

# The Freeman.

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The Bible is not a book. It is a library of sixty-six different books, written in its present form by forty or fifty different writers, but contributed to by many more. Its earliest book—the book of the covenant, contained in the present book of Exodus—was written ten or twelve centuries before Christ. The gospel of John, one of the latest, was written at the close of the first or the beginning of the second century after Christ. Thus for not less than ten or twelve hundred years was this library in process of formation. It contains all that is best in the literature of an ancient people which has survived the wrecks of time. In it are found history, biography, law both political and ecclesiastical, fiction, poetry, drama, practical ethics and practical theology.—Dr. Lyman Abbott.

The question is being asked: Would John R. Walsh have been paroled from the Leavenworth prison had he been a poor man without influential friends?

That the democratic party is big and broad is proven by the fact that it is large enough to accommodate both William Jennings Bryan and William Randolph Hearst.

Champ Clark is in full accord with the Des Moines Capital. The Capital says the next president will be Taft or a democrat. Champ puts it in a little different language. He says Taft will be nominated and a democrat will be elected.

President Taft says he is not a politician. Granted. If the president really wants reliable information along the lines of politics let him read Senator LaFollette's autobiography. The senator is some politician as well as statesman.

It was anything to beat Grant in 1872, but the effort failed. In 1880 it was anything to beat Blaine and the effort succeeded. Hence stand-patters who are now saying "it is anything to beat Taft" can get little comfort out of the political history of the country during the past forty years.

It is a rule with the Des Moines Capital not to practice what it preaches and though inconsistent and wobbly upon nearly every other proposition it observes this rule with painstaking precision. It is now getting ready to flop clear over to the side of the anti-presidential preference primary advocates.

Two automobiles collided a few miles from Davenport Sunday afternoon, demolishing both machines. Reports say the cars were going thirty miles an hour and that dust blinded both drivers. It would appear to most people that drivers would have enough sense to slow down when dust obstructs their view.

Democratic papers in Iowa are almost a unit in opposition to a presidential preference primary because they fear it will help unite the republican party at the election. Party interest is as far as the average democratic paper sees. They wanted the Oregon plan because they thought it would injure the republican party.

LaFollette carried Wisconsin last fall at a popular election by a majority of 100,000. On the same day the democrats captured Ohio, President Taft's state, by a majority of equal proportions. Let the people have a chance to vote for LaFollette and the reactionaries would be dumfounded at the tremendous majorities rolled up for him.

The republican party claims to be the party of the square deal, yet it permits one republican from Georgia to have as much power in nominating a republican candidate for president as ten republicans from Iowa have. The progressive republicans of the nation ought to attack this evil and keep up the attack until it is corrected.

Senator Kenyon is supporting President Taft for re-nomination and so are a majority of the members of the lower house of congress from this state. However, nobody has yet been able to locate the Hon. Frank P. Woods of this district. Come, come, Mr. Woods, take a stand. The people are liberal enough and broad enough to grant freedom of action in this matter, but they do not like a side-stepper or a trimmer.

Senator Cummins is a pretty smooth player of the game of politics. He found it very convenient to be in New York while the senatorial cabal was holding its insurgent conferences in Chicago. If the plotters do not succeed, then Mr. Cummins escaped being mixed up with them. That is playing the game all right, all right.—Cedar Rapids Republican.

This effort at misrepresenting Senator Cummins will fool nobody. The senator announced early for LaFollette and says now that he is for the Wisconsin senator anytime and anywhere.

The Dubuque Times-Journal warmly commends the suggestion of Judge Kenyon as the successor of Justice Harlan on the supreme bench. "Few men have risen in public life like Senator Kenyon," observes the T.-J. "One of the new members of the senate, he is already one of the most influential. There is nothing of the demagogue about him. He has his individual views and is not afraid to express them, but he does not engage in the popular pastime of playing politics. The senator would make an ideal member of the federal bench."

The political interests of Iowa would not suffer if Mr. Hart were not re-elected national committee-man from this state. What the Freeman-Tribune would like to see is a man in that position who would undertake the Herculean task of upsetting the unfair and unjust methods of apportioning delegates to the national convention. That Mr. Hart is not such a man has been abundantly proven by his record of strenuous inertness and masterly inactivity along this line. But Mr. Hart is a standpatter. Progress is not to be expected to mark his administration. Let well enough alone is his slogan.

