

# Dakota Farmers' Advocate.

The Persistent ADVOCATE of Economy and Reform, the Defender of Truth and Justice, the Foe of Fraud and Corruption.

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## CREAM OF THE COUNTY NEWS.

**Alanzo Wardall in Canton Wednesday.**  
**Disappearance of Daniel Osgood.**

**Other Interesting and Important Communications From Various Parts of the County.**

### MR. WARDALL'S SPEECH.

The visit of Hon. Alanzo Wardall, a prominent leader in the Farmer's alliance, here last Wednesday was attended with something of a misunderstanding, as it had been announced that he would come to Canton for the purpose of holding a large mass-meeting of the Farmer's and laborers of Lincoln county, while in reality he came here for the purpose of looking into the interests of the third party movement, to consult with the county central committee and other leading workers in the third party with a view to ascertaining the probable amount of work required during the campaign. By some misunderstanding, however, the news reached here that a public mass-meeting was the object, and notwithstanding it appeared almost useless to get a crowd for a meeting of that kind right in the midst of harvest, the meeting was advertised, and to the surprise of the most sanguine, the old court house was crowded to overflowing when the hour of 8 p. m., arrived at which time the speaking was to commence. In order to not disappoint the large crowd who came to hear him, Mr. Wardall consented to turn the counsel meeting into a public speech and accordingly spoke for an hour on the various questions now absorbing public attention. He is not the radical, sweeping, rib-ticking, unreasonable man that he has been made to believe he is, but a gentlemanly, clear cut and comprehensive speaker, presenting a clear and comprehensive asseveration of the existing conditions of our public affairs and told the remedies that the new party had prescribed for the evils. He assigned the chief cause of the depression in the prices of farm produce, to the high freight rates and the scarcity of money in the country. He also arraigned the old parties for having repeatedly refused to pass laws demanded by the working and farming classes and pointed to the subtreasury bill as a fair example of how things had been going. The predominant element in our government were perfectly willing to make laws to store the products of the whiskey distiller for a period of three years and let him double his profits, and to take care of the silver producers product and give him money for it, and they have also given the banker the privilege of loaning money on real estate security at whatever price he chooses, but they refused to give the farmer anything that he asked for. To give our readers anything like a comprehensive understanding of the speech, requires at least four times the space and time that is at our disposal and it is therefore absolutely out of the question to attempt it. Mr. Wardall hopes to visit this county again during the campaign and at that time it will be made convenient for all who desire to hear him to do so.

### A MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE.

**Daniel Osgood, of Highland Township, Leaves Without Explanations.**

E. E. Griswold, of Highland township, was in town a few days ago and reported the singular disappearance of Daniel Osgood, who came to him nearly a year ago and applied for work. He had with him a team of mares, a mule colt and one of Fish Brothers make of farm wagons. Mr. Griswold hired Osgood, employed him during the fall and winter and then rented his farm to him last spring. He worked the farm very successfully, putting in seventy acres of corn, a large amount of small grain, several acres of potatoes, beans, etc., and had raised as fine a crop of grain as ever grew in Highland township. But on the third of July, when the family had gone to the circus in Canton, Osgood packed his trunk and gathered his possessions—team and wagon—and left for parts unknown. He had been boarding in Mr. Griswold's family, and before leaving he relieved the house of all the eatables that he could lay hands to. A few days previous to the third, Mrs. Griswold had baked and made extensive preparations for the Soldiers picnic on the Fourth, but Osgood had no mercy on the pies, meats, cakes and other things in profusion, which had been prepared for the family feast on the picnic grounds, and contributed the entire outfit to his own use. He also took with him Mr. Griswold's valuable shepherd dog and a lot of small trinkets he found about the premises. The dog came back, but no Osgood. For ten days his whereabouts were wrapped in mystery. Along about the thirteenth, however, Mr. Griswold was surprised to receive the following communication:

Mr. VERNON, S. D., July 11, 1890.

Mr. Griswold—Excuse me for leaving you the way I did. I received a letter from my brother that he was very sick and felt it my duty to go and see him. "Rover" followed me to Mitchell and there I missed him. You go and see Eric Kittleston, he owes me two dollars and has the hold-back to my harness, please send them and my song book to me. I am very much in want of money. Send me \$75 or \$100, and I'll do as much for you some day, but I don't expect you will, the way I left you. Do the best you can with the crops. I shall remain here but a few days. Yours Respectfully,  
DAN OSGOOD.

