

The Farmers' Leader.
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THE FARMERS' LEADER is owned by a company composed of nearly 400 of the most progressive farmers of southeastern South Dakota. It is a fearless advocate of the rights of the farmer, mechanic, day laborer and artisan and as such it will use its best influence toward the upbuilding of the Farmers' Alliance, the Knights of Labor and kindred organizations, and incidentally toward the support of the principles of the independent party.

The paper is conducted under the supervision of a board of directors composed entirely of farmers. The following is the present membership: Hon. H. Bradshaw, Nelson Larson, Edgar Wardwell, J. E. Holter, O. M. Iverson.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:—Three months, 25 cents; six months, 50 cents; one year, \$1. Payments for subscription to the paper may be remitted directly to the publication office or to any office or member of the board of directors. Correspondence is desired from every county in the southeastern part of the state and especially from the towns and townships in Lincoln county. Correspondents should write their manuscripts as plainly as possible and write on one side of the paper, and should at all times confine themselves to the news. It is also important that a correspondent's name should be attached to a communication in order to secure admittance to the columns of the paper. No attention will be paid to anonymous communications of any kind. Intelligent contributions on economy, finance, tariff, transportation, land and other important questions of the day, are invited from all parts of the country. Contributors are requested, however, to make their communications as brief as possible. Communications of any kind, must be in or before Tuesday evening in order to secure publication the same week.

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ITS SCOPE AND PURPOSE.

The Republican party now realizes the odium it fastened upon itself by its enactment of the McKinley bill. And well it may, since the late popular repudiation of itself and its "monstrosity," as Blaine calls it. Consider the purpose and scope of the law.

Under the specious guise of protection to American homes and industries it taxes every man, woman and child to heap up increase riches to favored and privileged few.

It takes from honest labor with one hand the meager subsistence it pretends to give with the other.

It imposes upon the homes of the people burdens of debt which toll and thrift can never raise while it continues.

It destroys foreign commerce by rates of duty prohibiting imports of goods which cannot be furnished or fully supplied at home.

It fosters and builds up gigantic trusts by import discrimination, and so pours added millions into already overflowing coffers.

It provides rewards in the past and recompense in the future to those who have shamelessly bought seats, official power and patronage.

It yields to the call of monopoly and hastens to do its bidding as a hireling its master's will.

It pours money into the Nation's treasury to be poured out again in profuse and reckless expenditures.

It belittles and belies the great declaration that all men are born with inalienable rights.

It usurps the authority of states sovereignty in order to give more power to the federal head.

It wrings vast sums from overburdened taxpayers not for government use, but to bestow upon those who support it however unworthy they may be.

It leads away the uninformed with the delusion that taxation increases wealth and professes to seek reduction of redundant revenue by increasing taxes on the necessities of life.

It creates antagonism between sections, the west and south against the north and east, which grows into retaliatory conflicts and which will quickly pass beyond the power of the best statesmanship to control. Finally, whatever there is of folly in partisanship, of error in economic statement of falsehood in popular assumption, of hypocrisy in professed belief, all that and more, are comprehended in the new tariff law—a sum of political injustice and outrage such as no other people in any country or in any age were ever confronted with.—*Minneapolis Times.*

WISE AND PATRIOTIC.

The Farmers' Alliance, which convened at Ocala, Florida, last week, displayed wisdom and patriotism in denouncing the Lodge election bill. President Humphreys of the National Colored Alliance says the negroes of the south, in whose interest it has been pretended that the measure was devised, do not need it and do not want it and there is nowhere else that it is even claimed it will do any good. If passed it will simply open to hungry politicians of the monopoly variety, the thousands of new places, at an immense extra expense to an already over-burdened people.

Let the trust furnish their own cat-paws.

In the face of their allegiance to the Republican party, the members of the Southern Colored Alliance have displayed an intelligence and insight into affairs affecting

ing their own interests which would have done great credit to any body of men of any nationality acting under similar circumstances. Not only has the Republican party utterly failed to secure for the negro any substantial social or political advantages, but it has by its vicious legislation since the close of the war done more to prevent him from acquiring those advantages for himself than all other forces combined. It is now apparent that the more intelligent of our colored population have been studying this view of the case for some years at last.

