



A WONDERFUL EPITOME.

The readers of the EAGLE are not unacquainted with the extraordinary abilities of Mr. C. Wood Davis as an expert statistician, nor ignorant of the fact of his authorship of some wonderfully far-reaching and comprehensive papers bearing on the economic conditions of this and of other countries, which papers have from time to time appeared in the Forum and other publications. He has not only a genius for figures but evidently delights in the pursuit of ultimate through the labyrinths of numerals and official data. In the discussion of the food-grains problem and their past, present and probable future prices, he has given months of constant research. Luckily for him he has a personal friend, who is much given to figures, residing in London who has access to all the British records and reports, covering the dependencies of Australia and India. He has also a friend in Russia, who has been enabled to secure the data, the averages, etc., of the crop products, population, etc., of that country and its dependencies. In pursuing these fields for facts bearing on the present and future of the farmers of America, and incidentally, for facts bearing on the Henry George single tax theory, Mr. Davis has come into the possession of the world's economic methods and measures, which he has reduced down to their simplest and most essential tables which he has placed on a single sheet of cap paper with explanatory marginal and foot notes, and which makes "An Epitome of the agricultural situation and an estimate of American production and requirements for four quinquennial periods." A copy of this Epitome lies before us with more information and of reliable facts, of wide spread interest, than we ever saw before in so circumscribed a form. To tell all the facts held by this small sheet in detail would require a book of several hundred pages. Its exhibits are not only accurate but its conclusions irrefutable. The history of breadstuffs and their prices for the whole world are mirrored in official figures for the past, and what must inevitably occur in the future shown. How many readers of the EAGLE, for instance, know that within the present century wheat sold in Liverpool for \$5.50 per bushel in gold? One table shows the increase of cultivated area in the United States for twenty years and the rate per cent of increase; another the twenty years' exports of wheat from India and the United States; another the annual average of wheat in England and at Chicago and the annual average values per bushel of wheat exported from the United States. This last exhibit shows that from 1871 to 1889 the price of British grown wheat, as measured in gold, in the local markets of Great Britain, shrank (47) forty-three per cent, against a fall of (33) thirty-three per cent in the currency price at Chicago, and (31) thirty-one per cent in the value of American wheat exported, which wide difference in depreciation of the products of British and American farms does not appear to be due to either protection or free trade, and is evidently not due to a change in America from an inconvertible paper to a coin standard of value.

In short this wonderfully succinct and reliable epitome seems to contain more facts bearing on the food products of the world than is known to all the United States congress, or at least more than they have ever disclosed in their discussions of these problems. According to these tables there will be a deficit in the food grains of the world in July, 1891, of 159,000,000 bushels. But we can go no further in these matters without disclosing more of the values of Mr. Davis' labors than we would be warranted in doing, and will close the allusion by quoting a single deduction, which will be of interest to everybody.

"Granting the substantial correctness of the data contained in the accompanying exhibits, the farmer will very soon be, by far, the most prosperous member of the community wherever—in the world—he owns and cultivates lands of average fertility producing the staple food, forage and fiber crops of the temperate zone."

For further information touching this epitome, Mr. Davis should be addressed in person or by letter, he having had only a few copies printed at a considerable cost.

COMPULSORY VOTING. The Boston Herald thinks "it is remarkable that the first place where it is seriously proposed to undertake the experiment of compulsory voting should be under other than a republican form of government."

The place where this experiment is to be tried is the province of Quebec, a measure being discussed in its legislative council providing that every person whose name is upon the voting list must vote at the poll where his name is registered, at every election for member of the legislative assembly. Failing to do so, his name is struck from the list, but the voter may be reinstated by paying a fine of \$25.