This letter is all that has been heard of him since his departure on the third inst. and as it is well known that he received no mail from his brother, it is reasoned that he is either insane or had some other motive for his strange disappearance. The team and wagon Osgood had in his possession when he arrived at Mr. Griswold's place last August, answer the description of a team advertised as having been stolen at West Union, Iowa, about the time he came to Highland township. This has created the suspicion that he is a professional horse-thief and that his sudden disappearance is due to a suspicion that it was unsafe for him to remain in this locality longer. Osgood is about 30 years of age, tall and slender, bears a wild look upon his countenance, light hair and chin whiskers. He stands nearly six feet, is very talkative but has poor education, being unable to read and write.

### MR. WIMPLE HAS A WORD.

**He Thinks Farmers' Picnic Don't Agree With Certain Canton Editors.**

**BERSFORD, July 18—EDITOR FARMERS' ADVOCATE.**—It is self evident that the proprietors of the *Advocate* and "trusted reporters" of both *News* and *Advocate* are not used to farmers' picnics, as they have had a disarranged digestion ever since the Warner Grove picnic, about a month ago.

Undoubtedly they found the tables so well spread with good things to eat that their appetites could not resist and their naturally disgruntled stomachs could not digest all they ate; consequently the foaming and frothing that has been going on ever since that eventful occasion. The true and tried reporters of the *News*, *Advocate* & Co. take great exceptions to a three minute speech that I made at that picnic; and because I said that it was not justice to the older and qualified settlers of Lincoln county, that carpet buggers should be pushed to the front and then retained in office, they have been having a terrible time. Well I did say just this much and I do not wish to retract.

The readers of this article need not speculate as to the motive I have in advocating the removal of this class of office holders. It will be unnecessary for I will tell you. It is not because they have not been good officers; it is not because they have not been obliging, nothing of this kind. The reason is because they have nothing in common with the tax payers of this county. They come here with a pen behind their ear and a six-month course at some commercial school and they are qualified to fill a position that will give them a financial standing in the course of a couple of terms, equivalent to a life time of hard toil in the ordinary pursuits of life. I object to this class of office holders because they stand by the old line bosses and do their bidding as a well trained Spaniel will stay by his master. I object to them because we have plenty of older settlers and men who are tax-payers in the county, who are just as well qualified in every respect. *And a great many are foreign born, some of them are Norwegians.*

I wish to silence this nonsense about foreign born citizens holding office by saying this; I have no objections to any foreign born citizen holding office (if he has the required qualifications and does not allow himself to be twiddled by a few unprincipled, wirepulling politicians.) I would say further all these thrusts at me are for a purpose; the air is full of dense smoke and there must be some fire close at hand. It is not "Mr. Wimple" that any body is afraid of, for he is nothing but a quiet hay-seed who attends to his own business—is not even a candidate for office. It is the independent party that is getting a lashing over his back. But I am willing to let them crack away; we will answer their slanders more effectively in the early part of next November.

The true and trusted reporters of the *News*, *Advocate* & Co. failed to report the speech I made on the grand old party at the Warner Grove picnic. When asked to report one act that party had done, for the past ten years, that was a benefit to the majority of the people of the county he made the assertion that it had done many. "But tell us of one," insisted the questioner "Oh! it has done many" was the answer.

In conclusion I would say this; if any voter in this broad land has no grievances, why cast your ballot the way you have been in the habit of casting it, but if you have any wrongs to right, cast your eye about and see if there is any better way, see if there is any principle left in men, and if you find a man with principle, vote for the principle.

A. J. WIMPLE.

## FOOTPRINTS OF CORRUPTION.

**An Illinois Republican Congressman Unconsciously Exposes A Piece of Crookedness.**

**Indisputable Evidence That An Important U. S. Statute Has Been A Victim of the Forger's Handiwork.**

(Continued from last week.)  
WAS IT A FORGERY.

The testimony was objected to, and was ruled out by the court on the ground that the holder of the bonds was a bona-fide purchaser of them without notice of any objection to the validity; that the first installment was paid at maturity, and therefore the defendant was estopped from offering any evidence to show that the act was not passed, the same having been duly published among the printed statutes as a law, and being, therefore, *prima facie* a valid law; in other words, although it might not have been duly passed, the town, under the circumstances of the case, was estopped from denying its passage.

Now, the supreme court of the United States, after stating the case in the language above quoted, say:  
"We cannot assent to this view. There can be no estoppel in the way of ascertaining the existence of a law. That which purports to be a law of the state is either a law or is not a law, according as the truth of the fact may be, and not according to the shifting circumstances of parties."

