

# The Advocate

AND TOPEKA TRIBUNE.

OFFICIAL STATE PAPER.

N. R. P. A.

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1894.



FOR CONGRESSMEN.

First district..... H. C. Solomon  
Second district..... Frank L. Willard  
Third district..... T. J. Hudson  
Fourth district..... S. M. Scott  
Fifth district..... John Davis  
Sixth district..... William Baker  
Seventh district..... Jerry Simpson  
At-Large..... W. A. Harris

STATE OFFICERS.

For Governor..... L. D. Lewelling  
For Associate Justice..... George W. Clark  
For Lieutenant Governor..... D. L. Furbeck  
For Secretary of State..... J. W. Amls  
For Auditor of State..... Van B. Fraher  
For Treasurer of State..... W. H. Biddle  
For Attorney General..... John T. Little  
For Superintendent of Public Instruction..... H. N. Gaines

The Priests of Pallas are parading in Kansas City, the Priest of Protection is parading in Kansas. McKinley is a great show—a relic of bygone days, 'so to speak.

WHAT the people of the Fourth district want to know is whether their congressman has any principles or any record he can defend on the platform in the presence of S. M. Scott. Talk up, Curtis, your time is short.

If there can be an exhibition of gall greater than that of McKinley saying the hard times are due to this democratic administration, it must be Morrill, the usurer and land shark, posing as an advocate of free silver and a friend of the poor.

In order to encourage and help along the democratic side-show which is being run in the interest of the Morrill circus, the Capital is publishing, without comment, choice extracts from Mr. Overmyer's speeches in which he tells of the wonderful benefits that are to result to the people from the new democratic tariff. In his speech at Lawrence, for instance, he said: "I stand here to declare to you my solemn conviction that no tariff act which has been enacted for forty years has been so wholesome

or so just to the American people and so much in opposition to the demands of power as the bill which passed the late congress." This is Mr. Overmyer's opinion of that act of "perfidy and dishonor." The Capital is very careful of Mr. Overmyer's interests.

### McKINLEYISM BOILED DOWN.

As Governor McKinley is "swinging round the circle" just now, endeavoring to cultivate his presidential boom, it cannot be considered inappropriate to present a few facts which afford a practical illustration of McKinleyism upon the soil where it may be presumed to flourish in its purity. This we will do by reference to the report of the labor commissioner of Ohio for the year 1889—one of those good republican years before the threat of a democratic tariff had utterly destroyed the unparalleled prosperity of the country. On page 14 of that report referring to the enforced idleness in the state, the commissioner says:

The average number of willing workers out of employment is fully equal to 15 per cent. of the whole number of laborers, skilled and unskilled.

On page 63 of this report, he quotes from Carroll D. Wright, commissioner of the United States bureau of labor statistics, who says that fully 1½ million willing workers were out of employment in the United States; and this, too, under republican administration, when our republican friends tell us we were enjoying a degree of prosperity never before known in the history of the country. On page 23 of this report the commissioner says:

This brings me to a consideration of the second suggestion—the demoralization of the gentler sex. In handling this branch of a most painful subject, I must necessarily wound the feelings of many worthy persons, but what I say shall be said in a spirit of kindness, confident that a brave statement of the truth will benefit most those wounded deepest. I shall proceed with this investigation in the spirit that the surgeon uses his knife on the patient he would restore to health.

Public sentiment can only be aroused in opposition to great wrongs by opposing them. Slavery could never have been abolished had the conscience of the nation not been quickened by exposure of the horrible details of slave life; and so of the horrors of factory life. Slavery itself was scarcely more degrading, its horrors scarcely more revolting, and its effects scarcely more damaging to good morals and good government than is fast becoming the result of the displacement of men in the workshops with women. As will be seen by reference to the tables, a large majority of the women are receiving less than \$300 per annum, an amount wholly insufficient to feed and clothe them.

It has been clearly shown how this competition reduces the male wage worker to the same conditions. This in itself is sufficient to quicken the conscience of the public to the dangers that are associated with this system; but however horrible this picture may be, the corroding and corrupting tendencies of the system are more alarming.

Speaking of the demoralizing conditions to which employes in Ohio manufacturing establishments are subject, the commissioner says:

Men and women are often employed in the same shops making immoral goods and goods that suggest immorality; they know the character of the goods and their uses, which only increase the moral degradation. Many of the workshops where the sexes

are commingled have but one water-closet for both. Slavery furnished few scenes more demoralizing than are constantly occurring and recurring in such shops—men waiting to receive the key of the closet from women, and vice versa.