It is not so remarkable that such an experiment should be tried first in a republican form of government, for in the United States, for instance, there are as many if not more people who consider suffrage a right and privilege, which like other rights and privileges, they may exert or not as they feel disposed, as there are of those who consider this right also a duty which every one must perform. This duty is, in most instances, a mere party obligation, and it is doubtful if there are enough professional politicians in the country to make it constitutional to compel people to take an interest in every party fight, or else pay \$25 to vote when they are interested in some momentous question.

Every man has the right to walk; walking gives sound bodies; and since sound minds are good for the country, walking must be good for the country; but because one does not care to walk today, he must pay \$25 to the government to walk tomorrow, is more than the liberty-loving citizen of the United States would care to stand. He would probably view compulsory voting in similar lights.

It begins to appear that the first excitement over the consumption cure of Dr. Koch is coming to an end. The world is waiting for a new sensation, and the scientists are settling down to the belief that farther and calmer investigation of

the matter is more called for than blind enthusiasm or blind depreciation. This will be to the ultimate advantage of the discovery. There was really slight ground for the extravagant beliefs concerning the scope and efficacy of this new remedy. Whatever of merit there is in it will probably only be fully discovered after longer investigation, and the calm that has succeeded the excitement will be conducive to that end.

THE EAGLE knows that there is such a place as Kansas city, and that there is another place in Missouri bearing the same name. When we, therefore, talk of populations of Kansas City grain merchants, etc., forgetting to add the word "Missouri," we hope George Martin will remember this and restrain himself accordingly. The Missouri town, in all that constitutes a progressive and honest municipality, may be really wanting, yet it is, nevertheless, a town of more or less metropolitan troubles and pretensions, which should not wholly be ignored by its proud and more prosperous neighbor on the north bank of the Kaw.

We consider the Wichita EAGLE by far the biggest, best, brightest, and most interesting newspaper in the state of Kansas. It is sought after in Wellington, just as it is sought after in the center of gravity, and devoured as rapidly and as thoroughly as the house fly makes way with a lump of sugar. But somehow, we have failed to get the EAGLE folks to place us on the exchange list. We hope they will see fit to cause that perfecting press to make one more revolution and print out an EAGLE for the Voice. We must have it—People's Voice.

You shall have it, even it were necessary to make the extra revolution, which would turn out about twenty-five perfect copies of the paper.

There is a good deal of quiet rumor growing out of President Harrison's message. If there is anything that contributed to the recent overwhelming defeat, which the president has not endeavored, in his message, the Chicago Tribune, the St. Louis Globe-Democrat and other Republican papers in the west would like to know what it is—Topeka Democrat.

We failed to note any endorsement of the Farmers' Alliance, and if that didn't play a conspicuous part in the event referred to a good many people have been laboring under a delusion for a month past.

WICHITA AND GALVESTON. To the Editor of the Eagle. In this far southern city I enjoyed quite a peculiar experience Tuesday. President Harrison in his message to congress made quite an extensive reference to the work now going on to obtain deep water at this harbor. Every body was reading and commenting upon the president's message as though it was some local affair, and Mr. Harrison would certainly have appreciated the kind things said of him, could he have been within earshot. At noon the authorities of the city had twenty-one guns fired in honor of the president and the mayor telegraphed to the Texas delegation in Washington, asking them to go in a body and present to Mr. Harrison the thanks of the citizens of Galveston. The president appreciates Galveston's commanding position for controlling the Pan-American commerce and the trade of the great west. His reference to steamship lines is in a direct line with the organization of the Pan-American Transportation company, which will put on a line of steamers starting from Galveston to connect with all ports of South and Central America, Mexico and Cuba. Their general offices are established at Galveston.

Wichita as the principal railroad center of the west and its direct railroad communication with this port should handle the tropical fruits for 20,000 people directly tributary to her. I have stood on the docks and watched bananas loaded on the cars for Wichita, and they go through by fast freight to the "Pearl and Princess" lines. One morning I met an oyster boat this morning I met a number of Kansans and one was reading aloud the EAGLE's editorial, "Wichita asks no odds," and the sentiment met with hearty applause.

