall pass such laws as shall effectually prevent the dealing in futures in all agricultural and mechanical productions; preserving a stringent system of procedure in trials such as shall secure the prompt conviction and imposition of such penalties as shall secure the most perfect compliance with the law.

3. We denounce the silver bill recently passed by Congress, and demand in lieu thereof the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

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 liens and foreign syndicates, and that all lands now held by railroad and other corporations in excess of such as is actually used and needed by them, be reclaimed by the

government and held for actual settlers only.

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 removal of the existing heavy tariff tax from the necessities of life that the poor of our land must have. We further demand a just and equitable system of graduated tax on incomes. We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people and hence we demand that all national and State revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government economically and honestly administered.

6. We demand the most rigid, honest and just State and national governmental control and supervision of the methods of public communication and transportation, and if this control and supervision do not remove the abuse now existing, we demand the government ownership of such means of communication and transportation.

#### Farmers Mutual Benefit Association.

#### DEMANDS.

We believe with our forefathers that the fundamental principles which underlie all governments are the rights of the citizen to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and the securing of these rights to the individual is the vital function of all governments rightly administered. That the massively rich and the hopelessly poor man are most apt to aggrieve and to do violence to the honest toiler. The alarming development and dominating power of great capitalists, corporations and monopolies, unless checked, will inevitably lead to pauperism and slavery of the toiling masses, and especially the farmer. The same influences which destroyed the middle classes in the old world and produced a few wealthy landlords of the capitalists and many poor tenants of the laborers, are at work in our beloved America.

1. To labor for the education of the agricultural classes in the science of economic government in a strictly non-partisan spirit.

2. To endorse the motto: "In things essential, unity; and in all things, charity."

3. To develop a better state, mentally, morally, socially, and financially.

4. To create a better understanding for sustaining civil officers in maintaining law and order.

5. To constantly strive to secure entire harmony and good will among mankind, and brotherly love among ourselves.

6. To suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudices, all unhealthful rivalry and selfish ambition.

7. The brightest jewels which garners are the tears of widows and orphans, and its imperative commands are to visit the homes where lacerated hearts are bleeding; to assuage the sufferings of a brother or sister; bury the dead; care for the widows and educate the orphans; to exercise charity toward offenders; to construe words and deeds in their most favorable light, granting honesty of purpose and good intentions to others; and to protect the principles of the Alliance unto death. Its laws are reason and equity; its cardinal doctrines inspire purity of thought and life; its intention is "on earth peace and good will toward men."

#### Patrons of Husbandry.

#### DECLARATION OF PURPOSES.

Profoundly impressed with the truth that the National Grange of the United States should definitely proclaim to the world its general objects, we hereby unanimously make this declaration of purposes of the Patrons of Husbandry:

1. We, the farmers, claim that the inalienable rights of one man are also the inalienable rights of all other men.

2. That our country should be ruled by the great voting masses and not by the moneyed few.

3. That our tax burden should be borne by each citizen in proportion to his wealth.

4. That all classes of good citizens should be fairly represented in our legislative halls.

5. That the farmer has as good a right to set the price on the products of his labor as other men have on theirs.

6. That legislation, speculation, and taxation can not produce wealth, but wealth is the product of labor.

7. That excessive taxation is robbery under the form of law.

8. That class legislation is also robbery, because it takes from one citizen for the benefit of another.

9. That the salary of officeholders should be fair and reasonable, but should not enrich them while their constituents are thereby made poor.

10. That in order to reap the greatest benefits from free American suffrage, it should be free from the influence of money, deception, and prejudice, and be directed by education to the candidates who most nearly represent their constituents.

11. That candidates for office should possess the following qualifications: Capability, integrity, and sympathy with the taxpayer.

12. That United States Senators should be elected by the direct vote of the people.

13. That State and government appropriations are too frequent and too often only benefit a few.

14. That all land granted to railroads should be taxed.

15. That speculators should not be allowed to speculate off of delinquent taxpayers, but the cost should remain the same and go to the school fund.

16. That as the farmer feeds the world and furnishes the material to clothe it, his calling should be more highly favored; he should be better respected and his labor better rewarded.

17. That farmers have as good a right to organize as any other class of people.

18. That farmers should settle their differences by arbitration instead of expensive litigation.

19. That the Farmers Mutual Benefit Association should be recognized by the laws of our country, as should all such associations as may be organized by the toiling masses for improving their condition and protecting their rights.

Colored Farmers National Alliance and Co-Operative Union of the United States.

#### DECLARATION OF PURPOSES.

The seventh section of the Charter declares the object of this corporation shall be to elevate the colored people of the United States by teaching them to love their country and their homes; to care more for their helpless and sick and destitute; to labor more earnestly for the education of themselves and their children, especially in agricultural pursuits.

To become better farmers and laborers, and less wasteful in their methods of living.

To be more obedient to the civil law.

To become better citizens, and truer husbands and wives.

#### National Farmers Alliance.

#### DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

1. The free and unlimited coinage of silver.

2. The abolition of national banks and the substitution for their notes of legal treasury notes, and the increase of currency to \$50 per capita.

3. Government ownership of all railroads, and telegraphs.

4. The prohibition of alien ownership of land, and of gambling in stocks, options and futures.

5. The adoption of a constitutional amendment requiring the election of President and Vice President and United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

6. The Australian ballot system.

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6. That legislation, speculation, and taxation can not produce wealth, but wealth is the product of labor.

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#### Knights of Labor.

#### PREAMBLE AND DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

The alarming development and aggressiveness of the power of great capitalists and corporations under the present industrial system will inevitably lead to the pauperization and hopeless degradation of the toiling masses.

It is imperative, if we desire to enjoy the full blessings of life, that unjust accumulation and this power for evil of aggregated wealth shall be prevented.

This much-desired object can be accomplished only by the united efforts of those who obey the divine injunction: "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread." Therefore we have formed the Order of the Knights of Labor for the purpose of organizing, educating and directing the power of the industrial masses.

We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interest whatever. On the contrary, all our acts and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the benefit of the producer and consumer, but also for all other interests that tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact.

Hence, we hold, that transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our success; that their interests are intimately connected with our interests, and harmonious action is mutually advantageous, keeping in view the first sentence in our declaration of principles of action that "individual

happiness depends upon general prosperity."

We shall advocate the cause of education among ourselves and for our children, by all just means within our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges that practical agriculture, domestic science and all the arts which adorn the home, be taught in their course of study.

5. We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic law, that the Grange, national, State or subordinate, is not a political or party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligations, can discuss partisan or sectarian questions, nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in their meetings.

6. To make industrial and moral worth, not wealth, the true standard of individual and national greatness.

7. To secure to the workers the full enjoyment of the wealth they create, sufficient leisure in which to develop their intellectual, moral and social faculties; all of the benefits, recreations and pleasures of association; in a word, to enable them to share in the gains and honors of advancing civilization.

We acknowledge the broad principle that difference of opinion is no crime, and hold that "progress toward truth is made by differences of opinion, while the fault lies in bitterness of controversy."

We desire a proper equality, equity and fairness; protection for the weak restraint upon the strong; in short, justly distributed burdens, and justly distributed power. These are American ideas, the very essence of American independence, and to advocate the contrary is unworthy of the sons and daughters of an American republic.

We cherish the belief that sectionalism is, and of right should be, dead and buried with the past. Our work is for the present and the future. In our agricultural brotherhood and in its purposes we shall recognize no North, no South, no East, no West.

It is reserved by every Patron, as the right of a freeman, to affiliate with any party that will carry out his principles.

6. Ours being peculiarly a farmers' institution, we can not admit all to our ranks.

Many are excluded by the nature of our organization, not because they are professional men, or artisans, or laborers, but because they have not a sufficient direct interest in tilling the soil, or may have some interest in conflict with our purposes. But we appeal to all good citizens for their cordial cooperation to assist in our effort toward reform, that we may eventually remove from our midst the last vestige of tyranny and corruption.

We hail the general desire for fraternal harmony, equitable compromise, and earnest co-operation, as an omen of our future success.

It shall be an abiding principle with us to relieve any of our oppressed and suffering brotherhood by any means at our command.

Last, but not least, we proclaim it among our purposes to inculcate a proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of a woman as is indicated by admitting her to membership and position in our Order.

