

nonsense which has been used as a gag to prevent the exposure of much fraud and iniquity, i. e., "Senatorial courtesy." Senator Edmunds has hated James G. Blaine and distinguished himself as a parliamentarian. The *Star*, in an editorial eulogy composed entirely of glittering generalities, has but the one specific thing to mention, that is, that "Mr. Edmunds retired from the Senate without becoming a millionaire." Rather negative virtue, to be sure, but the nation may congratulate the retiring Vermonter that with such an opportunity he fell short of embracing a million. Senator Edmunds is, however, a wealthy man, and during his lifetime of devotion to the people he has lived in luxurious style. If it should ever devolve upon Senator Plumb to become the historian of Senator Edmunds, we will doubtless have full particulars of the maple sugar transaction. Senator Edmunds has shown, in his recent interview, the entire failure of the United States Senate as a school of political economy. It seems almost incredible that a man whose lifelong business it was to study the tendencies of the times should be so densely ignorant of the actual condition of the people. In this interview Senator Edmunds repeats the stale insult to the intelligence of those who are protesting against vicious legislation, and which the people of Kansas were treated to last fall, namely, that "crops cannot be increased by legislation or debts honestly paid by cheapening money." He further said: "Some people are trying to persuade the farmers of the country, who always have been and always will be the most useful and important fraction of the community, that laws have been made which operate unjustly upon them." The Senator has gotten the cart before the horse. The truth is, the farmers themselves are the ones who have found out the condition of things, and they are now busy endeavoring to convince some politicians that laws have been made which operate unjustly upon them.

Will Senator Edmunds pretend to say that justice is done the farmers? If they are, as he says, the most useful and important part of the community, is it just that they should be the poorest paid and the least prosperous (always excepting the poor, homeless slaves of the shops and the mines) class in the country? How can the Senator explain the wealth of the protected manufacturers, of all classes of speculators, and of the men who deal in the money of the nation? These are the classes whose business has been the subject of legislation. Their wealth has increased while that of the "useful and important fraction" has decreased at a frightful rate.

Senator Puffer commented upon the Edmunds interview in an address before the workmen's meeting this week. The common sense ideas of Kansas are spreading at the national capital. There may be less straight-backed assumption of "dignity" in the next Senate, but there surely will be more plain, practical talk and work.

One of the most delightful junketing excursions of the season will be that of the Senate committeemen and their wives to Alaska. Congress appropriated \$10,000 dollars to defray the expenses of this pleasure party. This sum ought to cover all of the requisite luxuries, as the party will doubtless be conveyed in a government ship. To be sure a protest has been made against taking the new and costly Constitution for this trip, but if the Constitution is not allowed some other luxuriously appointed vessel will be. See what need there was of a "New Navy!"

The *Washington Star* has declared war on the Congressional funeral, and is waging it with all the mercilessness of a People's party reformer. As showing how far away from the good old days of frugality at public funerals we have drifted, the *Star* unearthed the account of the funeral expenses of a Rhode Island senator who was buried here in 1808. The committee appointed to audit the account allowed an appropriation to pay for four gallons of cognac brandy and seven gallons of Madeira wine at a cost of \$34; \$3 dollars for crackers and \$5 for raisins, but they drew the line through "11 1/4 pounds cheese at 25 cts.—\$2.81." Even so long ago the discrimination against the American cow began.

Senator Hoar knows just what is the trouble with Kansas. He said in a speech at Boston the other night, that an occasional grasshopper and now and then a drouth made the mischief. What Senatorial solons we have.

The Associated Press dispatches reported from New England that Jerry Simpson's tour through that state did not meet the approval of the farmers. The letters which are received at Alliance headquarters from the sections where Jerry spoke indicate the liveliest kind of interest. New Hampshire has broken the ice by organizing an Alliance. There are calls for organizers, and an Alliance paper will soon be started in that state.

President Polk's address before the Citizens' Alliance last night, was listened to with intense interest. It was his first appearance on the platform in this city. He uttered the most radical sentiments relating to legislative reform. His criticism of the financial policy of both old parties was scathing.

ANNIE L. DIOGS.

THEY ARE IN IT!

The Alliances are Rustling for the Handsome Premiums We are Offering.

The following letters are but a few samples of those we are receiving daily, and our subscription list is enjoying a very healthy and satisfactory growth.