I have enjoyed my visit here very much indeed, and no one thing has caused me more pleasure than to watch the antics of the old-time darkies. To see them put cotton on shipboard is more interesting than any play I ever saw presented on the stage. There is a negro "boss" in command, and those I have listened to possessed deep, rich voices. His commands were given in about the following style: "Git' long dar; 'heav up; 'mind yo' bizness; and similar expressions. The imitations you hear in the north from traveling minstrel companies lack a great deal of coming up to the original. Engaged in the work, the darkies often hum some plantation song, and its weird and novel beauty never fails to impress the listener, for 'tis nature's music bubbling from the soul of a people to whom melody is a brightness.

At the docks you can see vessels from almost every civilized country on the globe, those of Great Britain being the lead.

For the sportsman Galveston is a rich field. It would be impossible to find superior boating, as the city is upon an island and he can choose between the bay, the open gulf, the inlet and the bayous. The fisherman absolutely has the world before him. He can catch the tarpon, Spanish mackerel, pompano, red fish, June fish and so many other game and toothsome varieties of the finny tribes that it would fill your paper should I undertake to name them. To the man who loves to carry a gun, the vicinity of this city is a perfect elysium. It would be useless to speak about the perfect weather here, for I am informed by letter that Kansas never enjoyed a more delightful winter. Among the newcomers to Galveston there are none more wide awake than those from Kansas, and I have yet to hear an uncomplimentary remark of the "Sunflower" state.

LIVE OAK. TRUE TO FIRST PRINCIPLES. To the Editor of the Eagle. Baptists have not altogether forgotten the hardships which they in an early day endured in consequence of an established religion, or quite renounced their first principles declaring for religious freedom and total separation of church and state. In the Canadian Baptist of November 13, 1890, occurs the following editorial note:

"The Presbyterian synod for New York recently sent a deputation to the New York State Baptist Pastors' conference, which met in connection with the state convention in Lockport, asking their aid in an effort to secure the compulsory teaching of the essential doctrines of the Christian religion in the public schools. The Pastors' conference, by rising vote, adopted a report declining to accede to the request, and declaring that the state should have nothing to do with the teaching of religious doctrines. A Baptist conference could have made no other reply."

If church and state are to be kept separate in this country, and religion is to be enjoyed as the found-

ers of our government intended it should be, no other reply should be made to such requests. The Baptists are evidently on the right side of this question. It is to be wondered, however, if those who favor compulsory religious instruction in the public schools, will now claim the Baptists, as they have others who oppose the theory, with infidels, foreigners, saloon-keepers and thugs, and say they are enemies of God, the government, good religion and humanity. J. H. BAKER.

THE BRIGHTER SIDE. From the Douglas Tribune. We were talking the other day with several parties, some of them farmers, about the financial condition of the country, and the hard times, when we called attention to an incident we knew of several years ago, where a farmer supposing himself to be hopelessly in debt, had tried to sell his farm. But before he could find a purchaser he raised a crop of corn, which he sold as it stood in the field for five dollars more an acre than he had asked for land and all. Another spoke of corn selling in the field at twenty-five dollars per acre a few years ago. Another said that his surplus corn of last year's crop, which he could have held, and which he did hold until he supposed the right time had come to sell, would be worth now the neat sum of \$8,000. Another pointed out an instance where a neighbor had saved his surplus corn of last year's crop and can now realize forty dollars per acre for it—the worth of the land on which it grew. Instances were pointed out where farmers had been and are still making money—not a mere living, but accumulating riches, and large independence. Some are buying other farms and making safe investments for the surplus money their crops or their stock have brought them. Some are building new houses and new barns, and paying the cash as they go. Others, who have been in debt, are paying out and thus becoming independent. There are endless evidences of prosperity all over this country, and not a single case of suffering or destitution.