Implying the continued assistance of our Divine Master to guide us in our work, we here pledge ourselves to faithful and harmonious labor for all future time, to return by our united effort to the wisdom, justice, fraternity, and political purity of our forefathers.

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**THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST**  
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE  
NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND  
INDUSTRIAL UNION.  
PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
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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 to the credit of the Farmers Alliance, to guarantee that they will continually 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,

Resolved, 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.

Address all remittances or communications to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,

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

**N. R. P. A.**

THE expenditures for pensions for the year ending June 30, as now officially stated, amounted to \$109,357,534. In the previous year we paid \$87,644,779.11, while in the year before that we paid \$80,288,508.77. The cost of the German army, it may be interesting to note, is for this year estimated at \$91,726,293. Besides our pensions our army costs \$30,000,000.

THE subsidized press of Mississippi, led by the Meridian Standard, are with one accord jumping on the Chickasaw Messenger because that paper defends every single demand of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union. A great deal might be said in regard to the unfair methods pursued by such papers in the attack, but the point of interest is that they are serving their masters in determined efforts to neutralize a great fight being made by the farmers of this country to relieve themselves from the power of money to oppress. Editor Frank Burkitt deserves great credit and the gratitude of the farmers of the State of Mississippi for the manly, able and determined effort and stand he is taking in their behalf. His position is invulnerable. He is in favor of "equal rights to all, special privileges to none," and advocates the sub-treasury not as a measure of class distinction, but as a means of stopping the present discriminations against agriculture that result from the class laws now in vogue. As such it is not class legislation, but the very opposite of class legislation. It is to-day the most effective measure offered to the people to neutralize and stop class legislation. Editor Burkitt

seems to be fully able to cope with all of his adversaries, however, and in every passage his responses have quickly but effectually silenced their batteries on the points in which they were seeking to deceive the people; nevertheless, in every issue the opponents bring new points and endeavor with sophistry to secure a following. Thus it will be throughout the entire canvass of Mississippi, but in the fall these papers will learn that the people are alive to their own interests, and that Mr. Burkitt will be sustained in his manly and noble fight.

GOLD to the amount of \$1,000,000 was sent to Germany last week. The government refused to furnish the bars and the shipment was made in coin. Financial reports state that the rates of foreign exchange did not warrant the transaction, but omitted to say that this gold went to pay interest and dividends on alien investments, and consequently the rules of exchange cuts no figure. When the United States government furnishes a sufficient volume of money to its own people gold will not be sent abroad to pay for the use of alien money.

PRESIDENT E. B. ANDREWS, of Brown University, is out with a letter in opposition to the sub-treasury plan, in which he discloses the usual ignorance and assumption that all of his class of economists do when treating of agricultural matters. This college professor knows nothing about the true condition of the farmer, and cares less. In writing this letter he simply served his masters, the aristocrats who are able to send their sons to his university. Doubtless the very chair which President Andrews keeps warm was bought with the money some old rich plutocratic money-owner gave to the university in the shape of silver-plated charity as an offering to placate that power which forbids usury and condemns spoliation in all its forms. The time for college presidents and professors to dictate the political economy of the people has long since passed, and this letter will only serve as a reminder of those by-gone days when the economics of the world emanated from soft cushioned chairs on gilt-edged paper.

THE following extracts are taken from a recent report of the president of the Pennsylvania railroad Company:

The foregoing statements show a net income of \$1,425,642.30. After deducting from this sum the amounts properly chargeable thereto, there is a balance for the year of \$9,256,314.51, out of which there was paid a dividend of five and one-half per cent, being an increase in the amount of cash distri-

buted to the shareholders of \$912,602, as compared with the year 1889. After deducting the sum of \$1,064,704.05, representing the amounts properly chargeable to profit and loss during the year, there was a balance of \$1,949,737.46 carried to the credit of that account, making the aggregate at the end of the year, \$2,017,793.29. The magnitude of the Pennsylvania system and its growth during the forty-four years since the organization of your company, are shown by the fact that that system is now composed of 120 corporations, which, with few exceptions, are in good financial condition, and earning fair returns on the capital invested. These corporations represent 7,915 miles of railroad and canal, with a share and bonded capital of over \$700,000,000, which, in 1890, earned more than \$133,000,000 gross, and moved over 137,000,000 tons of freight and 84,000,000 passengers. Their relations are so closely interwoven with the communities through which they pass that their prosperity may safely be taken as an index of the general condition of the large section of country which they serve.

The power of such a combination can not be estimated nor contended against through the usual channels made use of by the people. The government alone is able to cope with such a corporation, and even that will ere long, if present conditions continue, find itself unequal to the task.

THE Ohio State Alliance will be organized April 16, and the New York State Alliance April 22. Both start off with unusually large membership.

**GOLD MORTGAGES.**  
Considerable feeling has been created throughout the country by the attempt of Eastern money lenders to insert a clause in their mortgage contracts calling for gold payments. Such conditions forced upon a distressed people is considered by many as an unfair advantage. Many good people who never before gave the matter a single thought are loud in their denunciation of such a course.

This matter is being discussed by the press and people just as though it was a recent invasion of the domain of fairness and equity by the money power. The question at this late day is being asked if such onerous terms are lawful, and such an unequal contract can be enforced. Even the States of Kansas and Pennsylvania are agitating a law for the abrogation of such agreements. Cannot these eastern money owners force Kansas farmers to do what they have compelled the national government to perform? These eastern

Alliances in the State in favor of these bills as an excellent method of expanding the currency and relieving the people. This declaration is a manifesto to the politicians that the farmers will not be trifled with; that they will render no part of their principles through the hope of securing the good will of any party. They demand these reforms and from the character of the men who compose that body, no party, first, second or third, will secure their support unless it adopts their principles in all their effect. It is a rebuke to the Democratic party, which has been trimming for the Alliance support in the election of '92. The Democrats have only asserted that they intend to adopt the Alliance platform of this State in '92—provided they can keep all the important issues out of it—hence the active hostility of the Democrats to the sub-treasury and land loan bills being incorporated into the platform of the Alliance. But the chances for swallowing the Alliance platform by either of the old parties is exceedingly remote, and if they did adopt it, they would violate their pledges the same as they have done on the silver question. Farmers, and laboring men too, the time for a ne-

cessary and proper change in the present system of coinage, and to provide for a small quantity of pork, would be right in asserting that there is too much wheat in the country? Maybe so; but, on the other hand, maybe it is, because there is not enough pork in the country! We generally exchange our produce for money. Those who so blatantly assert that supply and demand regulate the price always wind up by saying that the low prices are due to there being too much produced—"over production." Was it over-production of wheat, or scarcity of pork? Is it over production of produce or scarcity of money? The surest way of answering the questions correctly is by comparing the amount of wheat and the amount of money in the country during the time of low prices, with the amount of wheat and money in the times of high prices. As we have not before us any reports later than 1888 we will compare '88 with '68, a period of twenty years. In '68 a county produced and imported together seven and one-half bushels of wheat to every person in it, and shows that veteran Alliance man to be alive to the interests of the Order.

This bond is issued in accordance with the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "An act to authorize the refunding of the national debt, approved July 14, 1870," amended by an act approved January 20, 1871, and is redeemable at the pleasure of the United States, after the first day of July, A. D. 1907, in coin of the standard value of the United States on said July 14, 1870, with interest in such coin from the day of the date hereof.

If the money owners of the East were strong enough to force the government to submit to such terms, and continue to carry out its unfair provisions, is there any chance for the people of Kansas or Pennsylvania to defeat the enforcement of like conditions? Is a part greater than the whole? Some will no doubt say that coin means gold and silver, which it undoubtedly does, but every administration since the passage of this act has construed it to mean gold coin only. And it is a fact that not one dollar but gold has ever been paid on this debt, either as principal or interest. During the administration of President Cleveland, gold coin was actually borrowed to prevent the possibility of a payment of silver.

Gold mortgages will continue to be drawn, and gold payments demanded just so long as the national government recognizes the contract of 1870.

