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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1902.

WHO IS IMPERTINENT?

It cannot be doubted that every honest Minnesota democrat is interested in the success of his party in the elections this fall and in the restoration of honest and reputable government in this Commonwealth. This is a question of the desire of the democrats of Minnesota and is also undoubtedly the wish of the members of the Populist party who aided so greatly in winning the victory of 1895. But the obstacle—the serious obstacle—in the way of uniting under one banner all the elements of reform is the test of Bryanism which the populists and silver democrats will probably try to saddle on the candidate. Indeed, this is the attitude of the state central committee of the peoples party and of the various organs of the state. But as an essential is not this a little too strongly accentuated? If the contest that we are going to have in this state next fall should involve the question of free silver or have any relation to the populist issues with which Mr. Bryan is identified it would be entirely fitting, if not indispensable, that the nominee for governor should be an ardent supporter of Mr. Bryan and his faith. But the approaching state contest is not going to hinge on issues of that kind. The democrats will be called upon to unite for the delivery of the state from the control of politicians with whom public plunder is the chief object of political power and who base their sole source of appeal to the people upon the spectacle of a man standing in regard to the formation of the Northern Securities Company. The here and now are of the commonwealth will be the main issue involved, and with so plain and uncomplex a proposition, requiring the performance of but a single duty, direct and unmistakable in its character, it may be believed that any attempt to make Bryanism a test in the gubernatorial nomination would be regarded by the democrats as unbecomingly irrelevant and impertinent. So that it is the time the bourgeois are humming now. And when they get tamed properly they expect us to join in the chorus. Well, it does not go with us. Before we are willing to drop Bryanism as a test for fusion candidates it will become necessary to convince us that Bryanism is wrong. The fact that Bryan has been twice defeated does not in any way determine the truth or falsity of the principles he represented.

The T.M.'s tries to make people think that national issues should have no weight in a state campaign. Under ordinary conditions this may be true. If for instance, one party should nominate a man who is notoriously unfit for office it would be the duty of the honest people in his party to vote against him. Such a step would not be treason to party or principle, for it would help the party that thereby suffered defeat, by making its leaders more careful in the future. But under the present circumstances it will not do for the honest democrat that believes in the Bryan platform to drop national issues in the state campaign. Everyone who knows anything about politics knows that a life and death struggle is going on inside the democratic party between the believers in the last national platform and the trimmers who are ready to be "anything to get the coon." If the word should go out to the other states that Minnesota had nominated a gold democrat, would not that be taken as a victory for the trimmers, even if the platform ignored the national issue entirely? And if the populists should join with them and help them elect their man, would not that give the death stroke to Bryanism in this state and weaken it in the nation?

No, the populists are not so anxious to merely see the republicans beaten that they will sacrifice their principles for it. A victory won without a guiding principle is worthless, and the men who go into such a fight place themselves in the same category that the Times puts the present state administration—"populists with whom public plunder is the chief object of political power." The only thing that made fusion between democrats and populists possible was the fact that both sides believed in certain common principles that have come to be known as Bryanism. And now we are told that our help is wanted, but that it is "an impertinent intrusion of an irrelevant question" to insist upon the recognition of the only bond of union.

If you want our help to destroy Bryanism you can have it—provided you can convince us that Bryanism is wrong. You, as well as we, fought for those principles in 1900. If those principles were right then they are right now, and you have no right to weaken their chances of success merely to get control of a few state offices. If you have become convinced that you were mistaken and that Bryanism is wrong, say so and give your reasons. We will then be able to respect you for your honesty, though we may doubt your judgment. If you can convince us that those principles are wrong we shall make amends by joining the only party that has consistently opposed them.

A straightforward attack on principles that a man believes to be wrong, is honorable. An indirect attack on principles that a man believes to be right, but which he considers unpopular and not calculated to lead to office, is dishonest and cowardly, and one that no respectable populist can become a party to. If this is "an impertinent intrusion of an irrelevant question" make the most of it.