Then, what is the use of these wails of distress—this financial hypocritia. A country like this is sure to be prosperous. Temporary reverses may be expected, but our steady growth and prosperity are founded on the surety of rich land, a temperate climate and a kind Providence.

Suppose some men have made bad investments on a falling market, don't such things occur every where? Suppose some of us have signed away in mortgages intended to perpetuate our debt, threatens to take it all, others before we sold out their entire interests in just such property for much less than we got for our mortgages. We are not less fortunate than they. Suppose the government were to step in and pay off our debts, would we go in debt as readily as we mortgaged the homestead that government freely gave us here in the west, and again be calling for government relief?

There are plenty of bright opportunities and encouraging prospects for all around us. Let us do it to use good to its common sense, look on the hopeful side of affairs, pay our debts as fast as we can, and keep out of debt in the future. Thus we shall turn reverses into success and enjoy the prosperity that others are enjoying here in our midst.

REMEMBER TOPEKA. From the Wellington Press. It is to be hoped that the legislature soon to assemble will remember that Topeka, the capital city of the state, has claims upon them to be seriously considered. The political claims of that city have been generally neglected, and we are glad to see that self-sacrificing citizens are coming to the front to claim their rights. The modesty of the town is well known in times past, and it has often been a matter of surprise that her citizens were so backward in seeking office. There is from there at least two candidates for United States senator and four for state printer—two Republicans and two People's party men. It is a fact that for the last forty years Topeka has furnished from twelve to fifteen of the best paid officers in the state. But that is not enough. They do not want any change that will leave any of them out, but they are asking for more.

It is probably not a matter of very great importance when an officer lives, but there is a question of fair play that everybody likes to see. It is not fair at a table to give part white meat and the balance the drum sticks. Topeka has had the congressman from the district in which she is located for fourteen years, except part of a term, and will have him for the next two years. The only foreign minister is from Topeka. She has the United States district judge, United States marshal and United States district clerk. She has the chief justice, one associate justice, and the clerk of the supreme court. She has one of the court commissioners, a member of the board of pardons and the secretary of state. She has had the state printer for ten years. In addition to these best offices the legislature is called upon annually to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on the state institutions located there. There are at least 200 people employed there in subordinate positions on the state pay roll. Well, come to sum it all up, Topeka is not much of a hog, and we trust the People's party will do something for them the coming winter.

HOISTING ROCK SALT. From the Kansas Democrat. Yesterday the editor had the pleasure of seeing the boys at the old shaft fill a car with the prettiest and purest rock salt that he had come from the earth. The car held 30,300 pounds and was filled in exactly forty-three and a half minutes. This was at the rate of a ton in a little less than three minutes. The hoisting cars hold about 1,500 pounds, thus carrying a ton at a trip and a third. Two cages were used, one going down while the other came up. The average time consumed for each of the nineteen cars hoisted was two and one-fourth minutes. The depth of the mine is 800 feet, and when we consider the necessary time of loading and unloading some idea can be had of the high speed of ascent and descent.

With the present excellent facilities the Kingman Rock Salt company can easily load a car an hour, or twenty-four cars daily, or 360 tons. Think of a train consisting of twenty-four cars of rock salt every day going out from a single mine and then see if you can discover the basis on which the hoisted Kingmanites base their hopes. This mine is worth more to the town than a mine of coal, iron or even silver, furnishing employment for some fifty men and distributing thousands of dollars every week.

The mine is equipped with crushers and separators for supplying the several "sizes" of rock salt demanded by different consumers. Four engines are used, one runs the crushers, one the ventilator and two large engines of great power drive the hoisting apparatus. All the machinery is the most improved pattern and is fully adequate for the work.

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A CORRECTION. DEAR SIR:—In the county auditor's report published in the weekly EAGLE, Dec. 5, it should be stated that the report embraces part of the second as well as all of the third quarter which accounts for the salaries of some of the county officers appearing twice. Once for each quarter. Respectfully, N. E. HARMON, County Auditor.