**THE SUB-TREASURY BILL.**  
The Spokane County Alliance has declared emphatically in favor of the sub-treasury bill and the loaning of money by the government to the farmers on real estate security. This is truly encouraging. The president of the State Alliance and many prominent politicians have publicly stated that the Alliance would never support such "wild financial schemes," as the sub-treasury and land loan bills. But on the heels of these men comes the most unanimous declaration of one of the largest county

and the most populous of the

United States.

We have now seen that the amount of money in circulation has as much to do with prices as the amount of the produce of labor. As we have seen that money represents the produce of labor, it is only natural and reasonable for this to follow. Go back to our first test and put all of the money in one pile and the produce in another. If you add to the produce only, prices will fall. If you take away from the money pile only, prices will rise. If you add to one pile you must add the same to the other; if you take from one pile you must take from the other. The "laws of supply and demand" must be applied to both sides alike.

**Increased Production Futile.**

BY W. WALKER, CARMEL, TENN.

In filling out THE ECONOMIST crop report it should be remembered that our farmers have, from time to time, used every effort to increase the quantity and quality of their crops by using fertilizers and manures and working their crops to perfection; yet while our people have made every effort to advance their interest, and to place on the market their crop in fine condition. The combined efforts of the trust companies are gradually reducing the prices of our produce until the present finds the majority of wheat and tobacco growers in debt, growing less able year by year to meet their financial obligations; and unless we enforce our demands and have our rights protected by our lawmakers, we will ultimately be driven into bankruptcy. May you go on teaching the grand principles upon which this grand co-operative union is formulated, and finally bring success to the wealth producers of our country.

party has come, and you should lose no time in agitating its formation. The rank and file of the Republican party will not vote the Democratic ticket. Neither will the rank and file of the Democratic party vote the Republican ticket. But they will both come half way—on a common ground—a new political party.

The above is taken from The World, Spokane Falls, Wash. Nothing seems to check the growth of the sub-treasury idea or the demand for its adoption. Politicians and plutocracy may contend against it, but the plain everyday people are bound to have it.

**A STATE PRESIDENT DOES HIS DUTY.**

The following declaration from President Evan Jones, of the Texas State Alliance, is to the point, and shows that veteran Alliance man to be alive to the interests of the Order:

Whereas it is being heralded throughout the State that all the officers of the State Alliance have been seriously and criminally derelict in their duty; and

Whereas this report was gotten up at Austin, the political center of our State, and has simply a political significance; and

Whereas it is given prominence by politicians, the partisan press and by some Alliance members, in direct violation of their obligations and the principles of our Order; and

Whereas this manifesto is inimical to the best interests of the organization; now

Therefore, I, Evan Jones, president of the Farmers State Alliance of Texas, do denounce said manifesto as an unprovoked falsehood, upon which every Alliance man in Texas should set his seal of condemnation.

The Farmers Alliance of Texas never was, is not now, nor can it ever become partisan in politics. There has never been, nor will there ever be an effort made by the present officers to convert it into a political machine. These officers have been and are now true to the trust reposed in them, and are discharging their arduous duties to the best of their ability, with great sacrifice to themselves and families.

With reference to The Mercury every statement made by the manifesto is false. An examination of the files of the paper will substantiate this position, consequently I must enter my protest against the truth or justice of the manifesto, and again demand, as I have demanded, before that as bushwhacking is devoid of principle its signers present charges and specifications to the proper authority. When this is done I will instruct the judiciary committee of the Farmers Alliance to thoroughly investigate the grievances, showing up both sides of the matter.

The Wall Street Farmer has been purchased by W. C. Crum, one of the original firm of publishers, who will continue its publication. Success to the undertaking.

Money—Supply and Demand.

J. Brad Beverley in Alliance Farmer, Petersburg, Va.

There is an old fashioned, fleabitten, toothless saying that "Supply and demand regulate the price of everything." It is true only when applied to both sides of the question. I have wheat, and want pork. Wheat is very plentiful and there is not much demand for it. Will I have to trade a large amount of wheat for a small amount of pork? That depends upon the supply and demand for pork. If there is a large amount of pork and not much demand the exchange will be even. Now, suppose I wish to trade wheat for pork and find that I will have to give a large amount of wheat

for a small quantity of pork, would we be right in asserting that there is too much wheat in the country? Maybe so; but, on the other hand, maybe it is, because there is not enough pork in the country! We generally exchange our produce for money.

an honest conviction, without impugning their motives, for we have no means of determining that they are not as sincere as we are. And when such differences do arise we make no claim to being "truer or braver, more loyal and loving, or more earnest and honorable in the path of duty" than others, neither do we think we are "wiser or abler, more experienced or better trained," but we do think we are entitled to the right of freedom of thought and speech, and that it is a duty we owe to ourselves and the people to investigate an economic question when presented as an issue before the public, and to form an honest conclusion, and not accept the pronouncements of some other man even if his admirers do insist that he was "better equipped by nature and study." The editor of the Messenger did "not seek to antagonize" Senators George and Walthall, as charged by the Meridian Standard. When he made the speech referred to by that journal he had no means of knowing what the views of those gentlemen were on the subject of the sub-treasury. As a member of the Alliance, Frank Burkitt had represented, in part, the farmers of Mississippi at St. Louis and Ocala, when the demands of the agriculturists were formulated and presented to the world. He knows the rate of interest extorted by the money-kings of the country is greater than the profits of the labor of the people, and he knows that the money circulation—gold, silver and currency—is not sufficient to meet the business needs of the country. He knows that more money and cheaper money is necessary to restore prosperity to the industrial classes, and he believes that the land-loan and sub-treasury scheme will remedy the evil which everybody, except the usurer and the speculator, admits does exist.

He knows too, the voters of a party have a right to formulate its policy and construct its platform, and he has always been taught to believe that the Democratic party as the party of the people was not governed by a lot of hide-bound regulations, dictated by a few bosses, which, like the laws of the Medes and Persians, could not be changed or altered, but that it could and would adjust its policy according to the will of a majority of the voters in the party, and within constitutional limits, so as to right any wrong that existed.

Hence when our great Senators antagonized the platform of principles upheld by the Democratic farmers and laborers of the South and declared they would not consent they should have the relief sought through the channel they suggested, and did not in the judgment of the Messenger offer a solution of the difficulties environing them, Frank Burkitt felt that he would stultify himself and be recreant to those he represented in National Council if he did not protest against their re-election, for to use the language adopted by our last State Alliance, he well knows,

"that it is the veriest folly for intelligent Alliance men to vote candidates for nomination who refuse to support the reasonable demands of the tillers of the soil."

Viticulture as an industry is comparatively in its infancy in this country. For more than one hundred years efforts were made to grow the European varieties of grapes in the open air, always, however, resulting in failure, except in California. Pomologists then turned their attention to the improvement of native vines, and the result is the development of many choice and valuable varieties. It is only since these improved varieties of native grapes have been planted and cultivated that the industry has become profitable and has grown to its great proportions in various parts of the country east of the Rocky Mountains, while in California the foreign varieties have found a most congenial home and are grown to perfection.

Viticulture was introduced in California by the Franciscan fathers before it came into the possession of the United States.

**TOTAL AREA AND PRODUCTION OF VINEYARDS BY STATES.**

State	Acres in bearing	Acres in bearing	Acres in bearing	Acres in bearing	Wine made	Gallons	Total value of plant includ- ing land
Arizona	1,000	1,500			25,000	75,000	
California	155,272	45,872	14,626	10,000	86,040,350		
Georgia	1,938	2,154			107,666	1,227,600	
Illinois	3,750	990			250,000	1,422,000	
Indiana	3,850	1,000			244,500	1,455,000	
Kansas	4,942	1,000			139,990	1,662,000	
Missouri	10,000	1,000			130,000	3,025,000	
North Carolina	43,150	7,650	2,582,250	20,400,000			
Ohio	28,087	4,956	1,934,833	13,217,200			
Tennessee	1,500	600	208,333	630,000			
Virginia	4,100	1,600	461,000	1,710,000			
Other States							
Territories	45,000	15,000	1,875,000	18,000,000			
Total	397,575						

**APPLIED SCIENCE**  
In Agricultural and Rural Economy.  
EDITED BY DR. M. G. REMY.  
WOODSTOCK, MD.

**THE DECLINE OF RURAL LIFE.**

We have a letter before us from a very earnest friend out in the far West, referring to an article on the subject of decline in rural life which appeared in these columns. The letter describes the efforts to better the surroundings of country homes in which our friend has been personally active in his own community. He thinks a library accessible to all the members of sub>Alliances and clubs a great desideratum. Such library he thinks should provide not only standard works, but also several copies of local and national reform papers. That a wholesome literature accessible to farmers, families is a thing greatly needed in country life there is no doubt. It is not only by its educational value that it does good, but as a recreation and a rest from the sameness of the daily routine of an isolated home. It not only enlarges the mental resources, but it makes broader the feelings of charity and forbearance for the weaknesses and failures of neighbors. It makes life better and more enjoyable and better worth living, and these things tend to good health and long life. They help to bring us to a green old age more potently than is generally understood even by medical men. Purity of mind and heart bring length of days.