The sons of John R. Walsh, the Chicago millionaire banker who just died after being paroled from the federal prison at Leavenworth, denounce Taft and Wickersham as murderers, declaring that if they had been more prompt in taking steps to liberate their father he would not have died so soon. That may be true. But it was no fault of Taft or Wickersham that Walsh was in prison. Nobody was to blame for that but himself. Perhaps he should have been pardoned sooner, owing to the condition of his health. Be that as it may, the sons ought to really be thankful that their family was spared the disgrace of having the father die in jail. Now that Walsh is dead the country is in mood to accept his parole, but his sons will not gain sympathy by their brutal attacks upon the president and the attorney general.

There is no occasion to get excited over the proposed presidential preference primary in Iowa. While a primary would give the republicans of the state the opportunity of expressing their preference and is an improvement over the old caucus method, it can be dispensed with if necessary. If all republicans will attend the caucuses and take part in the deliberations the majority can rule, and owing to the interest that will be worked up by the LaFollette candidacy it is likely that the caucuses would be largely attended. The chief argument in support of the primary is furnished by the fact that a primary would strengthen the ticket. If Taft would receive a majority at the primary those taking part would feel in duty bound to support him and the same would be true in regard to LaFollette. But no matter who is nominated, the Freeman-Tribune believes he will get the electoral vote of this state.

Editor Payne of the Representative who thought Lafe Young's postal card poll of the state on president didn't amount to much, now proposes to try it on Story county. What's the difference whether you poll a state or a county.—Ames Times.

The man behind the poll makes all the difference in the world. When Col. Young takes a vote on any proposition, with the colonel the judge of election, you can be certain that the result will be exactly as the colonel planned in advance. Congressman Woods of this district can tell you a thing or two about various kinds of polls. He took one by letter, ostensibly for the purpose of ascertaining the preference of the patrons of the Webster City postoffice for postmaster, but in fact it was an effort to pull the wool over the eyes of the "original Woods men" of this city. Well, Mr. Woods found a way to recommend the man of his choice, but if he thinks he fooled anyone he is fooling only himself. Perhaps the people of Story county who know Editor Payne will believe that the poll he takes is on the square. It all depends upon the confidence they repose in him.

It comes with poor grace for the supporters of the Hon. Frank P. Woods in this district to whine because the president does not promptly appoint men to office recommended by Mr. Woods. Be it remembered that these same friends of Mr. Woods have bragged that Mr. Woods opposed the president nearly every time he voted in congress. This being true, they have no right to complain, according to the standard set by themselves. Haven't they decreed that none but Woods supporters in his first campaign should secure recognition in the division of loaves and fishes? They have carried the "embargo" to the extent that no matter how loyal a deserving progressive republican may have supported Woods in his second campaign and at the polls, he is not even to be considered. This was one of the controlling factors injected into the local postoffice fight. Some of Mr. Woods' friends wanted a primary, but they wanted it understood that none but his supporters in his first campaign should be eligible. Having taken this stand they should not now complain if given a few doses of their own medicine. Take it, gentlemen. Take it, gracefully. You thought it good for the soul when handing it out to others. The Freeman-Tribune believes Mr. Woods is justified in recommending only his friends. That is the way the Freeman-Tribune would do. But the Freeman-Tribune would not whine when someone turned the tables.

### IS IT WORTH THE MONEY?

People who say that Hamilton county soil is not worth the price at which it is selling are often disputed by the practical experience of some good farmer who knows how to get all there is to get out of land. The value of a farm, in the final analysis, is represented by what can be taken from it by men who know how to handle it. A good quarter section of land in the hands of a poor manager has no opportunity to demonstrate its real worth. It must be properly managed and properly cultivated.

In speaking of the possibilities of Hamilton county lands when cultivated industriously and judiciously, Varick C. Crosey, the abstractor, a few days ago recited the experience of one farmer during the past five years. Just five years ago last spring the farmer in question bought a quarter section of land in Cass township at eighty dollars an acre. He had but \$4,200 and gave a mortgage for the balance. He went to work with a determination to win. Last spring when the mortgage came due he had saved enough to liquidate it, with the exception of \$2,500. He had made many improvements upon the place in five years and had paid quite a large sum of money in interest charges. He had kept an accurate account of expenditures and told Mr. Crosey that besides making a good living for himself and family he had taken

a little more than \$12,000 from that 160 acres of Hamilton county land in five years—substantially \$2,500 per year. What is 160 acres of land worth when it will support a family well and yield a profit of \$2,500 per year.

If that farmer would sell his land, come to town and work for wages, he would do well if at the end of the year he had managed to support his family and save \$200 or \$300. Therefore, if he sold his farm and put the proceeds out at interest he would need at least \$40,000 at five and a half per cent to "lay by" as much each year as he is able to save from the proceeds of his land. That quarter section of land is worth as much in the hands of that farmer as \$40,000 in cash at five and a half per cent interest—or \$250 an acre.

