

EVIDENCES OF PROSPERITY—RESPECTFULLY COMMENDED TO THE CONSIDERATION OF THE "CAPITAL"

The following tables need no comment. They speak for themselves. They show the process by which the 20 per cent. of increase of tenant farmers in Kansas in the last decade has been effected. We shall give more of them hereafter.

On March 22, 1892, the following evidence was filed in the office of the register of deeds of Osage county:

SHERIFF'S SALES.

Table with 3 columns: Amount of judgment rendered, Selling price of the property, Amount of judgment remaining.

The above figures are from the Kansas F. A. & I. U.

The following we find in the Western Advocate of May 6:

At the last term of the district court in Jewell county there were thirty-four mortgage foreclosure sales confirmed. Of this number, we have been able to get the official figures in only twenty-seven cases, or about three-fourths of the total number. These figures, compiled from the records by Charles M. Ross, register of deeds, we give in the following table:

Table with 5 columns: Am't judg & costs, Selling price, Value assessed, Am't judg remaining, Rt Int.

The following is from the district clerk of Clay county:

A few out of seventy-five sales confirmed at the November term of court in Clay county. That mortgages are being released, does not go to prove that debts are being paid in every case. Examine the following table:

Table with 4 columns: No., Mortgage, Sold for, Judgm't.

I, J. W. Smith, clerk of the district court, do solemnly swear that the above is a partial list of the confirmation of sales in foreclosure cases, confirmed in the November term of court, 1891, as appears on record in my office.

We clip the following from the Junction City Tribune:

Confirmation of sales under mortgages upon real estate during the year 1891, and for the January term 1892, of the district court for the county of Geary and state of Kansas.

Table with 4 columns: Docket No., Date of judgment, Mortgage, Balance of judgment.

The property covered by the above thirty-five mortgages (which aggregate \$64,687.80) sold for \$44,100.35. Interest upon the several sums, from the day judgment was rendered until day of sale, added to the costs in each case, makes a total of \$7,591.12 which was deducted from amount realized upon the property before the remainder was applied to cancellation of mortgages. After this is done we find an aggregate balance of judgments hanging over the fortunate (?) debtors, amounting to \$28,578.57. These judgments, as the table shows, range in sums from \$32.99 up to \$6,874.00. In case No. 1910 the property brought \$398 less than enough to satisfy interest and costs, so that in the windup the original judgment was actually increased by that amount.

So these are the debts which now remain as "evidences of our prosperity" having been transferred on the records of the court from the column headed "mortgages" to that of "judgments,"—but they are "indebtedness" just the same, and thus is the Republican league dogma vindicated!

Other figures encountered in our research of public records deserve mention, and Republicans may reconcile the facts with their dogma or not as they choose:

SHERIFF'S DEEDS (RECORD) FOR FOUR YEARS.

Table with 4 columns: YEAR, On lots, On farms, Total.

In view of the enormous increase of deeds under forced sales, the question becomes a pertinent one, "Whither are we drifting?" Years ago Governor John A. Martin called attention to this tendency and sounded the alarm; but his party was already under the domination of Wall street, and his warning was unheeded. In his message to the legislature he said:

The laws concerning mortgages need revision and radical improvement. It should require something more than a mortgage to steal a man's farm, either in this or any other state. Appraisal of property before its sale under foreclosure should be surrounded by the most stringent limitations to protect the interests of the debtor, and the right of redemption should not only be extended, but made secure. Our chattel mortgage laws invite outrages on property rights that are as flagrant as grand larceny, and the wrong done under the shield of these laws is a disgrace to civilized government. Our mortgage laws should be generally remodeled so as to protect the interests and rights of debtors against the greed and inhumanity of creditors and mortgagees.

These tables furnish material from which the Capital may construct its next report for eastern consumption of "mortgages released."

PLEASE do not send any more postage stamps for subscriptions. The post office regulations do not permit of their redemption, and we are getting more of them than we can possibly use.

MORE DECEPTION ATTEMPTED.

