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Dak., as Second-class Matter

We hear a great many people say

that the price of wheat and cotton is

is ruled by silver. Maybe it is so, but

we have failed to see one single reason

alleged for believing it, as far as we

have gone.

The Fargo Forum—and other state

papers—are criticizing Senator Han-

brough for quoting wheat in North

Dakota at 40 cents. It was below

that in this town—not very many

months ago and we are after the sena-

tor's scalp for quoting it too high.

N. Y. World: Between minority

dictation in the senate and boss

dictation in New York, what sort of

government is this, anyhow?

Just the sort of government you

howled for last year, Mr World. A dem-

ocratic government. Don't you like it?

Senator Hansbrough sends us a copy

of his speech on the finance issues,

and asks that we publish it. Now it

is most too long to publish in full but

—the senator wants a place for silver

and so do we. His speech is well got-

ten up and his points clear. We

never criticised the position he takes

—but we did once—criticise him for

not taking any position. It's all right

now though.

The following from the Bismarck

Settler contains some strong language,

but we believe it to be justified by the

facts. No one can deny the existence

of a "Millers Association" nor the

fact that the price of flour is much

higher than the price of wheat war-

rants. But a few days since it took

ten bushels of No 1 hard wheat to buy

a barrel of flour, yet five bushels

of such grain will make that much flour

of the very best quality. It will be

seen by this that the millers have

a clear bushel of wheat for every bush-

el they grind for the farmer, in addi-

tion to the bran, etc., which is sup-

posed to pay for grinding. Following

is the article referred to:

Is there any way in which our farm-

ers and the consumers of the produce

of wheat can get relief from the un-

conscionable exactions and extortions

of the milling octopus of this state?

The Settler has contained pages of

matter showing up this great trust.

Laws have been passed which were in-

tended to protect our people against

trusts and combinations of this char-

acter. We have officers elected who

are especially charged with the execu-

tion of these laws, and yet the farmers

are plundered to enrich a great corpora-

tion. We read of mills in the eastern

part of the state that give the farmer

thirty pounds of flour, five pounds of

shorts and ten pounds of bran for one

bushel of wheat, while our Burlington

county farmer can buy with the price

of a bushel of wheat, only twenty and

one half pounds of flour without any

shorts or bran, making the difference

against our farmer nine and one half

pounds of flour, five pounds of shorts

and ten pounds of bran on a single

bushel of wheat. Talk about the rob-

ber tariff, and the cheap dollar, when

our people are subject to this bare

faced robbery in the very face of the

law. What if our attorney general

would lay by the silver question long

enough to secure proper evidence and

then tackle this octopus that has the

gall to raise the price of flour in Bis-

marck to \$2.25 per hundred, while No.

1 northern nets the farmer less than

forty-three cents per bushel.

A REAL DANGER.

The recent failure of two gigantic

loan companies, the Lombard invest-

ment Co. and the Jarvis-Conklin mor-

gage Co. brings home to us a danger

which, it seems to the PIONEER, is

imminent and real. We refer to the

fact that these companies, in com-

munion with some others of the same

nature and all foreign companies, hold

mortgages on American real estate

aggregating hundreds of millions of

dollars, payment of which will doubt-

less be forced immediately on coming

due. While some of these will be

paid off by the owners of the land, it

is safe to say that a very large major-

ity of them will eventually pass into

the hands of these foreign corporations.

Most of these mortgages are on farm

lands, as the Lombards loaned but lit-

tle on anything else, and it seems to

us alarming that so many American

homes are in danger from this and like

sources. There is danger in the ac-

cumulation of these vast tracts of land

under the management of a few per-

sons and there is a double danger in

the fact that those persons are foreign

ers. Yet in view of these facts, our

legislators go right along, doing the

will of the money power, making it as

hard as possible on the one hand to

keep out of debt, and on the other as

easy as possible to get into debt.

Once in the shackles, their doom is

sealed.

The Age of Reading.

The age is a reading age and this cen-

tury's people are a reading people. New jour-

nalistic enterprises are frequent and often

successful but while general reading matter

of the best kind is not scarce, periodicals

suited to children and youths are compar-

atively scarce—much scarcer than they

should be. In "Golden Days," however,

a weekly paper published at Philadelphia,

we have a treasure house for our young

people. Every department is full and com-

plete. Stories intensely interesting, yet

not pervasive of morals; historical sketch-

es written most entertainingly, elementary

science in popular form; the latest dis-

coveries in every domain; biographical

sketches—in fact all that could be desired

to make up a model paper for the youth

of our land. Write to James Elversson,

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Light.

The grandest sentence in any book in

the world is this, in Holy writ: "And God

said, let there be light: and there was

light." Natural science can tell you in

detail absolutely indispensable light is to

continuance of any form of life on our

globe. It is not the purpose of this para-

graph, however, to discourse upon the

benefits of natural light, but to present

some curious facts connected with it, and

the numerous artificial means of illumina-

tion, invented by ingenuity of man. The

ancients thought that objects were made

visible by something projected from the

eye, and it was not until about 350 before

the Christian Era that men began to ask

—Why can we not see in darkness? It

then dawned upon somebody that light

falling upon an object was what made it

visible, and that the eye was only a

machine for receiving the rays of light and

transmitting to the brain the impressions

they give as to the size, shape, and color

of external things. The first artificial light

was probably a burning brand—then a

reed saturated in oil, then the tallow dip,

the candle, the oil lamp, the kerosene

lamp, gas, and last and greatest, electric

light. Intellectual light is another kind

—the light needed to guide our actions,

and that is furnished by the experience of

ourselves or others. If you want light on

the subject of travel, everybody's experi-</