Mr. Plumb continues his speech by reviewing a large amount of corroborative testimony, from high judicial authority on cases of similar character, showing that no statute is valid except in the language as it passed the two houses of a legislative body. He demonstrated beyond dispute that the refunding act of 1870 was changed after it passed the two houses and was signed by the president, and is therefore published in the printed statutes different from the real act of congress. Consequently the law is void as to the construction generally placed upon it and the four per cent bonds of the United States, referred to in that portion of Mr. Plumb's speech published last week, are now and have been, redeemable for twenty years or more. This, in spite of the fact that the present administration is paying a premium for their redemption, and notwithstanding the fact that the democrats as well as the republicans have been howling for two years or more, for the want of something to do with the surplus in the United States treasury.

After submitting innumerable precedents in support of his position, Mr. Plumb continued as follows:

Mr. Chairman, the decisions of courts of the highest resort, both in this country and England, on this question are all in one direction, and all unite in bringing us to the conclusion that the law as it stands on the records of congress is the law, and must be our rule of action as long as it stands there. No accepted rule of interpretation will permit us to go elsewhere than the words used to ascertain what the law means.

Vattel lays down in his first rule of interpretation for treaties and statutes the following:

"The first general maxim is that it is not permitted to interpret what was no need of interpretation. When an act is conceived in clear and concise terms, when the sense is manifest and leads to nothing absurd, there can be no reason to refuse the sense which this act naturally presents. To go elsewhere in order to restrain or extinguish it is to endeavor to elude it."

And this rule is adopted by the United States supreme court in United States vs. Fisher (2 Cranch 358.) Puffendorf says: "As for words, the rule is, unless there be reasonable objection against it, they are to be understood in their proper and most known signification, not so much according to grammar as the general use of them."

Rutherford's Rules of interpretation declares that—  
"Words are the common signs that mankind make use of to declare their intention to one another; and when the words of a man express his meaning plainly, distinctly and perfectly, we have no occasion to have recourse to any other means of interpretation."

The American rule is:

"Whether courts are interpreting an agreement between parties, a statute, or a constitution, the thing to seek is the thought which it expresses. To ascertain this the first resort in all cases is to the natural signification of the words employed in the order and grammatical arrangement in which they stand. If thus regarded the words embody a definite meaning which involves no absurdity and no contradiction between different parts of the same writing, then that meaning apparent upon the fact of the

instrument is the one alone we are at liberty to say was to be conveyed. In such a case there is no room for instruction. That which the words declare is the meaning of the instrument, and neither the courts nor the legislature have a right to add or to take away from that meaning. (Newell vs. The People, 7 N. Y., 99; McCluey vs. Cromwell, 11 N. Y., 593.)

Again, in the enactment of statutes the rule of interpretation in respect to the intention of the legislature is that when the language is explicit the courts are bound to seek for the intention in the words of the act itself, and they are not at liberty to suppose or to hold that the legislature intended anything different than that their language imports. (Supervisors of Niagara vs. The People, 7 Hill, 513.)

It is useless to quote more authority on these points. It seems to be well settled that it is our duty to ascertain the exact language used by congress in passing the refunding act, and having so ascertained it, it is equally apparent that it needs no construction, its meaning being so clear that none is required. In concluding the legal part of my argument I submit—

The Revised Statutes, approved June 22, 1874, contains the law now in force pertaining to the public debt, and that any provisions of the refunding act of July 14, 1870, inconsistent with the Revised Statutes is either repealed or must be so construed as to give force and effect to said statutes; and it follows, therefore, that whenever bonds of the United States can be sold at par in coin, bearing a less rate of interest than any of the bonds which represent the outstanding interest-bearing obligations of the United States now bear, they are redeemable at par.

If there be any question as to the right of the government to redeem or to refund the 4 per cent bonds, there can be none as to the 4 per cent, for the reason that the law as passed makes them redeemable at the pleasure of the United States at any time within thirty years from the date of their issue. Whether it be by accident or design, the law as it stands provides for the redemption of the 4 per cent at the pleasure of the United States.

This speech was delivered nearly two years ago, and the only answer that has been made to it, was a refusal to renounce Mr. Plumb. Neither one of the great political papers have made mention of it, and no investigation has been ordered. As to the question whether forgery was committed or not, the reader can draw his own inference. One thing is certain, however, there is enough evidence in the facts given, together with the grave suspicion which continued silence upon the subject might imply to warrant a rigid investigation of the whole matter. It is a matter of the utmost importance, and nothing should be omitted that will place the subject in its true light among the people. If there has been a fraud committed it cannot be discussed to soon.

Burke said (recognizing that there is a faith due to the people as well as to the holders of public securities):  
"It is to the property of the citizen, and not the demands of the creditor of the state, that the original faith of society is pledged. The claim of the citizen is prior in time, paramount in title, superior in equity."