Our attention has been called to an item in the Washington press dispatches relative to whiskey warehouses. Senator Cockrell has addressed an inquiry to Internal Revenue Commissioner Mason on this subject, and this functionary proceeds to enlighten the senator concerning the building of warehouses and the storage of liquors. Commissioner Mason says:

The United States does not now and never built any warehouses for distilled spirits. There is no law authorizing the expenditure of public money for this purpose. All distilled spirits, with the exception of brandy distilled from apples, peaches and grapes, are deposited in a warehouse provided by the distiller himself until the tax has been paid. Distillers of brandy from apples, peaches and grapes either pay taxes upon the spirits as soon as produced, or the spirits are deposited in a bonded warehouse erected by a private individual and stored there until the tax becomes due, but in no case is the government liable for any expenses incurred in the storing of distilled spirits of any kind.

Mr. Mason's reply to Senator Cockrell is misleading and his statement that "in no case is the government liable for any expenses incurred in the storing of distilled spirits of any kind," is absolutely untrue. The government, in all cases, pays the storekeepers who have charge of every distillery warehouse in the United States, as well as the gaugers who are employed to gauge the liquors. The storekeeper's salary is a direct "expense incurred in the storing of distilled spirits," and it is difficult to understand why Mr. Mason should be willing to commit himself to so apparent a misstatement.

No one has ever pretended that the government builds the distillery warehouses, and in view of this fact it is difficult again to understand why a government official should seek to obscure the real facts in the case by such a partial statement as that furnished in reply to Senator Cockrell. It is true the distiller furnishes his own warehouse. It is true that he cannot remove the liquor for consumption from the custody of the government storekeeper in that warehouse except by payment of the tax. It is true that he must remove it at the end of three years. But Mr. Mason forgets to inform the Senator that the distiller may remove any or all of his product for export to foreign countries at any time before the expiration of three years without the payment of a single cent of the tax, and that if the liquor is sold in a foreign country the government gets no tax upon it, even though a storekeeper may have been paid for two years, eleven months and twenty-nine days for taking care of it. He forgets to say that this liquor may be stored, for any period the distiller may desire, in a foreign warehouse and until it has "aged" sufficiently to give it, great commercial value, and that it may then be re-imported into the United States, subject to a duty only equal to the original tax; and that this duty may remain unpaid still for another three years if the distiller so desires. He forgets to inform the Senator that when these liquors are thus re-imported they are entitled to storage in the custom houses and other United States warehouses which are built or leased by the govern-

ment. All of these things Mr. Mason forgets to tell Senator Cockrell. Does the Senator know anything about these matters? If he does, why does he ask Commissioner Mason about them? If he does not, what kind of a legislator is he?

We have already treated this subject exhaustively in a former issue of THE ADVOCATE and it is not our purpose to repeat what we have said at this time. We simply desire to call attention to the misleading character of the statements of politicians and government officials and of everything that appears in the old party papers in regard to it. Not one of them dares to publish the laws upon the subject as they stand upon our statute books to-day. The statutes are inaccessible to the masses and should they do this they could no longer hope to deceive the people.

ARGENTINE MONEY.

The Capital has just learned that Consul Baker, of the Argentine Republic, has made reports respecting the money system of that country, but in speaking of these reports, this notoriously unreliable and hypocritical journal, in accordance with its usual custom, distorts and perverts their import in order to make the example of that country a warning to fiat money advocates in the United States. Note the following statement in the Capital's editorial:

The period of "flush money" and inflated credit in that sorely distressed country lasted seven years. During that time "money" was lavishly issued until the circulation amounted to \$80 per capita. This superabundance of circulating medium led naturally to wild speculation.

We italicize the last sentence. The facts are that it was speculation that led to the issue of this money. Never were the people of a corrupt government victimized by a more graceless set of sharks than were the people of the Argentine Republic. European capitalists entered into compacts with the government officials, and through the various banking systems established for the purpose, the most gigantic and systematic robberies were perpetrated in the name of law and by authority of the government. The speculation preceded the issue of the money and was engaged in for the purpose of effecting its issue. The currency was not issued by the government in accordance with the demands of commerce and for the purpose of facilitating trade, but to enable a gang of European capitalists and speculators to rob the people; and government officials shared in the spoils of that robbery. The editor of the Capital knows this very well, and yet with all the facts before him, he seeks to impress his readers with the idea that the Argentine money system is identical with that which the People's party would establish in this country. These deliberate efforts at deception and the studied policy of suppressing facts, not only in editorials, but in matters of news also, are as good weapons as we desire to show the absolute unworthiness of the Republican party. We shall continue to use these weapons as long as Republican journalists continue to put them in our hands.