SUNFLOWER SHIMMER. The latest political club in Kansas is called the "Knights of Reciprocity." It is claimed that a lot of English money will be sent to Kansas to defeat Ingalls. Two years ago Grover Cleveland's letter to Agers would have re-elected Ingalls beyond a doubt. Senator Ingalls will never forgive Grover Cleveland for the discovery of "innocuous desuetude."

The good things in the Wellington Press that are not written by Jake Stotler, are written by his son, Will. It is a fact that Bill Rice and the general, his father, did not speak for three months preceding the election. If General Rice isn't careful, when the Alliance organizes a national party, they will take particular pains to leave him out. Belva Lockwood is going to lecture at Ossawatimie, Kansas, December 10. The title of her lecture is "Is Marriage a Failure? No Sir."

Judge Peffet has a little advantage of the other Alliance candidates for the United States senate. He stands in with the associated press. Mrs. Lease says she has too many enemies to leave the state. This is the first time the "woman" has cropped out in Mrs. Lease since her advent. An Alliance man said yesterday that as he was an obscure and unknown farmer he didn't see any reason why he should not be mentioned for the United States senate. The last issue of Harper's Weekly contains portraits of two of the new Kansas congressmen, John Davis and Jerry Simpson, with an appreciative biographical sketch of each.

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OKLAHOMA OUTLINES. The next thing in Oklahoma is the county elections. Frank Greer is too slim and Brown is too fat to fight a duel. The Hennessy Clipper is exhorting the farmers to plant cotton. El Reno is not going to have an essay writer of it. A brass band is organizing. Caldwell News: There has been a lively trade in barbed wire since the strip business was ordered closed. The Oklahoma papers ran enough "scare" heads to fatten the people to a common little every day Indian excitement.

Mr. Brown, of Oklahoma City, supported the adoption of the Dakota code. He now wishes he had chosen the "code duable." Caldwell Journal: The trail from Caldwell south is the main traveled one between Kansas and Oklahoma will be closed up if the president concludes to keep settlers out of the strip.

EXCHANGE SHOTS. The Unexpected. We arise from our sleep in the morning, and with never a whisper of warning, the unexpected comes. At the moment we'll pay the cook's bill, yet, despite all our best efforts and forethought, the unexpected comes. With the even we question no longer: For a man, he is the weaker of the stronger. The unexpected comes. While the veil at midnight were keeping, through the passage of sorrow and weeping, the unexpected comes. "LILLIAN WILKIE WEBSTER. His Name is Ell. A Georgia editor, who is independent of railroads, pens the following: Our brethren ride in spring and fall, and they are not to blame; The road gives us no pass at all, But we walk there just the same! The Common Demand. From the Marion Record. "We must have more money," exclaims the Wichita EAGLE. Here, too, jargon. A Requisite Omnibus. From the Atchafalaya Advocate. The president's message fills nine columns in the Wichita EAGLE, and speaks on sixty-six different subjects.

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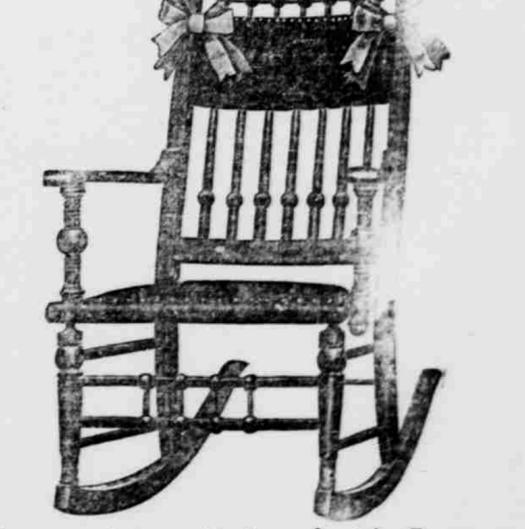
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