Such scenes and others so revolting that a mention of them here would subject this bureau to criticism, help to divest woman of those charms with which nature has so richly endowed her and that shine with such resplendent brilliancy while filling the sphere she naturally adorns.

After deploring the condition of the factory women and the tendency of our existing industrial system, he says:

I find it much easier to criticize than to suggest a remedy. Legislation possibly can avail nothing except in a few minor cases. \* \* \* Something of the kind might be done by legislation that would smooth the rough surface over a little, but the cancer remains, gnawing its way deeper and deeper into our social system. It is indeed sad to contemplate the degradation to which this system is tending and be forced to admit in that connection that no adequate remedy can be suggested. The woman wage worker has come, and I fear has come to stay. She has not come as an angel in disguise, bearing blessings, but like a dreadful frost in midsummer, blighting, withering and destroying. She is in nearly all the factories working at starvation wages, displacing men wherever she appears. She is not only in the cigar, stogie and tailor shops, but everywhere that wheels are moving in workshop or factory. She is in the glass factories, the planing mills, carriage and iron works and wherever she is found she is doing the work of man at one-half man's wages.

What a glorious industrial system we did have to be sure, under republican administration! How we did prosper!

But aside from the 40,953 women who are doing the work of that number of men at half the pay, there are about 20,000 children employed in the factories of Ohio running machines which but for their employment would likewise require the service of men. Respecting this matter the labor commissioner says:

Of course this keeps a large number of men from obtaining employment, and throws the family, in a great measure, upon the meagre earnings of the children for support, forces the father into the This army of idlers, to become, in too many cases the victim of habits that are so certain to result from such a life. Bad as this is it is not the greatest evil of child labor. It keeps the children from school—and anything that checks the intellectual development of the child is a serious and almost irreparable blow to the cause of labor and the ultimate equality of man, an event that will abolish destitution and want and cause this much abused earth to blossom as a rose.

But these things are not peculiar to the state of Ohio. The same conditions are found in all manufacturing states. On page 24 of his report this Ohio commissioner says:

I am not prepared to recommend the enactment of law that would remove women from the workshops of Ohio as competitors of men. Such a law would be unjust to Ohio manufacturers, who must compete with manufacturers outside the state permitted to employ women; and yet it seems that nothing short of such enactment will remove the evil. It is sad, indeed, to contemplate the degradation to which this system is tending, and be forced to admit in that connection that no adequate remedy can be suggested.

Reader, don't you think that Governor McKinley's presidential boom should be encouraged and this glorious industrial system be perpetuated and extended?

### THE REUNION RACKET.

There is one way left for republican stump speakers to get a hearing in Kansas, outside of their regularly paid papers, and that is by the re-union plan.

The same power which assembles re-unions of ex-confederates in the southern states and causes them to denounce northern soldiers and renew their love for the lost cause, moves the political blatherskites of Kansas to follow up reunions of union soldiers and do their utmost to renew the bitter feelings that were engendered during the war, more than a quarter of a century ago.

It is the money power of Europe and Wall Street, which is behind all this renewal of hostilities. That was the power which caused the Cleveland administration to go into the pension cutting business, and that same power sends out your Barney Kelleys, Humphreys and Dick Blues to call attention to the outrages and admonish the old soldiers to get back into the republican lines. Something must be done to attract attention from other issues. It will never do to let the old soldier learn the real cause of his trouble if it can be avoided.

You never hear these professional re-union howlers tell of the wrongs committed against the soldiers during the war when the republican party made such wicked discriminations in favor of the bondholders and paid the soldiers in depreciated currency. And you never hear them say that the People's party platform is the only one of the three which declares openly and plainly what should be done with regard to pensions. They omit all that in their effort to convince the ex-soldiers that the southern confederacy will be in the saddle again just as soon as the Populists get into full power. Soldiers reunions were instituted for a good purpose, but if they are always to be harangued by such old barnacles as Barney Kelley, it is no wonder that so many old soldiers are disgusted with them.

### ENCOURAGEMENT.

Words of political cheer from Advocate readers come more frequently this year than ever before, but they are just as much appreciated as when they were few and far between. They usually come in letters containing other matter and are filed away. Here is a sample from an old soldier at Manhattan: "God bless you in your patriotic work, is the prayer of an old soldier." And this from B. C. Decker, Hoxie: "Don't get discouraged. We pay no attention to republican lies."

Here is an item from Lawrence Sheehan, Missouri: "Until yesterday I was, I thought, a republican. I was born in 1846, went into the army in 1863, and from now on you will find me fighting for Populist principles." We could publish hundreds of such letters.

Isn't it about time for the republican managers to get out another supplement concerning Dr. Pileher? Why have they dropped that subject so unceremoniously?