In asking for a third party they have only done what common prudence would seem to dictate. It is evident to all observers that the democratic leaders are either unable or unwilling to make a better application of the principles of democratic government to existing conditions, than do the republican leaders, and the members of the Colored Alliance therefore see no use of attaching themselves to the democratic party.

But, besides demonstrating their understanding of their own interests, and a keen sight into Republican government, one other important thing was done in the stand taken at Ocala. The first great step in the solution of the race problem was taken, and by the only men who could take it—colored citizens. Upon such a broad, fair and patriotic basis, and representing, as President Humphreys says they do, nearly a quarter of a million of the most intelligent and progressive of our colored fellow-citizens, the proposition of the Colored Alliance ought to meet with almost universal acceptance.—*Liberty Bell.*

A POINTED DEFENSE.

J. E. Holter Writes In Defense of His Position In a Former Letter.

CANTON, Dec. 17.—EDITOR, FARMERS' LEADER. It is customary among our young people to organize debating clubs and discuss different subjects agreed upon, in such cases the different opponents don't take it very particular as to the logic of their presentations as long as they make a point.

This seems to be the goal of my opponents in their criticism of my article on "bonds and mortgages." It is not a creditable manner of proceedings for the Sioux Valley News to make a statement of the editors own and then try to bind it on to his opponent.

We have never asked anything from the government for nothing, nor have we asked anything from the government, that it don't have to give. We have demanded of the government to issue money to the people at cost, and when we demand this, we claim to be in our constitutional right so to do, for in the true spirit of our constitution our government shall be a republican government, that is a government by the people. Therefore the people demand this from themselves to be effected through their representatives in congress, for in congress our constitution has vested the power, to "coin money and regulate the value thereof." So, when we demand that this money shall be issued to the people at cost, we don't ask to get it for nothing.

A thing that is paid for at its cost is justly paid for, but when it is paid for above cost the purchaser is overcharged or defrauded.

The News quotation of Scripture, where the devil offered our Savior the world, but could not deliver the goods, is hardly applicable in this case, for the situation upon which we agree is such, that the devil by corrupt methods holds possession of the goods, and we demand him to deliver up, and he will have to deliver, for God and righteousness were always stronger than the devil and corruption whenever it came to a combat.

That no dealer in Canton or any other city under our civilized manners would verily use the imaginary conversation presented shall willingly be admitted, but the old saying is (and it is a true one too) that actions speak louder than words, the represented action of Canton in the case and similar actions of every metropolitan city in our country in like cases speak just exactly the language quoted by it, idiotic or otherwise. In such actions also we have the true solution of the vexed question why our young people leave the farm. Why should they not? When our governmental arrangement is such, that any incorporated city by a simple majority vote can levy percentage of tribute upon customers and surrounding territory at any time and to any amount that may suit their convenience.

Why should not the ambitious element of our population want to live in the cities under such circumstances? If any inconvenience appears in their commutative comfort, they have only to vote bonds, sell them, procure the desired improvements and collect the little matter out of business with the tributary country. If they shall have to tug and strive to do it, if some one shall go to the wall in the struggle, if the farmers shall protect and grant under the oppression, that don't make any difference, only the style can be metropolitan and fashionable to the times.

Let one tug at the horns, another at the tail, the bondholder will be comfortably at ease milking the cow and keep the cream. Our children or grandchildren may not succeed in inaugurating a different method, but Holy Script says, that the father's transgressions shall recover on the children in the third and fourth generations. In our time of steam and electricity, things move fast, and the application may come even sooner, it might lay within our power to guide it into peace or violence, which will we choose?

But the editor says, "halt" and I must close. Will meet you again next week. Respectfully, J. E. HOLTER.

Memorial of Emily Leonard.
 England has her woman political economist in Mrs. Melicent Garrett Fawcett. The United States has none today, though there was one American woman who, if she had lived, would have been recognized the world over as possessing one of the leading economic minds of her time. This was Emily Josephine Leonard, born August, 1837, died July, 1884. Her powers had not yet unfolded to their fullest extent, for the field in which she most distinguished herself did not attract her till comparatively a few years before her lamented death. Miss Leonard's niece, Georgia Louise Leonard, of Washington, herself an author and a student of Egyptology, has prepared a handsome and appreciative memorial volume of her aunt, which has just been published.