Mr. Crosey recited another instance of how a good farmer has hammered out a fortune from Hamilton county soil. In 1894—just seventeen years ago—the farmer in question was renting a farm a few miles south of Webster City. He had no money and borrowed enough to buy machinery, horses and other things which he had to have. But he knew how to work and manage. It was not long until he had saved enough to make payment on a farm. He purchased some land near Blairsburg, applied himself assiduously and raised big crops. As time went on he bought more land and today he has 360 acres, well improved, which is worth \$150 per acre. He could sell his farm and stock, machinery, etc., pay all his indebtedness and clean up at least \$50,000, and he has made every dollar of it from Hamilton county soil in only seventeen years. Where is the business man who can show such results? What is the real value of a thing that, when properly handled, will support a family well and leave a profit of \$50,000 in seventeen years?

### THE RECALL.

Two of the greatest minds in the Catholic church have denounced in scathing terms the recall of judges and the Freeman-Tribune believes the denunciation is deserved. Cardinal Gibbons said recently in Baltimore:

"To recall a judge because his decisions do not meet with popular approval is an insult to the dignity, the independence and the self-respect of the judiciary. Far less menacing to the commonwealth is an occasional corrupt or incompetent judge than one who would be the habitual slave of a capricious multitude, who has always his ear to the ground trying to find out the verdict of the people."

Similar sentiments were expressed by Archbishop Ireland in a speech at Council Bluffs last week. "If ever independence of popular clamor is imperiously demanded," he said, "it is when men are bidden to speak in the name of supreme justice, regardless of consequences; when absolute calmness of mind is a pre-requisite to a decision. Whatever the social or political revolutions with which this country may be threatened, for the sake of America let us pray the God of nations—let there be no sacrilegious hand laid upon the courts, impairing their independence or lowering their majesty."

### THE CASE IN A NUTSHELL.

The movement to nominate LaFollette, is nothing more nor less than a conspiracy to insure the defeat of the republican party next year. These are plain words, but they are true. Most of those engaged in it know that there is no possibility of nominating LaFollette and all of them know that there would be absolutely no possibility of electing him.—Creston Advertiser.

It is some effort to treat such statements as the foregoing with respectful consideration, as the provocation to use "the shorter and uglier word" is great and the temptation almost irresistible. The Freeman-Tribune lays no claim to infallibility, but it believes its opinion is worth just as much as the opinion of the Creston Advertiser. It is the deliberate judgment of this paper that President Taft, if renominated, will meet with the most stunning defeat that ever overwhelmed any republican presidential candidate. The results of the election of a year ago warrant this

conclusion. The administration of Taft was on trial in that campaign and the people of the great republican states that must be relied upon to furnish the republican majorities, wavered in their allegiance to the party wherever representatives of the administration asked endorsement at the hands of the electorate. Look at the way New York, Ohio and Indiana acted, and even Maine "fell outside the breastworks." Yet in the face of this avalanche and upheaval, Robert M. LaFollette, the man who has stood unflinchingly and undismayed for the interests of the common people, pulled out a tremendous victory. The people of the United States, the plain people—the men who work in the field and the shop, behind the counters and the mines—will regard LaFollette with the same affection and the same confidence as the people of Wisconsin now regard him when they come to know him, and they would know him thoroughly at the end of a presidential campaign in which he was the standard bearer of the republican party. With him as the nominee victory would perch upon the republican banner and it would be a victory that would mean something.

The Freeman-Tribune resents the charge of the Creston Advertiser that the LaFollette movement is a conspiracy to defeat the republican party. It is in fact a movement to save the party from the defeat that is now staring it in the face. A movement to save the party from the legitimate results of its own folly. A movement that gives the party its only chance at the polls.

In the campaign in Wisconsin last year Robert M. LaFollette met all the forces opposed to him in a concentrated effort to defeat him. Special privilege had its representatives there. Those who seek advantage through legislation were enlisted in the fight against him. Money was poured into Wisconsin from various sections to use against the man who had fought such a good fight and he was opposed by popular candidates. Yet when the smoke of battle cleared away and an inventory taken of the result, LaFollette was found to be the choice of the voters of his state by a majority of 100,000, he having received about eighty per cent of all the votes polled.

Of course, if LaFollette is nominated such republicans as Aldrich, Cannon, Lorimer, Rockefeller, Morgan et al will oppose him. They always did oppose him. They opposed him last year. They supported the "regulars," the "stalwarts," but they don't count for much when it comes to a popular election.