AN EFFECTIVE REMEDY VOTED DOWN
 There was one governor at the late conference of governors who had the good sense and courage to suggest an action that would have meant something and would have done much to convince railroads that they are approaching dangerously near the point of exhausting the patience of the people, and reaching the limit of their endurance. The governor of Idaho submitted the following:
 "Resolved: That one of the conclusions reached by this conference is that government ownership of the great transcontinental lines must be the ultimate remedy to apply where such roads combine with the power to absolutely control the business of the country."
 This is not a declaration for government ownership, except as a threatened means to prevent such combinations as the conference fancied it had met to destroy. But the resolution was voted down with "heat and dispatch." In explanation of this action one of the excellencies present said, "we wanted to steer clear of wild-eyed populism." "If we can't cure the people without giving 'em a dose of populism, the railroad governors may get 'em." It is the true interpretation of the foregoing sentiment. And nothing could more clearly reveal the "politics" in the whole business. That the "common people" are but little considered is shown by the absence of any disposition to do anything for their relief, but political fortunes are being "enderly nursed."—Farm Stock & Home.

The Commercial West, a prominent financial organ published in Minneapolis, argues that the merger is a good thing because it will lead to competition between the Hill system and the Union Pacific. If competition is a good thing why should we rejoice that it has been killed as far as local traffic in the Northwest is concerned? The Union Pacific may force down transcontinental rates, but it cannot effect local rates. Indeed if the war in the former states becomes too heavy a burden on the roads they are liable to recoup their losses by increasing rates on shorter hauls. It is true a cut in such rates, amounting to about twelve per cent is announced for the near future, but that is most likely only a trick to stop the clamor until the merger is fully accomplished and friendly officials have been put in the place of those who are bothering Hill. When the proper time comes he will make the people pay for dividends on the watered stock of the roads and the \$400,000,000 "capita" of the Northern securities company.

The receipts of the Minnesota state treasury last year were \$3,901,184.84; disbursements, \$6,900,841.30; cash balance in treasury, \$482,396.40; deposit in banks throughout the state \$1,517,611.84. The Kandiyohi County Bank has \$15,000 of this money on deposit. The country banks pay three per cent interest on these deposits, the city banks, on whom checks are drawn almost daily, pay two per cent.

During the year 1901 thirty-six new banks were organized in Minnesota, with an aggregate capital stock of \$650,500. Seven banks increased their capital stock \$175,500. Three state banks were converted into national banks.

The amount of state taxes collected in Minnesota in 1890 was about 65 cents per capita; in 1870, 76 cents; in 1890, \$1.14; in 1900, a trifle over \$1.04.

The bank clearings in the United States during the past year amounted to \$117,992,741,570. In 1900 the amount was \$85,749,693,483.

The people of Minnesota bought over \$325,000,000 of fire insurance during the past year.

Temperance News and Comment.
 It is in order for some advocate of saloons to show wherein the city of Willmar or any taxpayer residing within its limits has been benefitted by giving the liquor element legal permission to prey upon the appetites of the citizens.

Professor Biardie said at the recent congress on tuberculosis that alcoholism is the greatest factor in increasing the dread disease. Drinking weakens resistance against disease germs.

Claud Anderson, publisher of the Sentinel at Athens, Georgia, where the first dispensary was established, says: "The dispensary has proved a success financially, as well as bar rooms operated by corporations or individuals, and its success in manufacturing drunkards and blighting homes, will rival the record of the bar-rooms."

The dulling effect of beer on the intellect and physique is becoming a serious problem even in Germany. It is being proposed to close beer saloons in the vicinity of factories in that country.

Dr. Longhurst, of England, contends that alcohol must be taken into consideration as a great factor in the spread of consumption. His opinion is amply upheld by the statistics he presents.

Some very interesting figures are submitted by a gentleman who kept track for a month of the newspaper items that came under his notice, which had to do with crimes and tragedies, etc., which were attributed to the liquor traffic. Nothing save incidents occurring in this state were considered, and no item was taken from more than one paper, so that all duplications were avoided. As a result, he had a newspaper column of over thirty-six feet long, telling of two murders; two



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deaths from delirium tremens; two from alcoholism; three from freezing; five from accidental deaths; one suicide, and one man shot while resisting arrest, making a total of sixteen deaths which found their way into the paper, given as a result of booze. In addition to this there were three attempted suicides; five murderous assaults; twenty-nine assaults, not with intent to kill; four divorce suits; thirty miscellaneous crimes, and "plain drunks" in bunches and batches that were not kept track of. This class of crimes does not receive an over amount of space is evident from the fact that the only notice given to a drunken man's braining his mother was less than three inches long, and that a man dying with delirium tremens was honored a half inch in agate type.