HOMER, Kan., April 13, 1891.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:—I am instructed to inform you that Grimes Alliance No. 2691 Marshall county, Kan., have entered the field for an organ and will send you in 100 subscribers with \$100 before the 1st of July, 1891. If you furnish blank subscription lists you will please send them to my address and oblige. Yours fraternally,

C. M. WERTZ.

ANNELLY, Kan., April 10, 1891.

ADVOCATE PUBLISHING COMPANY:—Lincoln Union No. 144 has decided to try for an organ. Please send me some sample copies of THE ADVOCATE. I send to-day one subscription. I sent four on the 29th of March, but forgot to state that we were going to try to get an organ. Please give us credit for five subscriptions. Very truly yours,

R. F. STEVENSON.

TURNER, Kan., March 20, 1891.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:—Our union has decided to get 100 subscribers to your valuable paper and procure an organ. Will you please send us some sample copies for distribution, and oblige F. A. I. U. 2350.

FRANK HEWITT, Secretary.

JAMESTOWN, Kan., April 13, 1891.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:—We received a supplement to your valuable paper some time ago offering an organ as a premium for 100 subscribers. We have talked it in our Alliance and concluded to make an effort to raise that amount. We have appointed committees to visit other Alliances.

H. BURDICK,

Secretary of Alliance No. 936.

GREAT BRND, Kan., April 4, 1891.

ADVOCATE PUBLISHING CO.:—This is to inform you that this Alliance, Eureka union No. 882, has decided to make a trial for the organ offered by you for a club of 100 subscribers. Yours fraternally,

C. F. WINKINS, Secretary.

BUCHAN ANSWERED.

THE WYANDOTTE MANIPULATOR SHOWN UP IN DETAIL.

Mr. Rogers, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Issues a Strong Document—Points of Vital Interest to the People of Kansas—The Willy Senator's Memory Shown to be Poor.

TOPEKA, Kan., April 11, 1891.

To Senator W. J. Buchan:

My attention has been called to a four column statement published in the Topeka Capital of April 5th, signed by William J. Buchan, chairman of the Senate ways and means committee, in which there are so many misstatements that I feel compelled to correct some of them.

So far as the speech of Speaker Elder was concerned, I do not know as the gentleman needs any defense at my hands from the attacks of a man of the known standing of Senator Buchan, especially when that eminent Republican authority deliberately falsifies the records of both Senate and House regarding the appropriations of 1891. And therefore I shall pay no attention to that part of the Senator's essay.

As to the glory which can be won to either House over the introduction of bills, it is hard to see where it comes in, as a duplicate set was prepared by the state board of charities and the officers of the various institutions and submitted to members of both Houses, and the long list of bills prepared by Senator Buchan and his committee and introduced with such a flourish of trumpets on the eighteenth day of the session, were simply duplicates of a series of bills introduced by myself in the House on the tenth day of the session and referred the next day to the House committee on ways and means. See House journal January 23 and 24. I certainly claimed no glory for having received these bills from the hands of the eminent army of appropriation seekers and introducing them, but if the House committee had reported these bills back exactly as prepared, except to reduce the salary of one official who had refused to pay a political assessment last fall, the people of Kansas would have been justified in denouncing that committee as being either incompetent or corrupt, especially if it had neglected to visit a single state institution or inquire into its necessities. Yet this is precisely what Senator Buchan's committee did, as I find by comparing the Senate committee record with a memorandum submitted by the state board of charities at the beginning of the session.

NO COUNTRYMAN WAS SHOWN.

That there was a joint meeting for the two committees arranged for about the fifteenth day of the session is true, and the failure of that meeting lies as much with the Senators as Representatives. Later the House committee asked for a joint investigation of the possibility of turning the Hutchinson reformatory into an insane asylum, but never even received the courtesy of an answer, in spite of the fact that the communication was delivered personally to Senator Buchan and the question was one deserving the most careful consideration at the hands of every member of both committees.

THE SENATOR IN ERROR.