**NOT MORGAN OR ROCKEFELLER**  
Waterloo Times-Tribune: The Webster City Journal observes that someone is spending a lot of money booming LaFollette for the republican nomination for President in 1912.

**TAKE AN APPLE, COL. YOUNG.**  
Des Moines Tribune: If everybody would eat five apples a day there would be less bad temper in the world, more geniality and sunshine, perhaps less reform, certainly less need for reform.

**ROOSEVELT WILLING.**  
Charles City Intelligencer: The Des Moines Tribune says it is hard to believe that Mr. Garfield would attend the insurgent conference at all, and certainly not after having visited Roosevelt, unless Roosevelt was willing to have it known that he sympathized with the purposes of the gathering.

### THE STRAIGHT OF IT.

The official scandal monger of Webster City doubtless thought he or she had discharged an important duty on Watermelon day when he originated the story that the bouquet of flowers presented to the president by the school children was the same as that presented by the president to the mayor of Webster City a short time afterward, the object of the story being to show lack of appreciation by the president of the school children's gift. The fabrication was floated by radical insurgent credence and condemnatory irresponsibility.—Ackley Journal.

How strikingly Freeman-Tribune like!—Des Moines Capital.

The foregoing simply reveals again the disposition of the Capital to misrepresent the Freeman-Tribune upon the slightest provocation

—even manufacturing the provocation if that be necessary to accomplish its malicious purpose. The Freeman-Tribune did what it could to make the visit of President Taft to Webster City pleasant to all concerned and it was especially pleased with the president's address in this city and took occasion to commend it. The Freeman-Tribune had nothing to do with the circulation of the bouquet story. On the contrary, it corrected the report as soon as it discovered it was a mistake.

**SAD BUT TRUE.**  
Dubuque Times-Journal: It's a portentous sociological fact, that where you could once entertain your best girl with a trolley trip and a five cent bag of peanuts, now an auto ride and hotel supper are required.

**THAT STAFF.**  
Waterloo Times-Tribune: One thing that will help LaFollette when he swings around among the fields is that the governor will not butt in with his "staff." That staff! Why, Solomon looked like a street car conductor, by comparison.

**THRILLS ARE WANTED.**  
Sioux City Journal: Aviator Robinson has given up his Minneapolis-News Orleans flight on account of the unwillingness of communities along the Mississippi to part with their dollars in return for the thrill of seeing him go by. It might have been different if Aviator Robinson could guarantee an accident in every town.

**IOWA PRESS COMMENT.**  
The Cedar Rapids Republican suggests that if Martin J. Wade is nominated for governor by the democrats, the republicans will find it necessary to put forward a mighty good man. "Wade," the Republican adds, "is that kind of a man."

The Burlington Hawkeye says that when Mr. Taft made the remark about going "in the middle of the road," he meant the republican road.

"Strange, but no one has thought to find out Abe Funk's opinion on the presidential primary," says the Waterloo Times-Tribune.

"James R. Garfield of Ohio is a man with a grouch," says the Jefferson Free Lance. "Does anyone who knows the dapper son of a president suppose that he would be around the country now wearing his heart on his sleeve for days to peek at had Taft retained him in the cabinet?"

"Some people appear to think former President Roosevelt can't keep still," notes the Cedar Rapids Gazette. "Wonder what gave them that idea."

The Des Moines Tribune says that the rumor committee at least had the decency to invent new reasons for the resignation of Secretary Wilson.

The Harlan Republican says that if the party leaders desire to promote harmony they will give the voluntary primary a wide berth. "A legal primary, safeguarded by law, is bad enough," the Republican continues; "a voluntary primary, when there is incentive thereto, is a shame and a disgrace, and the worst trouble breeder that ever happened."

"The state of Iowa," says the Logan Observer, "has about as much use for a presidential primary as a duck has for an outfit of rubber coat and overshoes. That is one of the biggest pieces of humbuggery that has ever been proposed to the people of Iowa."

The Davenport Democrat says that a census of political doctrines would show numerical gains more than counterbalancing losses.

The Iowa City Republican says that the progressives are now being afflicted with what long has called the regulars, a disposition to everlastingly hang on.

The Waterloo Courier observes that the president is attacked by the insurgents for not going after the big trusts hard enough and by the standpatters for going after them at all. "The middle of the road seems to be a lonesome place," the Courier concludes.

A man may see how this world goes with no eyes. Look with thine eyes; see how yond justice rails upon yond simple thief. Hark, in thine ear: change places; and, hand-dandy, which is the justice, which is the thief?—Shakespeare in "King Lear."

F. A. Boyesen, Dentist, Second St.  
Fine job work at this office.