It is in the country home in its perfection that men grow old in the midst of peace and plenty, and as they draw nearer the time of their departure, they ripen visibly for the final change. To such the hoary hairs of age are a crown of glory. They love their fellow men. There is a halo which surrounds their presence wherever they appear; for the path of the just is a shining light which shineth more and more unto the perfect day. Old John Ruskin is right in declaring that the true ideal home is possible only in the country. Wherefore then we ask once more has the urban population of this vast country of virgin and unoccupied soil doubled itself in a single decade, while at the same time the rural population has declined? When Rome became a plutocracy and the wealth of the nation passed into the hands of a few debauched and vile; and they made the conditions of rural life so hard that country homes were abandoned by the populace, who herded in the streets of the metropolis, then "anarchy came down like night, and Rome's eternal grave was sealed." Now let the United States of America profit by the example of Rome. The wealth of this nation is passing rapidly into the hands of an irresponsible few. The country people are deserting their homes and throwing themselves into the towns. What is the meaning of these things? This is what they mean: They mean that the vast amassments of wealth in the hands of individuals and corporations has got to be stopped before it is too late to stop it, and if it is not stopped in time destruction will

come. Mutterings of anarchy are already heard. It is evident that the history of all the past affords no hint of a remedy able to avert the danger. The decline and fall of the Roman Empire, and the French Revolution, throw light upon the diagnosis of the national disease, but the only remedy they suggest is blood. Terrible too terrible to think of. Society must be peacefully recast in the mould of legislative reform. The American people must show to the world that self-government by the people is not a failure. It rests with the great conservative rural masses to make the demonstration before they are hopelessly overmatched by the evil powers which plutocracy is gathering to itself with fatal celerity. First the putrid mass of false and corrupt legislation let them read Shelley's "Shylock" and if they be still of the same mind, as the gentle Walton said of one who despised angling: "Yet if there be a severe, sour-complexioned person, I here disallow thee to be a competent judge." The European carp and the German brown trout have been naturalized here and both seem to do better than in their native country. The same is true of the Mongolian pheasant, a very beautiful and excellent game bird. Such beginnings will doubtless lead to greater things. We ought to have both the skylark and the nightingale here as common birds in many parts of this vast and wonderful country. There are wealthy clubs well situated for such a work. The Department of Agriculture itself might well undertake such importations. The department has a competent bureau of ornithology organized, why not undertake the work. Give the order, Mr. Secretary.

**LICE ON HORSES.**

This is the season when vermin give trouble to the horse owner. It is held by some that their presence indicates inexcusable carelessness on the part of the owner or groom. This is not by any means the case, for they will infest sometimes the most carefully-kept stables and the most perfectly-groomed animals. A great variety of remedies have been proposed and used; a wash of tobacco is effectual; so is a 2-per-cent solution of carbolic acid. Any kind of grease thoroughly applied will destroy the pests, but it ought not to be necessary to remark that either to grease or wash a horse all over at this season is attended with trouble and some risk. The best, simplest and most harmless thing the writer has ever tried is air-slacked lime thoroughly dusted into the hair and worked in against the hair by help of a stiff brush; re-apply in about a week. This will rid the animal of any sort of lice if effectually applied. It does no injury whatever and is very little trouble. Just dust it on well and leave it to work off with the usual grooming. The same treatment will do for dogs, fowls, swine. Other powders may be used, as flowers of sulphur, but they cost more and are not in any way better than lime.

**SONG BIRDS.**

It is said the bull finches, English robins and other song birds imported into Oregon have returned into the vicinity of Portland, where they bred last season. It is well that there is some compensation for that wretched calamity, the importation of the English sparrow. Nothing adds more to the delights of the country home than the sweet songs of birds in spring. If our ornithologists would leave off writing up the innocence of hawks and owls and aid in the selection and importation of harmless song birds, they would be entitled to thanks of the country people. Real song birds are scarcely ever seriously mischievous. They are generally to a large extent insectivorous. Of course all will occasionally help

themselves to cherries or strawberries, yet they save many times more than they destroy. These things are not the trifles they may seem to some people. Whatever adds a simple pleasure to the life of country folks tends to elevate, purify, and enable these people, and to satisfy them with their lot in life; and these things tenable, elevate and glorify a nation. The addition to our farms of a naturalized song bird is a thing for which a wealthy man might wish to be remembered by posterity. A happy, contented and patriotic yeomanry is at once the glory and the strength of a nation, and when opposite conditions prevail it is a national crime and shame. If any doubt that a song bird can inspire sentiments of purity and patriotism let them read Shelley's "Shylock" and if they be still of the same mind, as the gentle Walton said of one who despised angling: "Yet if there be a severe, sour-complexioned person, I here disallow thee to be a competent judge." The European carp and the German brown trout have been naturalized here and both seem to do better than in their native country. The same is true of the Mongolian pheasant, a very beautiful and excellent game bird. Such beginnings will doubtless lead to greater things. We ought to have both the skylark and the nightingale here as common birds in many parts of this vast and wonderful country. There are wealthy clubs well situated for such a work. The Department of Agriculture itself might well undertake such importations. The department has a competent bureau of ornithology organized, why not undertake the work. Give the order, Mr. Secretary.

**SCIENTIFIC COOKING.**

Professor Ira Remsen, of Johns Hopkins University, in a public address lauds a so-called invention of the bean-soup statistician of New England, Edward Atkinson, who says that poverty results from ignorance and incapacity. Mr. Atkinson, who is of course learned and capable, now sets out to show the ignorant and incapable poor how to buy a week's ration for an able-bodied man for a dollar, and how to do the cooking for a poor family by means of a tin box inside of a compressed fibre box with a hole in the bottom through which the heat of an ordinary coal oil lamp is applied, and the whole meal for the family for a day cooked by three cents worth of coal oil, which will make cooking for each of a family of five costs three-fifths of one cent a day, and this thing Professor Remsen gravely endorses as worthy of public consideration. One dollars worth of beans at the present rates of the bean market will be about twenty pounds, and they will undoubtedly keep a man alive a week. Dr. Tanner kept alive almost six weeks on water without beans; but how long could he have lived if he had eaten three pounds of beans a day and drank water ad libitum? We suspect his funeral would have been over and the administrator in charge of his effects before the forty days expired. In lending his name to this miserable staff, Professor Remsen makes himself and his university ridiculous.

Coal-oil stoves have long been in use, as every person knows, and they have not proven comfortable, economical or satisfactory. There are also various ovens and steamers in use, which have been devised by practical and sensible men as economizers of heat, which are infinitely superior to the crude device of the New England champion of the standard gold dollar. Certainly the device is cheap; a joint of old stove pipe, and an old fibre bucket, and a bottle of coal oil, will constitute the Atkinson outfit for scientific cookery for a poor family for a week, this with a standard gold dollar's worth of beans will keep a poor man alive for a whole week, if the beans don't kill him.

The new process gasoline stoves, fitted with improved heat-economizing ovens and boilers, are the cheapest and infinitely the best arrangement for summer cookery ever yet devised. They produce neither odor, dust nor smoke, nor is the radiation of heat sufficient to be felt seriously in the hottest weather. They require very little attention and will not burn the articles being cooked. The writer knows families who put their dinner in these stoves and go to church. Coming home they find dinner nicely cooked, not at all burned, but hot and smoking, ready to go on the table. If used in winter, these stoves must be kept in a room where there is a fire to warm the room, or the room will be too cold for occupancy.