### THE SMALLEST OF TWINS.

**Together They Weighed Only One Pound and Three-Quarters.**

Mrs. Charles Orton gave birth recently to two of the smallest babies that there is any authentic record of. The babies weigh three-quarters of a pound and one pound, respectively, and are well developed and apparently in perfect health. The news soon spread over the neighborhood of the arrival of the tiny strangers, and the house was thronged with curious women until at last it was necessary for Mrs. Orton's health to exclude visitors from the house.

When a dozen or more had gathered in the house, scales were procured from a grocery store near by. The babies were weighed, and the boy tipped the beam at one pound, while the girl's weight was one-quarter of a pound short of this. Mrs. Sadie Gray, the nurse in charge of the midwifery, was present at the weighing and she said that both babies had gained at least three ounces since their birth. She was sure that at birth the weight of the two was not more than three-fourths of a pound and a half pound, respectively. Either child could be hidden under a quart measure, or both could be stowed away comfortably in an ordinary overcoat pocket. Both have black hair and very pretty faces. The nurse told the reporter that both children were remarkably healthy and she thought there was no danger of their death. They are very lively and are not as "cross" as the average child, she said. Mr. Orton is the father of six children. The other four are of ordinary size. He is 39 years of age, and his wife is also 39. Both Mr. and Mrs. Orton are ordinary-sized people.

## AGRICULTURAL TOPICS.

**Selected and Original Articles On Various Topics of Interest to Rural Readers.**

**A Series of Disconnected Sketches Imparting Many Valuable Suggestions on Farming.**

### AMONG THE POULTRY.

Do not dose poultry continually. Selection of the breeding stock comes under the head of good management.

Double-yelk eggs will occasionally hatch, but there is no economy in setting them.

Millet seed is a good feed for young chickens, but should only be supplied in small quantities.

Do not expect too many eggs to hatch from a setting if shipped any distance. Ten is more than an average.

Unless it cannot be avoided, fowls that moult late should not be used for breeding. As a rule, they lack thrift.

In the spring, especially, a quick-maturing fowl will be found quite desirable, and in selecting breeding stock the fact should not be overlooked.

Care should be taken not to in-breed too closely, as not only will the quality be lowered, but there is always more or less risk of deformity in some way.

Cornmeal and milk are among the best materials for fattening fowls, and can be supplied liberally at this season for regular feeding for any length of time. A mixed ration will give the best results.

Watch the hens as they lay and select eggs for hatching from the best layers. In this way a good breed of hens for eggs can be readily secured. There is a considerable difference in this respect, and it is quite an item to get the best.

Take a pound of copperas dissolved in a gallon of water and then add an ounce of sulphuric acid and you have the Douglas mixture. Put a half pint of this into the drinking water twice a week. It makes one of the best tonics.

One of the cheapest as well as the most convenient ways of marking fowls of any kind is with a punch, cutting one hole or more if desired in the web of the foot. A watch key if sharpened can be made to answer, but it makes almost too small a hole.

Care must be taken to feed the setting hens. The days are sometimes so chilly that if the eggs are left too long they will be so chilled that the vitality will be killed. While the hens will not need so much feed as when they are laying, yet what they do need should be supplied where they can get it conveniently.—*St. Louis Republic.*

### Barb Wire Cuts.

Some plan must be adopted to prevent so many colts from cutting themselves with barb wire. It is useless to talk of any other kind of fence. Colts get out often when two herds meet at a fence in adjoining pastures. Colts raised on the same farm are not apt to cut themselves. Colts moved from farm to farm are more likely to get hurt. We think if smooth wire were put on posts three feet high, four feet from the barb wire fence, it would keep the colts away from danger.

Boards along the top of the fence are not practical, because they would require extra posts. Willow hedges north of the osage orange line of growth which is around the Rock Island railway, would answer well around a horse pasture. Most farmers can afford to prepare for horse pasturing, summer and winter. The damage to one colt, if prevented, would pay for considerable extra preparation. Thousands of promising young horses are ruined for the Eastern market by being lamed, or by unsightly scars from barb wire. It is well settled that colts can winter in a blue grass pasture with very little grain or hay, or none at all if the grass is abundant and the snow not too deep. We think a willow or osage orange hedge around such pastures, beneficial in many ways. Where the pasture is on an open prairie it should have wind-breaks of some kind. We notice that the grain growers grub out such hedges, but grazers can afford to let them grow.—*Des Moines Register.*

### Stop the Leaks.

As a rule the successful farmer is he who practices a wise economy and carefully stops the leaks that would drain away the substance of his earnings. The elements are at work continually to scatter and destroy the products of industry, and continued care and watchfulness must be exercised to prevent waste in an infinite variety of forms. Granaries and cribs must be properly constructed to prevent destruction of cereals by rodents and storms. In feeding stock the prudent farmer will exercise due care that wasteful methods do not rob him of a large share of profits. The leaks and waste of the manure pile should be stopped to the end that the fertility of the farm may be kept up. The thoughtful and economical man will note a thousand little leakages that may be prevented by the exercise of timely care or caution. In fact, judicious saving must go hand in hand with industrious earning and producing, to bring a full measure of success. Stop the leaks, and more than half the causes of present complaint will disappear.