In glancing through the volume one is amazed at the extent of Miss Leonard's knowledge. Undoubtedly she died before her best work was accomplished, yet in the time she lived she managed to gain more knowledge than a dozen ordinary men and women get into their lives, though they consider themselves intelligent persons, too. Her principal work was a translation from the French of the political economy of Jerome Adolphe Blanqui, a professor in the college of France. David A. Wells wrote an introduction to the volume, and it is now used as a text book in a number of schools and colleges. Besides this she contributed in the line of her favorite studies many articles to Lalor's Cyclopaedia of Political Economy.

The papers she wrote and read before different associations were legion. Among them were essays entitled "What is a Dollar?" "How the Silver Question Concerns the Manufacturing Interests" and "The Function of Issuing Notes; Considered with Reference to the National Banks." In this last named essay she took the ground that there should be complete separation of the departments of issue and banking. Banks might circulate notes, but government and government alone should issue them. This, she contended, would prevent unnatural fluctuations in value.

But her writings on economic subjects represented only a small part of her knowledge. At the beginning of her career she was a teacher able to give instruction in the higher mathematics, including trigonometry. She was one of the most learned botanists this country has produced. She published a book on botany, and many papers. She understood six languages besides her own, and taught her Swedish servant to speak English and to "cook properly" besides. She was also a skilled musician, and could draw well enough to be an excellent teacher of the art. In the natural sciences she was greatly interested and deeply read. The works of Darwin, Huxley and Herbert Spencer she knew almost by heart.

Undoubtedly her arduous intellectual labors shortened her life. With her, her niece tells us, "philosophy took the place of religion."

Everybody knows that Stanley is brave and successful—that he has accomplished marvels which other men would have attempted in vain. But for this very reason he should speak in moderate and temperate language of those who are not so strong or successful as himself. Stanley has a habit of talking too severely which will be a good deal in his way as he goes on in the world. No doubt the rear column on his famous trip to find Emin was mismanaged, and Maj. Barttelot met the death that might have been expected by one who was habitually severe and accustomed to administer heavy, sometimes cruel, punishments. But what good for the conquering survivor to abuse him now that he is dead? Facts may be stated, but the conquering survivor need not go out of his way to scold.

If the removal of a number of great manufacturing firms from Chicago to a suburban spot on the Indiana line had happened a century ago it would have been noted as one of the marvels of the time, if the movement had represented hundreds of millions of dollars. Now manufacturing establishments with an aggregate output of several hundred millions a year may quietly announce their intention of building a town with a population of 150,000 in a short time, and nobody considers it anything wonderful, so accustomed is our age to colossal enterprises.

The Philadelphia Times is opposed to the McKinley law, especially that part of it which imposes a high duty on tin plates. The Times charges that this has been done on the pretense that there are tin mines in America, when, as a matter of fact, there are none to speak of. "There is no tin in the United States," says the Times. "Gentlemen may cry tin! tin! but there is no tin."

Electricity generated by waterfall will probably be the next motor applied to the running of great and small machines. Science is turning its attention to this point seriously. In every river and waterfall enough power runs to waste to turn all the mills needed in its vicinity. The ocean tidewater is one mighty reservoir of stored power waiting for man to develop it.

Apparently during the past year the Democrats have been following the last advice their lamented leader, Samuel J. Randall, gave them, to "get together."

Don't be a chump if you can help it.

What is to hinder overhead wires and electricity from taking the place of the most abused canal boat mule?

The Italian faster, Giovanni Succi, ate three pounds of trout and a chicken as a starter for his fast of forty-five days in New York.

Ex-President Cleveland says the tariff did it. Andrew Carnegie, on the other hand, says that the tariff had nothing to do with the Democratic victory, but that it was caused by feuds in the Republican party.

According to the ruling of Cardinal Taschereau, of Quebec, it is scarcely less a crime to smuggle whisky than to get drunk on it. Smugglers of intoxicants in Quebec are hereafter to be deprived of the sacraments of the church.

Ninety thousand people die of consumption every year in the United States. To nearly every family in the country it will be of the highest interest therefore to know that the famous Berlin physician, Professor Koch, has discovered a sure cure for this dread disease. At least, he feels reasonably sure that he has. A lymph to which metallic salts have been added is the magic remedy. With this the consumptive is inoculated. The preparation will kill the tuberculosis germ infallibly, but in cases where the patient is already near to death he will not have strength enough left to recuperate. The medicine is so expensive that only the rich can afford to take the treatment, yet, if the cure can be depended on, public charities will soon establish hospitals where the poor can be treated gratuitously.