**PROGRESS OF TUBERCULINE.**

A cow had a calf, and the cow being affected with tuberculosis, the doctors tuberculed her. Now the calf has no mother. So learned men have adopted the calf to be brought up at their charge. The name of the calf is "Doctor Koch." In Spain they experimented with tuberculin. Result, no cure. Many deaths. So the public authorities prohibit further experiments at this time. That tuberculin is a failure as a remedy of practical utility it begins to be clear, we must reluctantly admit, not because it does no good, but because it is too dangerous to life. There will be a reaction now which is sure to go to an opposite extreme. All new proposals will be received with incredulity, and men will think twice before they come before the public with any new consumption cure. Nevertheless important results are bound to flow from what has been accomplished. Blind belief in the infallibility of any man has received a severe check. That which is good for guinea pigs is not necessarily good for men. So much we have learned. In the mean time reports on the Leibrech remedy of cantharidate of potassa do not seem encouraging. On the other hand a French physician who began a good while before Dr. Koch's announcement, and several years ago, systematic injections eucalyptol into the circulation in conjunction with rigid control of the hygienic surroundings of his patients; as to air, water, food, clothing, exercise, now appears to have accomplished results highly gratifying, and exhibits numerous undoubted cures. It may be asked why not administer the anti-microbial or germicidal

remedies by the mouth and leave injections into the circulation alone? The hypodermic methods has one great primary and prominent advantage, viz.: It produces maximum effects with minimum quantities of drugs. It puts the drug to work almost instantaneously where it is needed without subjecting it to large dilution with the contents of the stomach and the modifying and destructive action of gastric acid and digestive ferments. The hypodermic injections made with modern precautions are never followed by painful results and are free from danger. There are now known valuable germicides—eucalyptol one of them, hydronaphthal another—which are non-poisonous, non-irritant and every way harmless. We are on the right road, and great results are at hand.

**Independent Action.**  
B. C. Brown in Pacific Union

The growth of the Farmers Alliance has been so rapid as to be truly wonderful. The farmers have been slow in realizing the necessity of organization, but at last they appreciate the situation. At last they see that they will be ground to powder between the wheels of the various organized interests if they themselves do not band together; and this banding together must be not in mere negative union. It must be for aggressive combat. The position of the Alliance on the silver coinage question is such as to merit the approval of the mass of voters. The success of this endeavor is a mere matter of time, and probably a short time. The next Congress (Cleveland and Harrison) to the contrary notwithstanding will probably place silver where it was before the band ring demonetized it. Another fight which the Alliance has on its hands is that in favor of government control of railroads. That battle will be a hard-fought and perhaps a long one, for as the case stands now the tail wags the dog. The railroads control the government. The farmers propose to demonstrate that the dog is more powerful than the tail. On this issue, also, the farmers have the sympathy of the masses. The labor unions are all pronounced in its favor. The mercantile interests are heart and soul with us, although they do not dare to say so. To aggressively antagonize the railroad magnates would mean bankruptcy to many a merchant. Many lawyers and other professional men see the danger ahead if these various gigantic financial combinations are allowed to proceed unchecked, and many a thoughtful mind among them realizes that the revolution, if not brought about soon by the peaceful ballot, may leave a bloody stain on history's page. It is no mere demagogic catchword to say that the laws of to-day are such as to make the rich richer and the poor poorer. It is a cold, sad, fact. How else could one man gain control of a fifth of the entire railroad interests of the country? How else could seventy men amass fortunes whose aggregate foots up \$2,700,000,000? Think of it! Seventy men with fortunes averaging nearly \$40,000,000 each! Seventy men with wealth which, if divided among 32,000 persons, would give each of them nearly \$100,000! To you, reader, I address this question: Are you worth \$40,000? Probably you are not; for scarcely one farmer in a thousand is so fortunate. You would consider yourself comfortably fixed for life, would you not, if you had \$40,000 in property, free from encumbrance? And yet there are seventy men in the United States, each one of whom has enough so that if divided it would give 1,000 of you nearly

\$80,000 each! These enormous holdings the farmers do not propose to divide up after the fashion of anarchists. There is no such spirit among them. They know that although amassed by the sweat of thousands of brows and filched by legal sanction from the toil of honest labor, yet those fortunes are now held under cover of law. The farmers know that their own dearest safeguards are to be found in law, and they will give countenance to naught that savors of anarchy. Nor is it needful that they should. They have a much easier way by which to right existing wrongs. All they need to do is to pull together at the polls, and with them, side by side in the same harness, will also pull the thousands of wage-earners, besides a large portion of the mercantile, manufacturing and professional community. But notwithstanding the rapid growth of the Alliance, there are yet many farmers who are loath to sever party ties. One of this class with whom I was talking to-day said: "No, I will not join the Alliance. The old Republican party is good enough for me." I told him I had always been a Republican; that I had voted for every Republican candidate for President from Lincoln down, but that if a presidential election were to be held to-morrow, I would not vote for Harrison, provided the Democratic candidate stood with the masses on the vital issues of the day. An Alliance man standing by my side added: "I have been a lifelong Democrat, but I can name prominent Republicans for whom I would vote to day in preference to Cleveland." It is this independence of thought and action among the farmers that is making of them a power in the land. Let us stand shoulder to shoulder and force one or both the leading parties to put up men pledged to the interests of the masses. Falling in that, we can nominate our own candidates, and with unity can elect them.

**New York's Investments in Western Mortgages.**  
New York Herald

development of new legal machinery to prevent these great amassments of wealth in private lands. It begins to look like the graduated income tax is the remedy which, with the ownership of natural monopolies by the State, will begin to be put in operation at an early day.

fifty thousand dollars of the capital stock of these thirty-nine companies is owned by residents of New York State, some of them foremost financial men. The companies have upward of \$82,000,000 of guaranteed loans outstanding, and report an army of nearly eight hundred agents in this State who sold in the year 1890 upward of \$6,500,000 of mortgages and debenture securities within its borders.

**ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.**

Assets and liabilities of these companies are thus summarized:

Assets.
Loans secured by first liens on real estate.....
Loans secured by second liens on real estate.....
Earned commissions on debenture loans.....
Loans on collateral security (schedule C).....
Tax sale certificates.....
Stocks and bonds (see schedule A).....
Office building.....
Other real estate.....
Foreclosure account.....
Premiums paid.....
Furniture and fixtures.....
Current expenses.....
Past due interest remitted for, but not paid to us.....
Past due loans remitted for, but not paid to us.....
Due from branch offices and agents.....
Due from sundry persons.....
Due from banks and bankers.....
Due on uncompleted loans.....
Cash.....
Other assets, viz. ....
Add for cents.....
Total.....

Liabilities.

Capital stock paid in.....	\$17,494,650
Surplus fund.....	2,114,542
Guarantee fund.....	739,976
Undivided profits.....	937,101
Premiums.....	12,062
Bills payable.....	1,521,598
Debenture bonds outstanding (schedule B).....	54,650,173
Dividends unpaid.....	48,844
Interest paid in advance by borrowers.....	263,145
Loans paid, but not remitted for.....	263,714
Due borrowers on loans made.....	570,095
Trust savings deposits.....	138,352
Certificates of deposit bearing interest.....	1,798,025
Deposits at sitting investment.....	1,606,589
Other deposits.....	1,932,227
Due to branch offices and agents.....	184,387
Due to banks and bankers.....	620,776
Other liabilities—viz. ....	2,493,763
Add for cents.....	117
Total.....	77,191,729

New York's Investments in Western Mortgages.
New York Herald
"Farm mortgages."
This phrase has become of late familiar to all investors, and particularly when prefixed with the adjective "western." The high rates of interest paid by many of the western farm mortgages companies, and the recent liquidation of some of these corporations, owing to the failure of crops and abandonment of lands, have contributed to arouse peculiar interest in the subject. By chapter 506 of the laws of 1890 the superintendent of the banking department of this State was given supervision over companies doing business within its borders. By that law they are compelled to annually obtain a license from the banking department, and the superintendent is required to make a report upon their condition to the legislature on or before the 1st of March in each year. The first annual report under this law has just been made by Banking Superintendent Preston. It shows that thirty-nine companies have been licensed to transact business in this State from October 1, 1890, for one year. Three million three hundred and

**SOME PERTINENT DEFINITIONS.**

"Second liens," it is explained, are either second mortgages taken in the ordinary way or given at the same time as the first for the commission allowed the company by the borrower for obtaining him money. "Tax sale certificates" represent the payment of taxes where the mortgagor fails to pay and the company pays the taxes and takes a certificate of payment in order to preserve their lien in tact. "Earned commissions" represent the difference in interest between the rate that the mortgages deposited with trustees to secure the payment of debentures yield and the rate paid on the debentures.