Priam.
 A surprise was tendered Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Larson at their home Monday last week. A very good time was had. . . . Eve Erickson passed the cigars to a large crowd last Saturday in honor of the arrival of a new member in his family, as was reported. . . . Herman Wallen wears a broad smile over the arrival of a baby girl. The young miss arrived last Tuesday morning. . . . Albert Rodellus of Lake Lillian visited with his brother-in-law Herman Wallen Friday and Saturday. . . . Jens Anderson had the misfortune to sprain his ankle as the result of stepping on a cake of ice one day last week. . . . Mrs. Andrew Anderson of Willmar visited with Mrs. A. J. Larson Saturday. From there she went to her sister's, Mrs. P. Larson. . . . Mr. Rice of Whitefield is going to bale hay for Peter Larson. Mr. Larson has probably 70 or 75 tons of hay to bale, which ought to bring a snug sum of money for the work of putting it up. . . . P. M. Dites and assistant, J. A. Kepper, drove to Willmar Saturday evening. . . . A dance was given at the Lake Milton stock farm last Thursday night. A good time and lots of wear of soles, as expected. . . . A magic lantern show was held at A. Leedal's Thursday. Mrs. Day of Raymond was running the machinery to perfection, it is said. . . . W. Gratz, our traveling man, called at the store one day last week. **EAGLE EYE.**

Jan. 20.—John Bergin of Kerkhoven has sold his farm, which for many years has been rented by Cas. Edman, to John Rolsum of this place. . . . Herman Edman and Chas. Bergquist were among those from this place who attended the Farmers' Institute held in Willmar recently. Both gentlemen speak highly in favor of the Institute. . . . Oliver Halvorsen of Norway Lake has gone to Canada. . . . Mrs. O. Vign and daughter Martha of Lake Andrew have been visiting in this vicinity lately. . . . Rev. Hubbs from the Christopherson congregation, has been holding religious services in this vicinity. . . . Miss Josie Foshafer of Alexandria has been the guest of her brother, Jacob Foshafer and family for some time. . . . The Edman brothers have invented a tread-power for pumping water, which is operated by a dog running inside of a wheel. . . . Miss Hulda Friberg has gone to Willmar to work. . . . A surprise party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Lindquist last Saturday evening. A good time was reported by those who were present. **SNOWFLAKE.**

Two Skim Stations.
 At the annual meeting of the Irving creamery held recently, it was decided to build two skimming stations as auxiliaries to that creamery. One is to be located at Hawick station, on the Great Northern road, the first station west of Paynesville. The other will be at the east end of Lake Kora, probably near the outlet. A contract was made for delivering to the railroad station, the butter made at the creamery during the coming year, at the price of 7 and 15-16 cents per tub.—Litchfield Independent.

Good Farm for Sale.
 Farm of 152 1/2 acres; 80 acres of field and 25 more can be broken up balance good meadow and pasture adjoining lake, with half interest in fence. Good fishing and hunting. Two miles to Tripolis Lutheran church, 11 miles to schoolhouse, 5 miles to Kandiyohi station, 7 miles to Willmar. Good buildings, 2 good wells, fine view in every direction. Four acres of wood adjoining land; 4 acres unsurveyed land belonging to farm.
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 Town of Kandiyohi, Minn.

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Lake Elizabeth.
 The excellent weather saves hay for the stock. . . . Eggs still at this writing 18c. It will pay you to have a good house for your chickens and give them plenty to eat. . . . Delta Boom came home Tuesday from Willmar, where he has for some time worked for Mrs. F. W. Segerstrom. . . . Rev. Moon of Lake Lillian preached at Mathias Mathiason's Monday evening. Part of the Lake Elizabeth and Fahln string band furnished music. . . . Jonas Norin made a business trip to town of Kandiyohi Monday. . . . G. A. Glader has decided to make Washington his future home. . . . The creamery will fill their ice house this week. . . . Albert M. Olson hauls hay to Irving, where he will move in the spring. . . . The peddlers have again traded horses, and John Wahstrom has sold his share to Andy E. Norine. . . . About 125 invitations have been issued for the wedding of Mr. E. Enberg and Miss Mathilda Forsberg, which takes place Jan. 29. . . . A phone has lately been set up for Nels Peterson. . . . E. Jackson called at Jonas Norine's Sunday. . . . Mrs. Stenberg was taken very ill Monday last week, but is now around again, doing her work. Hilda Norine has been the housekeeper while Mrs. Stenberg was sick. . . . Stenberg and Nels Peterson were to Minneapolis last week and bought a churn and a Bose siphon refrigerator for the creamery. . . . J. Pearson's visited in Irving Sunday. . . . Some of our farmers brought cattle to Atwater Monday. . . . Charlie Steoberg came home Tuesday from Dakota on a two weeks' visit. . . . Rev. J. Johnson of Kokato has been conducting meetings every evening for over two weeks in different houses here. . . . The creamery paid \$1.08 per 100 pounds of milk for December, and 24 cts. per pound for butter fat. Average test 4.2. . . . The anti-rural delivery petition was signed by 103, on the ground that the post office served the people better and more quickly than the delivery.