While the Senator is in error as to the number of house appropriation bills which passed, I have no desire to quarrel with him over the matter. The House committee took up Senate bills simply to save time, and in most cases used their own perfected bills as amendments, and from the amount of bad language used by the Senator about the matter, it is evident that he at least discovered that the beautifully type-written bills which had been prepared at various places in the state while he and his colleagues were sweating blood over their perfection, had been through the hands of that "ignorant" lot of grangers at the other end of the capitol. The Senator is not wise in his references to the miscellaneous bill and is unkind to his party friends. The terrible array of room rents which he so bitterly complains of, was all arranged for by the secretary of state and his figures and vouchers were accepted by the House committee. It is my understanding now that two of those rooms were occupied as sleeping apartments, one by an Alliance employe and one by a Re-

publican member; but if I had known at the time that the Republican secretary of state, was certifying such bills, I should certainly have hunted up the Senator and assisted him all in my power in his effort to prevent the unfair expenditure of that \$34.25. The Senator may recollect that several items were added to that bill which were not even suggested by the House. The little item of \$10,000 to Cliff Baker so as to round out his biennial appropriation to \$220,490.36, an excess of over \$67,000 of the amount allowed for state printing for the next two years, was put on by the Senate and forced through. Also such little matters as paving bills in the home city of the Senator and other items which nearly doubled the amount of the bill submitted by the house.

BUCHAN POOR IN FIGURES.

The Senator is not so accurate in his figures, either, as would naturally be expected of the chairman of the committee which he tells us devoted so much time and attention to the financial affairs of Kansas. He prints a little table, which he says shows the various amounts appropriated by the Senate. For the purpose of an easy comparison, I repeat it, as follows:

	1892.	1893.
State horticultural society.....	\$ 1,335.00	\$ 1,335.00
State agricultural society.....	17,350.00	9,500.00
Conveying prisoners to penitentiary.....	13,000.00	13,010.00
State normal school.....	17,700.00	13,175.00
Institution education of deaf and dumb.....	44,000.00	44,000.00
Institution idiotic and imbecile.....	19,570.00	19,350.00
Reform school.....	38,500.00	38,500.00
Soldiers' orphans' home.....	20,000.00	20,000.00
Institution education blind.....	10,300.00	10,300.50
Industrial school for girls.....	17,500.00	17,500.00
Salary state board of charities.....	6,500.00	6,500.00
Insane asylum, Topeka.....	120,000.00	120,000.00
Insane asylum, Osawatimie.....	87,850.00	87,850.00
State penitentiary.....	133,873.70	138,425.00
Regent normal school, agricultural college and penitentiary directors.....	4,900.00	4,900.00
Destitute insane.....	30,000.00	30,000.00
Executive and judicial.....	284,860.00	284,310.50
Total.....	\$911,943.70	\$884,465.50

THERE MUST HAVE BEEN A MISTAKE.

It is possible that in the long, dark passage between the Senate and the House that Col. Stacey, the eminent Republican secretary of the Senate, may have changed some of the bills while he was carrying over his messages, but as I can see no good reason why he should do so, I am constrained to believe that the senator has made a mistake somewhat—a mistake almost as serious as he made in the National waterworks bill, or the road certificate refunding bill. When these bills reached the House the following was the condition of them. I consolidate the two years for convenience:

State Horticultural society.....	\$ 2,670.00
Agricultural college.....	36,877.64
Conveying prisoners.....	30,000.00
Normal school.....	31,075.00
Deaf and Dumb.....	87,400.00
Idiotic.....	41,140.00
Reform school.....	77,000.00
S. O. home.....	40,400.00
Blind.....	38,400.00
Ind. school for girls.....	34,000.00
State Board charities.....	13,000.00
Topeka asylum.....	229,200.00
Osawatimie asylum.....	174,900.00
Penitentiary.....	378,463.73
Regents and directors.....	20,673.42
Destitute insane.....	30,000.00
Executive and judicial.....	635,462.51
Total.....	\$1,911,662.35

HOW THE BILLS GREW.

The careful mathematician will notice that somewhere between the eagle eye of Senator Buchan and the House ways and means committee room these bills had grown \$136,163.07. The truly good Col. Stacey could not have stuffed all of the bills, and a look over the list shows that he got in his work on the penitentiary bill, unless the Senator is mistaken, and it really leaves me in a quandary as to which is true—Senator Buchan mistaken or Col. Stacey corrupt. The Senator says the Senate passed the bill at \$302,303.78 and it arrived at the House swelled to \$378,463.73. If Col. Stacey was really trying to stuff that bill, I cannot account for his leaving that 78 cents unchanged. As the bill passed at \$329,580.78 it would look to an ordinary farmer as though there was an actual reduction of \$48,883 for the next two years instead of an