"Foreclosure account"—Some include in this the costs and expenses of foreclosure merely, and others include the principal sum of the mortgage foreclosed. "Past

## THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

due interest remitted for." It is almost universally the custom of mortgage companies to advance money to meet the interest payments on the mortgages negotiated by them, whether guaranteed or unguaranteed. "Past due loans remitted for."—In the case of guaranteed loans the company has to pay the principal of the mortgage when due, even though the mortgagor may have defaulted. "Uncompleted loans" represents the advances companies sometimes make to borrowers, before actually receiving the mortgage, where it is necessary for the borrower to pay off some present indebtedness, or to use pending the completion of the papers. "Due on loans" represents the money due a borrower where the mortgage is actually held by the company and carried in assets at its face value, but the money paid only in instalments as improvements are made. "Premium account."—Another item that appears in the statements of some of the companies is "premiums paid," or "premium account." This represents the good will account of some firm or corporation or business that the mortgage company has succeeded.

The examiners, in making out their statement of the actual financial condition of the company, have in every instance disallowed the premium account and have declined to omit everything not an actual asset or an actual liability. "Accrued interest," which some of the companies report, if it represents the difference between the interest accrued on securities owned and liabilities outstanding (earned commission), is an actual asset which the company is not entitled to carry as such, has not been allowed in any case by the examiners. Past due interest remitted for by the company and not paid to it, and which is represented by the coupons on hand, has been rebated at such per cent of the face value as would allow for probable loss, while being safe and conservative for the company. This method of stating a company's condition leaves some of them with an impairment of their capital and a deficiency.

The examiners, Mr. Preston says, found the companies as a rule in a flourishing condition as the present somewhat strained condition of financial affairs in the West would warrant. As a general rule they seemed to be doing a conservative business and to be convinced of its entire safety. There are, however, exceptions. Some of the companies having a large amount of foreclosed real estate caused to be organized a real estate company, to which they turn over the real estate acquired by foreclosure, receiving therefor the stock of the real estate company, which they put in as "stocks and bonds," thus in their published statements in that wise and to that extent concealing the real condition of the company as to the ownership of foreclosed real estate. They also take in payment for this real estate mortgages back from the real estate company, carrying such mortgages in their securities on hand, depositing them for the security of the payment of debentures and otherwise using them as

live securities. In one instance we found several hundreds of thousands of dollars of such mortgages unrecorded, given by the real estate company back to the mortgage company and held by trustees as security for its debentures issued.

In some cases the mortgage is drawn payable to an individual in the employ of the company, instead of to the company itself as mortgagee; that employee-mortgagee assigns the mortgage "without recourse;" it is made on the company's blank and negotiated by the company and its agents unguaranteed; the individual employee who is made the mortgagee is in most such cases not financially responsible. It has come to the knowledge of the superintendent that in some such cases the mortgagor has made default in paying interest, the interest payments have been advanced by the company, and the owner of the mortgage in the East, receiving his interest regularly, knows nothing of the default of the mortgagor until the principal sum becomes due

## An Admonition.

Alliance Herald, Montgomery, Ala.

It is very seriously doubted if the politicians in the South are not intent upon creating a third party by their pig-headed obstinacy in urging and insisting upon the Democracy continuing to be the tool of the money power of the country. A party is composed of members. The membership is the party. The will of the majority of the membership is the will of the party. These propositions can not be successfully contradicted. That being the case, and the majority of the membership having been shown to be opposed to the money power of Wall street. A contracted currency. Opposition to the remonetization of silver—everything in regard to finances diametrically opposite to the views held by two-thirds of the people of the State. They insist on his nomination, and if nominated in response to these false representations of the will of the people, this two-thirds majority will be asked to walk up, stultify themselves, submit to dictation and register the will of their bosses? What will they do about it? Are these people spaniels or slaves, or are they freemen, with will, with resentment, with convictions and nerve to stand by them? The admonition has been often sounded through these columns. It is again emphasized. Let the members of the party rule or there will be trouble, and bad trouble at that. There is danger ahead. The threats and menaces that crop out are the expressions of exasperation from determined men who warn before they strike. They would prefer not to strike, but they demand their rights and they intend to have them, and if they have to fight for them, depend upon it they will do it with that zeal, earnestness and determination that will astonish the natives. The Democratic Alliancemen of Alabama feel the deepest solicitude about this matter, and are weighing the situation with intense anxiety. If their opponents were as patriotic and anxious to do right there would be no menace in the situation that would invoke an admonition.

## The Demands of the Farmers Alliance Discussed.

Labor Review, Gladbrook, Iowa.

In our last issue the demand of the Alliance on the loaning of money was discussed. The next and last on the finance question is in these words: "We demand the free unlimited coinage of silver."

From time immemorial gold has been the money idol of worship. The use of gold as money has been handed down from barbarous time. Its greatest use and only advantage as money is its scarcity. It being of small bulk can be easily hid away in perilous times. In such times it being of small bulk, non-perishable, which neither moth nor rust doth corrupt and a value as metal whether coined or not, it is highly prized for its smallness of bulk, the ease of hiding and its non-perishable nature. In times of peace it is used as an engine of oppression to oppress the poor and rob the industrious by making it a basis of paper currency and the measure of all values. The political economist tells us if the amount of the world's metal money was doubled it would be worth but half price, or the relative value would be but half as much; in other words other products would double price. If this was a fact the industrial classes would get double pay for their produce. The statement is only approximately correct if it were correct to reduce the world's money to, say, \$900,000,000 France ..... gold \$900,000,000 France ..... silver 700,000,000 United Kingdom ..... gold 550,000,000 United Kingdom ..... silver 215,000,000 Germany ..... gold 500,000,000 Germany ..... silver 215,000,000 United States ..... gold 375,000,000 United States ..... silver 116,298,802

France ..... gold \$900,000,000

France ..... silver 700,000,000

United Kingdom ..... gold 550,000,000

United Kingdom ..... silver 215,000,000

Germany ..... gold 500,000,000

Germany ..... silver 215,000,000

United States ..... gold 375,000,000

United States ..... silver 116,298,802

If we take the other European nations who use both gold and silver and the Asiatic nations who use mostly silver, we shall find that the gold money and silver money of the world is about equal, and the great fuss which the gold worshippers have made about silver driving gold out and the great inflation which is to come as a consequence is all a fatal delusion, an invention of the gold worshippers to rob the producers. The Alliance has made in their demand for free coinage, a move in the right direction a step to increase the circulating medium in the interest of the producers. The producers to be prosperous must have a greater circulating medium. For instance, if there was but \$100 in existence and everybody bidding for it, the poor, those of moderate means, and the well to do would never get \$1 of it; the rich would get it all. And it is proportionally the same whenever there is too little in circulation. The rich ones have the bulk while the balance are robbed, and never get more than an existence. The demand is right, and will be right as long as the people are so idiotic as to think they must have metal money, a money which no one will use or think of using as long as they can have paper of the same value. We need sufficient money to represent at all times the products which are in market for sale, it matters little whether it is fifty or one hundred per capita, and the Alliance is moving in the right direction to obtain it. They don't stop to discuss the tariff, which, as the Republican expounder of politics, J. J. Ingalls, says, "the tariff is only a feint, a false pretense, jugglery and tomfoolery."

## The Colorado (Pueblo) Workman

teaches good doctrine:

It needs no act of Congress to restore silver to an equality with gold, if the legislatures of the different States will take hold of the matter, and there is no excuse why the legislators of Colorado should not lead in the matter, and if they are as earnest in the matter as their utterances lead us to believe they are. The manner in which this can be done is to amend the contract laws of the State in such a way as to make all contracts payable in any of the current money of the country.