The Census.

Most people expected that the eleventh census would give the country a population of 65,000,000. Instead the official figures make it 62,480,540, some two and one-half millions less than was looked for. There are naturally disappointment and grumbling. There are those who do not hesitate to say that the census bureau has scaled down the figures for political purposes.

Census officials have this to say in regard to the apparent lowering of our rate of increase from 30.08 per cent. in 1880 to 24.57 per cent. in 1890: The census of 1870 was very loosely and imperfectly taken. The census laws of the time were utterly inadequate to enforce a proper count. Consequently the population given out officially in 1870 (38,558,371) should have been, from the best data attainable, not less than 40,000,000. In 1880 the individuals omitted ten years before were counted in, swelling the population to 50,000,000, and making the percentage of increase seem larger than it actually was. We naturally expected this artificially increased rate to be continued from 1880 to 1890, and when the figures dropped to their true rate it was a disappointment.

Tammany and the Preachers.

When a private individual lets it be known that he is a free thinker and a come outer theologically, good society to a certain extent still frowns upon him, particularly in small places. This much social persecution for the sake of free thought is still inflicted, even in free America. This much social influence, then, must be conceded to the theological profession. But when in large cities the ministers undertake to mix in actual affairs, to influence public measures and sway elections, the exact strength of their hold on the popular life and heart can be measured.

The election in New York city is a case in hand, in which many public spirited ministers united in an effort to break the power of Tammany. Hugh J. Grant was elected first as the candidate for mayor of the Tammany society in 1888. The rival Democratic organization, the County Democracy, in that year supported the Tammany candidate, and he was elected by 41,074 majority, receiving 114,111 votes in all. This year the County Democracy was against Tammany and ostensibly united with Tammany's enemies on the opposing candidate, though doubtless many of them voted for Grant.

The People's Municipal league, a reform organization, nominated Francis M. Scott for mayor. It was a movement having behind it many of the most prominent preachers of New York. They, in fact, originated the P. M. L. and engineered it. They wished to break what they declared to be the corrupt power of Tammany. The People's Municipal league and the Republicans united to break down Tammany. The fight was a bitter one. A day or two before the election Bourke Cockran, the famous Tammany orator, used these words about preachers and church goers:

We are asked to believe that the intelligence is to be found in the ministers of the pulpit and in the narrow chested, narrow minded, long haired silcocke who sit before them.

It was a deadly insult to the ministerial profession and to all church members. Had there been any strong feeling of enthusiasm toward the pastors, or any corps enthusiasm among church congregations themselves, they would have risen as one man and avenged the insult. But there was none. The offensive words passed scarcely heeded, hardly even exciting a remark. Tammany's Mayor Grant was elected triumphantly, receiving over 115,000 votes, against 114,111 in 1888, and this time with all the forces of the Republicans, the ministers and the County Democracy opposed to him.

The Boom Still On!

Although my competitors are doing all in their power to destroy my credit by reporting to the public that I am buying Unlimited Quantities of grain and paying AWAY ABOVE MARKET

VALUE and GIVING AWAY GOODS

AT Less Than Cost.

I am still prepared to take

All the Grain

Offered at the same old rate,

And as for Goods,

Have just brought in a car load and can sell Felt boots and Overs for \$1.50 per set. Overshoes for 75 cents. White bed blankets for \$1.25 per pair. Pretty dress Prints for 4 1-2c a yard. Coats thread for 4 cents a spool.

And Groceries

Are away down.

Granulated sugar, 14 lbs. for \$1.

Pure Java coffee for 25 cents a pound.

Pure Maple Syrup from the barrel at 95 cents a gallon.

And Clothing

Nothing fine, but good warm goods cheap.

Christmas Goods.

The largest supply ever offered. 100 different styles of albums alone; just look and see.

AND NOW ABOUT JEWELRY.

I have decided to close out my Post office Jewelry store and will give you

RINGS SILVERWARE, Etc,

Cheaper than you ever thought of buying.

Pretty New Clocks,

Just drop in and ask for prices. But I must close with,

Bring in your Grain

and

Buy your goods.

D. J. GARPENTER