## HE WOULDN'T STARVE AT IT.

**A Business Not so Awfully Bad After All.**

There is a young man in New York, says the *Star*, who dabbles somewhat in artistic and literary pursuits, and who occasionally buys and sells a picture. Sometimes, when he visits some of the interior cities, he takes three or four pictures with him, which he manages to dispose of at a comfortable profit. The young man's father, who lives in an Eastern Ohio town, and who has no sympathy with what he terms the vagabond pursuits of his son, often used to admonish him that he was getting to be such an age that he ought to settle down to "some legitimate business."

"Really, he asked one day, 'are you making any money at it?'"

"Oh, I can't complain," answered the son; "I manage to pay expenses."

Soon after the young man unpacked his valise and showed the old gentleman some pictures he was taking on out West with him. One of them particularly attracted the father, who asked the price of it.

"Oh, \$500 for that, but if you would like to have it, I'll make it \$250."

The father gave a check for the amount and was greatly delighted with his purchase.

"I'm afraid, though, that you are not making anything on this picture?"

"Oh, yes, I'm making a fair profit on my investment."

The next day, as they walked to the train, the old gentleman said: "Now, you know I feel the greatest possible interest in your affairs and your success. Tell me what you made on that picture I bought from you."

"On that picture I made just \$225."

The old gentleman was silent for two whole blocks, and then he ejaculated: "Well, it isn't such a dreadfully bad business you are in after all. I guess you'll get along."

### Candor For Sale.

There is a kind of frankness which is purely disagreeable, and there is another kind which may hurt the sensibilities for a moment, but in the end does not lessen one's friendly regard for the speaker. The Quincy Herald relates a story of Congressman Taulbee, of Kentucky.

An old negro, known as Uncle Eph, had lived in the Taulbee family for many years, and was esteemed as an honest and faithful servant. After a congressional election, at which Mr. Taulbee had been an unsuccessful candidate, some of his opponents twitted him with the fact that his own servant had voted against him.

Mr. Taulbee could not credit the story, and at last spoke to Uncle Eph about it.

"Is it true, Uncle Eph, that you voted against me?"

"Yes, Massa William," answered the old man. I voted the 'Publcan ticket.'"

"Well, well," said Mr. Taulbee, "I like frankness, and here's a dollar for your candor."

The colored man stood scratching his head, evidently with something on his mind.

"Well, Eph, what is it?" said Mr. Taulbee.

"If you is buying candor, Massa William," said Uncle Eph, "you owes me fo' dollars mo' kase I voted agin yo five times."

### Semi-Concealed Watches for Women.

The life of women of the world is so terribly overworked that it becomes imperative for them to carefully regulate their hours, minutes even. There is so much to be seen, gone through and achieved in some way each day that to lose five minutes would be an irreparable fault. To help them to be exact and punctual, ladies of fashion now wear reminders of the flight of time upon all the accessories of their toilet. To look at one's watch while paying a visit is considered very bad taste, and as it is now no longer the fashion to place clocks on the drawing-room mantelpiece, it became sometimes perplexing to be always exactly aware of the hour and minute of the day. We have been for some time past in possession of the card-case with a tiny watch in the corner, but it was rather heavy and inconvenient. It is now replaced by the handle of the sunshade or umbrella, of gold or silver, with a small watch set in the center. Gold chain bracelets are also ornamented with a watch, and so is the purse formed of gold and silver links.

### A Virginia Snake Story.

A thoroughly reliable gentleman informs a correspondent that he saw near Scottsville, Va., two small snakes deliberately engaged in swallowing each other, a goodly portion of each snake having been taken into the stomach of the other. This reminds us of an old farmer who saw a large bullfrog basking in the sun on the bank of his millpond. A large water moccasin commenced to swallow his frogship by tating in his legs. Meanwhile the frog began the same process by taking in the tail of the snake. The swallowing process, the story goes, continued until the reptile and the frog swallowed each other and, both disappeared from view.