This will prevent the loan companies from drawing up contracts payable in gold only, and thus compel them to accept silver in payment for loans made, thereby restoring fully its legal tender qualities without an act of Congress. Think this over and see if we are not right.

It raised the wheat blockade in Pueblo; by its remonstrance it cut down the World's Fair appropriation from a quarter of a million to from \$50,000 to \$75,000, it was a material help in the recent Waterway Convention, working for an open river on the sea; it reduced the duties on grain bagging, it assisted the penitentiary commissioners to establish a jute-bag factory at the Washington penitentiary; it killed the \$3,000 salary for justices of the peace, it has resisted every species of taxation of the masses to enrich the few; it has taken such a stand against extravagant clerks' salaries that the evil has been largely abated in Washington; it made a heroic fight against the tide-lands steal, but with two sessions of the legislature primed against us, we failed; it added 4 cents a bushel to our wheat by the interstate commerce suit; it has worked all along these lines to build up the silver-mining industry by having the product coined into money and checkmate the old Eastern States' influence, instigated by Old Britain, to debase our silver and allow England to use our silver in India to further

the alliance done," says:

The Herald (Smithville, Mo.) says:

One important lesson the farmers of to-day are learning, is the importance of concert in action. In times past they have been accustomed only to individual action, but they are now through their organizations learning how to act in concert. These recent organizations and their various co-operative associations are teaching them the importance of organizations.

In the Texas Western (Anson, Tex.) a contributor, T. B., very significantly writes:

Every intelligent farmer is aware of the fact that a political reformation is in progress to-day, that is receiving the thought of all the laboring classes to an extent never known before. The great farming class have been the last to enter the political arena. Powerless as an unorganized class, they have submitted without means or effort to complain to every imposition politicians in the interest of other classes have imposed upon them, until their

ited extent it will reduce the price of gold and add to the price of silver. The coinage of silver will furnish a market for all that is mined and raise its price. The result will be that gold will depreciate and silver appreciate. The two will be on a parity and the products of other industries will bring a better price, but the difference will never be as great as many anticipate. Making free coinage of silver will never double the money of the world unless more is mined than at present, or less used in the arts and manufactures. In solving this question it will be interesting to know what the metal money of some of the leading nations is. In the Bankers' Magazine we find an estimate, and they certainly would not place it too high. Their estimate is:

France ..... gold \$900,000,000 France ..... silver 700,000,000 United Kingdom ..... gold 550,000,000 United Kingdom ..... silver 215,000,000 Germany ..... gold 500,000,000 Germany ..... silver 215,000,000 United States ..... gold 375,000,000 United States ..... silver 116,298,802

From various sections comes the report that some of the members of the Alliance are losing interest in the cause. This is not to be wondered at when it is the same over and over again at every meeting. Let's arouse you—let's tell you—let's wake you up and implore for redress. And now, that they have risen in their might and are ready to assert their demands if necessary by independent action, they still present these demands to the parties as at present organized and ask—will you accede to them? Will you give us what we ask? Should the Democratic party accede to the demands of the Alliance men, there will be no need for a third party. Should the Democratic party refuse to pledge itself to support these demands, it will soon learn, and both the old parties will be taught from the same spelling-book, the A, B, C's of American politics; namely, the great but plain and simple lesson that the people are above and stronger than any party and all parties put together. And that the will of the American people must govern America. Let the bosses keep their hands off, or they will get their fingers terribly burnt.

The

National

Citizens

Alliance

(Washington, D. C.) says:

We often hear the remark made that

this or that capitalist with their capital employed so many men. We fail to see it in that light. A shoe manufacturer gives a shoemaker so many pounds of leather to make a dozen pairs of boots. The leather in its raw state we will say is worth sixteen dollars. By the time the shoemaker has the boots made up the leather in that form is worth twenty-five dollars. All the time that this changing process has been going on, and the value of the leather increasing, the title to the leather has remained in the capitalist who owned the leather. There is no law whereby the shoemaker can dispose of his share in the boots without committing a felony, but the capitalist can sell the shoemaker's labor at any time and he has no redress, because if the manufacturer has sold the leather there is nothing to get hold of. And yet all the time that this increasing value process is going on, the shoemaker is losing vital forces. He has to feed himself, clothe himself, house himself. In fact, he is making all the sacrifice that is made in the transaction; and yet this capitalist has the audacity to say that he is employing that laborer. We are of the impression that the boot is on the other foot; that the shoemaker is doing all of the employing of the other fellow's capital. It is about time that this thing was understood among the fellows that are doing this employing. The time has gone by when the capitalist has the audacity to say that he is employing that laborer. We are of the impression that the boot is on the other foot; that the shoemaker is doing all of the employing of the other fellow's capital. It is about time that this thing was understood among the fellows that are doing this employing. The time has gone by when the capitalist has the audacity to say that he is employing that laborer.

Southeast Enterprise (Popular Bluff, Mo.) says:

The sub-treasury plan is fast gaining ground. It is becoming the leading principle in the decalogue of the national platform. This principle is becoming fixed upon the minds and hearts of the people. Public sentiment throughout the rank and file of the Alliance is becoming so strongly centered on this question and neither party will have the courage to sidetrack it.

The Herald (Smithville, Mo.) says:

One important lesson the farmers of to-day are learning, is the importance of concert in action. In times past they have been accustomed only to individual action, but they are now through their organizations learning how to act in concert. These recent organizations and their various co-operative associations are teaching them the importance of organizations.

In the Texas Western (Anson, Tex.) a contributor, T. B., very significantly writes:

Every intelligent farmer is aware of the fact that a political reformation is in progress to-day, that is receiving the thought of all the laboring classes to an extent never known before. The great farming class have been the last to enter the political arena. Powerless as an unorganized class, they have submitted without means or effort to complain to every imposition politicians in the interest of other classes have imposed upon them, until their

## THE REFORM PRESS.

The Discussion of Current Topics in the Organized States.

The Ohio County Farmer (Beaver Dam, Ohio) says:

From various sections comes the report that some of the members of the Alliance are losing interest in the cause. This is not to be wondered at when it is the same over and over again at every meeting. Let's arouse you—let's tell you—let's wake you up and implore for redress. And now, that they have risen in their might and are ready to assert their demands if necessary by independent action, they still present these demands to the parties as at present organized and ask—will you accede to them? Will you give us what we ask? Should the Democratic party accede to the demands of the Alliance men, there will be no need for a third party. Should the Democratic party refuse to pledge itself to support these demands, it will soon learn, and both the old parties will be taught from the same spelling-book, the A, B, C's of American politics; namely, the great but plain and simple lesson that the people are above and stronger than any party and all parties put together. And that the will of the American people must govern America. Let the bosses keep their hands off, or they will get their fingers terribly burnt.

The Independent (New Britain, Conn.) says:

Boston bankers are reported as inserting a clause in mortgages and notes that payment shall be in gold or its equivalent. This is preparing for and discounting the possibility of free silver coinage. The eastern financiers want it known that they propose to deal in gold, and on a gold basis, whether the government does or not.

The Industrial News (Jackson, Mich.) says:

Judge Bradley, of the of the United States Supreme Court, has recently delivered the following opinion:

"When a railroad company is chartered it for the purpose of performing a service for the State itself; it is chartered as the agent of the State for furnishing public accommodation."

This will corroborate what we have formerly held: that the company can not charge for freight and transportation what it pleases, and that it merely acts as the agent of the State in performing service for the State which the single individual cannot perform for himself. It would be contrary to the constitutional rights of American citizens to place in the hands of a corporation the power to oppress the public. So all exemptions from taxation of such property and the consequent overburdening of other taxpayers should not stand and we hope that an intelligent legislature will some day be found which will repeal all such unjust laws. Common carriers have always been subject to the law and should always be regulated, giving them a just compensation for the actual (not watered) capital invested, and in no manner should they be exempted from their just share of taxation. Michigan is one of the worst monopoly ridden States in the Union. Nearly all States levy taxes on railroad, telegraph and telephone companies at the same rate. The producers of the State pay. Under the constitution of Illinois the Illinois Central Railroad pays seven per cent of its earnings into the State treasury as a consideration for its land grant. This tax amounted for the last year to \$40,000, and the total sum received from 1855, when the road went into operation, to 1890, has been \$12,365,618. The sum of \$6,782,357 has been paid as dividends to stockholders during the same period. When will Michigan wake up and wipe out the unjust system now prevailing?