Jan. 17.—J. F. Millard left for Mayville, N. D. Tuesday night to go into business there. . . . O. A. Hedlin of Willmar was in town Monday. . . . O. A. Klapp, the Negord merchant, was married during the holidays at Varsnes, Pope Co. to a young lady named Clara Larson. . . . Atty. E. T. Latham of Howard Lake has taken the case of Mrs. Carrie Nelson who was injured in getting off the train at Penock last fall, and will bring suit against the railroad company to recover the damages for the sum of \$10,000. . . . A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Hilson of Willmar Friday. Mrs. Hilson was formerly Miss Eva Noland of this place.—Banner.

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HOME STUDY COURSE
 EDITED BY **E. BENJAMIN ANDREWS** LL.D.

The National Period of American Literature
 BY LORENZO SEARS, LL. D.,
 Professor of American Literature in Brown University.

VI.—The Knickerbocker Group.
NO writer of Irving's genius could spring up in a barren age without inspiring such mediocre talent as might be inclined to lethargy. The mere stirring of fallow ground will send up unsuspected growths, and the awakening which the keen humorist gave the drowsy men of Manhattan started a crop of leeches among other effects of the shock. If the name of the Knickerbocker school is too large for the little group of authors who followed Diederich, the historian, afar, it may be said that the term was applied to less dignified objects in the '30's of its immense popularity and to more worthy ones since. The New York Evening Post had been established in the first year of the century with a hospitable policy toward letters, as well as a critical spirit which enhanced the honor of appearing in its columns. To gain admittance to them was next to having a book published. On the street and in coffee houses were knots of young men with corresponding ambitions notwithstanding the commercial bias of the city and the material bent of the age. Foremost among them was a banker's clerk who was not so far lost in arithmetical figures that he could not appreciate poetical and even wished that he might "louge upon a rainbow and read Tom Campbell," a sentiment with which a bystander agreed. In this way Fitz-Greene Halleck and Joseph Rolman Drake became acquainted in the spring of 1810, the beginning of a literary companionship as intimate as it was brief, for Drake died the next year.

Judged by what he had begun to do, this young poet was cut down at the opening of a promising career. His early essays found their subjects for satire in the topics of the town, but descriptive and patriotic pieces soon followed, the address to the American flag deserving a higher place than all that have succeeded it. A more remarkable feat was the production in two or three days of "The Culprit Fay" in refutation of an assertion that it would be difficult to write a fairy poem purely imaginative without the aid of human characters. He accomplished this work with no nearer approach to humanity than in these two lines:
 For an Ouphe has broken his vestal vow;
 He has loved an earthly maid.
 The rest is the fanciful account of the consequences of such a high misdemeanor, full of delicate art and the trappings of an imagination at home with the hidden things of nature, itself idealized and peopled with intelligences of the poet's own creating. It is the midsummer night's dream of an airy fancy. The entire poem should be the delight of children who dwell on the border land of the seen and the unseen.

Halleck survived to write an elegy upon his friend, which shows how far the art had progressed since the days of Mather: also to continue the strain of American verse which the two friends had joined in contributing to the columns of The Evening Post. Afterward he was stirred by the wrongs of suffering Greece to lift up the voice of freedom in "Marco Bozzaris." Whoever lost a friend of his youth will associate with the recollection of his sorrow the lament of Halleck for his companion, beginning:
 Green be the turf above thee,
 Friend of my better days!
 None knew thee but to love thee
 Nor named thee but to praise.
 Clement C. Moore has a place among the writers who were inspired by Dutch traditions to produce a Knickerbocker literature. No doubt the theological professor expected to rest his fame upon the first Hebrew and English lexicon compiled in this country or upon his version of Lavardin's "History of George Castriot." Instead, when it is placed among the immortals it will be in recognition of his "Visit From St. Nicholas," which all children know by heart:
 'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
 Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.
 Gullian C. Verplanck was a New Yorker whose services to literature entitle him to mention. First a lawyer, then a politician and afterward a lecturer in divinity, his pen was seldom idle. "Essays on Revealed Religion" and the "Doctrine of Contrasts" were the more substantial results, while "The State Triumvirate" and "The Ceremony of Installation" are in a lighter vein. As a member of congress he was prominent in obtaining the extension of the term of copyright from 28 to 42 years. Later he was associated with Saegs and Bryant in The Talisman, a publication containing some of the best writing of the time. In his addresses on art, history and literature and "The Influence and Use of Liberal Studies," and especially on "The American Scholar," he anticipated some of the more recent essays and orators who have made kindred themes the subjects of high discussion.