The Pacific Rural Press (San Francisco, Cal.), a member of the Alliance, in answer to the question "What has the Alliance done," says:

The sub-treasury plan is fast gaining ground. It is becoming the leading principle in the decalogue of the national platform. This principle is becoming fixed upon the minds and hearts of the people. Public sentiment throughout the rank and file of the Alliance is becoming so strongly centered on this question and neither party will have the courage to sidetrack it.

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burdens have become so great, they could no longer resist the necessity of seeking in some way a remedy for the vicious legislation, enacted by our representatives at the request of organized bodies without regard to its effect upon the farmer. The Alliance is non-partisan, it is non-sectional, its desire and aim is to educate and build up in one common brotherhood all sections of our country, that through the genial influence of an economic government they too may enjoy the prosperity and happiness that a just and impartial government should bestow by a wise administration upon all classes of citizens alike. Should the Alliance receive the support of the mass of farmers, and that is exactly what the great mass of the people need. When the rank and file understand these financial problems, Wall street will cease to control the finances of this republic. The part of farmers is rapidly falling below the cost of production?

The Allance Eagle (Ellisville, Miss.) says:

The Meridian Standard and other papers would like to read Capt. Frank Burkitt out of the Democratic party, or even out of the State, because he refuses to support Senators George and Walthall for re-election, because they do not favor the sub-treasury bill. It seems to us that in this free country a man has a right to support whoever he chooses to support. Our Senators may be right in opposing the sub-treasury bill, and Cleveland may be right in opposing free coinage. We believe they are honest in their opinions, and so are we honest in our belief that they are wrong, and we believe that we have the same right to our opinion as they to theirs. Some of our leading Democrats, Col. Hooker for one, say they cannot support Cleveland. Will any one deny that Cleveland is not a greater man in the national Democracy than George or Walthall? Then why not pitch into Hooker and others for opposing him? Cleveland is as apt to be right on silver as our Senators are on the sub-treasury. If the opposition to George and Walthall ought to be kicked, then the same rule holds good as to the opposition to Cleveland. Whether right or wrong, we believe their anti-sub-treasury views will defeat their re-election.

Christian Patriot (Norristown, Tenn.) says:

Another objection is that politics are so corrupt that the ministry should not meddle with them. The king of Israel whom Elisha helped was Jehoram the son of Ahab and Jezebel. The church does not act thus in other matters. It has its midnight missions for the worst classes, Sunday schools in jails, missionaries in the strongholds of heathenism. The greater the corruption the greater is the need of the Bible and the duty of the church. But the voters, as a mass, are not corrupt, but simply ignorant and careless. Inform them on the teachings of the Bible about government and arouse their consciences, and they will select better leaders.

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

Loan no money on land to the pesty

farmers, Uncle Sam. Don't do it. Save all your tariff-taxes and sur-

pluses to loan on the Nicaragua spec-

ulation and the Pacific railways at 1% per cent.

If a man is down kick him as long as your Nos hold out; put

your perfumery on the dudes. Good

government this—gracious govern-

ment—regular by-gosh government.

Workman and Farmer (Dayton, Ohio) says:

If the workingmen and farmers of this land were to devote a little time to politics—say one or two evenings of each week—they would find that in a very short time they would be better off. They produce all the wealth

of this country, and that they are not

all in easy circumstances goes to show

that some one is living off the products

of their labors without giving an equi-

valent in return. This has been done

through evil legislation and through

a lack of good, wholesome and much

needed legislation. The business men,

farmers and workingmen—the great

middle class have believed that the

science of money, and other live and

important questions were too deep for

the minds of common people to comprehend. They have thus led everything to politicians, who are liars to monopolists. No wonder there has been no good laws passed in the last quarter of a century. The masses, however, are paying more attention to realities than they used to.

Otoe County Allance (Dunbar, Neb.) says:

The Fifty-first Congress expired on the 4th inst. The Fifty-second will convene on the first Monday of next December. In the mean time let the discussion of free silver go merrily on throughout the country. The discussion of the question means education, and that is exactly what the great mass of the people need. When the rank and file understand these financial problems, Wall street will cease to control the finances of this republic.

The Kansas Farmer (Topeka, Kas.) says:

The much-needed reform of electing United States Senators by a direct vote of the people is becoming more popular and rapidly growing in favor with the great industrial masses. At least five State legislatures have passed resolutions demanding such a change in the Constitution, as will require such elections of United States Senators. This is encouraging. Let the good work go on. It is only a question of time when the pressure in its favor will force Congress to adopt such a constitutional amendment.

Clark (S. Dak.) Democrat says:

Many objections are offered why the government should not control the rail road and telegraph system of the country. But the same objections could be offered with the same propriety against the government controlling the postal system, yet none can truthfully say that the government does not run the postal system cheaper than a corporation would do it.

Farm View (Porterville, Cal.) says:

Statistics of the State may prove its prosperity by undeniable figures, but it is true all the same that the people as a whole—the industrial classes who produce all wealth—are suffering in poverty, ignorance and degradation. They may show that agriculture and manufactures are in the most flourishing condition, adding more rapidly than ever to the national wealth, while in fact it is constantly adding to the poverty of the producers.

Alliance Monitor (Abilene, Kan.) says:

From inflate he literal meaning is "in-to-blow," or in western speech "to blow in." Are you in favor of blowing into anything or having anything to "blow in?" Yes, in favor of both. We want to blow into your minds the great truth that this country is starving, shrinking, drying up for want of circulating money, for money that will not circulate may do to lock up as a resume in a bank or trust vaults, but it will not do to buy cattle, handle grain, or run a store. Money to circulate must not be weighted down with interest, profits, or it becomes a special privilege in the hand of the few whom fortune has already favored.

Alliance Herald (Montgomery, Ala.) says:

The shrinkage in the volume of currency has measured the shrinkage in values. The shrinkage in values has measured the under consumption of supply, which has made the farmers believe that they were ruined by over-production. Expand the currency and values will be increased, labor will be employed and consumption will make a demand for all that is produced, and general prosperity will bless the land.

In writing of the Alliance Council to be held soon in Texas, the Southern Mercury, State organ, most fittingly says:

President Jones, by his suggestion provides a way out of a great difficulty which has heretofore stood directly opposed to true Alliance advancement. An incomplete knowledge of Alliance principles has made possible the schisms desired by men who wish to wreck the Order. By making the A.R.I. council a success the Alliance of Texas

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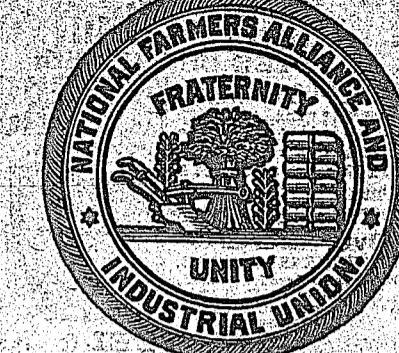
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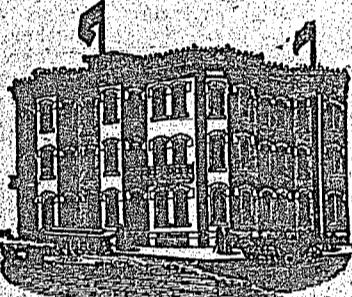
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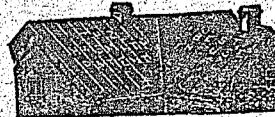
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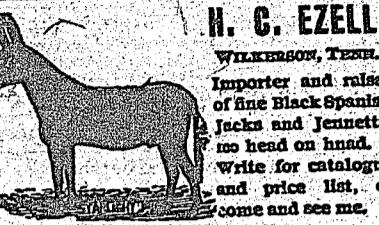
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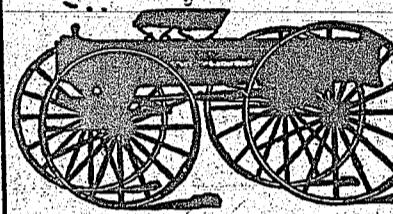
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