William Cullen Bryant may be considered as an adopted member of the Knickerbocker group since he was not born in New York, but on the Hampshire hills of western Massachusetts. However, he was not long in finding his way to the metropolis and to the little circle which made it the literary center of the country at the time. A copy of Irving's "Knickerbocker" had traveled into the lonely village where young Bryant was reading law and gave him a taste of what was possible in lower latitudes. Hitherto his reading had been among the professional books of his father's medical library, varied by the Latin poets, the Greek Testament, Watts' hymns, Pope's "Iliad" and an unusual number of English classics for that period. But meter and rhyme were a part of his nature and blossomed out in juvenile verses, religious and political, to the delight of his father and to his own subsequent chagrin. To these there were two notable exceptions, left at home when he went away to practice law in Great Barrington. His father found them one day six years afterward when rummaging in a drawer, read them himself and to a neighbor and without asking his son's permission started posthaste for Boston and the editor of The North American Review, then a two-year-old magazine. If this overland journey of 100 miles was a remarkable instance of paternal pride, there was something to warrant it, for one of the poems was, "Thanatopsis" and the other "An Inscription Upon the Entrance to a Wood." The first of these was enough to establish the youth as a poet of no common order. It came to a reflective people in an age when the shadow of gloom had not entirely passed, having a sad note that appeals to every reader in sober days and raising visions of the sublimity, majesty and vastness of the universe which bring a pleasing awe to the soul of man in the presence of infinity and futurity. It is a poem of the intellect rather than the heart, grand, austere, solemn, a funeral anthem of the human race.

The golden sun,
 The planets, all the infinite host of heaven,
 Are shining on the sad abodes of death
 Through the still lapse of ages.
 But he wrote other poems that readers like better than this requiem of the universe, and in them all is the note of nature, struck by a sympathetic observer not of her gracious moods alone, but of the severe and fateful as well. Out of them all, however, he drew lessons of truth and warning on the border of winter. "The Forest Hymn," "The Death of the Flowers," "The Song of the Lover" and others longer or shorter are charged with the bloom of summer and frosts of winter and tinted with the hues of spring and autumn. He inclines to the last season with the sober inheritance from a Puritan ancestry and writes:
 The melancholy days are come, the saddest of the year,
 Of wailing winds and naked woods and meadows brown and serene.
 Yet into "The Little People of the Snow" he has put a sympathetic strain, such as is not always found with eulogists of winter and never with slivering grumblers about it. But then he survived the rigors of 20 Cunningham winters before he went to New York and the sultriness of as many summers and thereupon could also write:
 The quiet August noon has come,
 A slumberous silence fills the sky;
 The fields are still; the woods are dumb;
 In glassy sleep the waters lie.

Open the volume of 116 poems anywhere and some phase of nature is presented, usually in her quiet majesty. Sometimes patriotic and national strains appear, as in "The Song of Marlon's Men," "The Green Mountain Boys," "Our Country's Call" and "O Mother of a Mighty Race," but the return is speedy to "The White-Footed Deer," "The Hunter of the Prairies" and "The Death of the Flowers." He is pre-eminently the poet of the woods and waters, of earth and sky, of summer and winter, of the times and seasons, the days and the years.
 Bryant's verse will always have its own charm for New Englanders and for their descendants, wherever they may live. They love the moods of nature with which the fathers played and fought by turns. The viking blood in their veins still makes them sing:
 The winds from off the Norseman's hills
 Do shriek a fearsome song
 There's music in the shrieking winds
 That blow my bark along.
 Besides, there is in his poems the flower of that imagination which, in spite of his pretended indifference, was in the Puritan's soul. It finally blossomed out early in this century like a crocus on the sunny edge of a snow-drift in northwestern Massachusetts. It revealed in the solemn, the sublime, the severe, as the forefathers had for 200 years. Moreover, the first great poet had all their conscientiousness in his performance of his task, even if he did break with their Calvinism. His measure is exact, his rhyme is perfect, and, more than all, his moral tone is without a flaw. There are in it both strength and health.

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