

THE LETTER OF A PATRIOT.

SENATOR WOLCOTT TO COLORADO REPUBLICANS.

He Tells Why He Cannot Support the Chicago Platform, Even to Secure Free Coinage in America.

Under date of July 31, 1896, Senator Edward O. Wolcott, of Colorado, issued an address to the people of that state, giving his reasons for supporting McKinley and not following his colleague, Senator Bryan, out of the republicanism party.

"We who believe in the free coinage of both gold and silver at our mints at the present time, are not in the business of throwing mud, to remember that of the millions of people who will cast their ballots this fall, nearly all are as patriotic as we are, and with us equally desirous that this republic should be a free one."

"The silver question is most vital. International bimetalism at the former ratio would, of course, be a disaster to our country, because the disturbance of values, which might follow the inauguration of free coinage and the question as to the exportation or hoarding of gold would be eliminated."

"The financial plank of the national republican platform is, in my opinion, far from satisfactory, and those members of the party who are not in sympathy with it should struggle earnestly and hopefully for the full and complete recognition and adoption of the principle of bimetalism, animated by the belief that the party which in every other great question involving human freedom and the welfare of mankind has stood for all that was uplifting and ennobling, will yet realize that a continuation of the present standard is a further impoverishment and suffering."

"The platform contains, however, a most important statement, pledging the party to the furtherance of bimetalism by international agreement. To the good faith of this pledge, the history of the party on other questions has afforded abundant evidence; the overshadowing importance of the silver question makes it certain to my mind that every party will be content to make by the republican party to secure to this country the blessings of bimetalism, and it is my sincere conviction that silver will again be restored to its place as a money metal at the old ratio, and that when this restoration comes, it will be accomplished under the direction and efforts of the republican party. Except on the money question, no man in Colorado who believes in the protection of American labor and American industries and American industries, and who loves his country, can read the platform without hearty approval; and no man doubts that Major McKinley will bring to his high office every quality needed by a president of this great people."

"Mr. Bryan has been nominated for the presidency on three separate platforms; by the democratic party, the populist party and by the republican party. The last named party—the silver party—does not deserve serious consideration. Most of its members were nominated on a platform of convention in St. Louis, and the newspapers report the convention hall as being less than half full. The democratic party nominated Mr. Bryan on a platform of the financial portion of which was everything that could be desired, and the rest of it everything that I should consider to be a desirable and hostile to the interests of our country. I decline to stand upon this platform and candidates for the presidency with the alluring free-coinage plank. I cannot do it. I am a free-coiner in protection, and shall not abandon that belief. The supreme court of the United States is a pure and able tribunal; the highest judicial tribunal in the world. I will not help to smother its decisions. It should be enabled to pay its running expenses, and whenever my vote is needed for that purpose, and I fall to vote, it supplies to keep it alive, I shall consider that I violate my oath as senator. The recent republican congress has been neither wasteful nor extravagant, and I have no reason to certify to a statement I know to be untrue. When, some months ago, the railway strike in the West, and the control, and innocent lives were being sacrificed and millions of dollars' worth of property was being destroyed by lawless men when the silver question was before the governor failed to perform his duty, the president of the United States, with federal troops, under his sanction, ordered further bloodshed and destruction, and thereby deserves the thanks of every man who values the liberties of his country and the rights guaranteed us by the constitution ought to be sacredly guarded against lawlessness of every form."

"The recent convention at St. Louis, the populist convention, had illustrated the elements which naturally gravitate toward the candidacy of Mr. Bryan. Every cranky, every incongruous and ludicrous and misshapen idea which the wheels in the machinery of the world evolve, buzzed and whirled through days of talk, but the net result was Bryan. Government ownership of railroads, telegraph and telephone lines, and a referendum, silver money and more money, had their advocates, and at the end, on assays made by the people, Mr. Bryan was the most unanimous choice of the convention."

"Because, therefore, I believe that free coinage will come through the efforts of the republican party, and because the democratic and populist platforms, except on the money question, are so odious and hostile to the welfare of our country, I shall not cast my vote for Mr. Bryan. I hold my commission from the republican party. Many of its members, including some of its leaders, in the exercise of their judgment, have announced their intention of leaving the party. I shall stay. My loyalty to the party which has honored me is entirely consistent with my loyalty to the highest and best interests of the state I represent in the senate of the United States, and I know no reason why I should abandon my party or desert its colors. There is in my mind no reason why I was not as much our duty to vote for Weaver four years ago as for Bryan today. The Omaha platform favored free coinage, and was no more objectionable than the Chicago platform; and Bryan is vouchsafed for by leading populists as being 'as good a populist as lives.' The populists have not changed in the past four years. It is we who are expected to join their organization. Others may do it, but I will not. I will not do it. Whenever the course of events could make the same platform as I should speak from the same platform as I should speak from the same platform as I should speak from."

"What we need in Colorado is less hysteria and more common sense. We have glorious resources, yet in the infancy of their development, are suffering from the imposition of a mistaken financial policy, which it is our natural and proper duty to see overturned as speedily as possible. We are one of 46 states in the Union, each free and sovereign. Within our borders live about one hundred and fiftieth of the people of the United States. We live in a republic where the majority rules. The vast majority of the people of the United States are honest and of a high average of intelligence, and devoted to the perpetuity of free institutions. Our great desire is to preserve the integrity of the people of the United States to believe as we believe. The way to the accomplishment of this result is not by vituperation and abuse. The press of the country, East as well as West, is largely responsible for the bitter sectional feeling now sought to be kindled by the millions of people who will cast their ballots this fall, nearly all are as patriotic as we are, and with us equally desirous that this republic should be a free one."

"I should not be surprised if the Chicago platform, even to secure free coinage in America, were to be adopted. It is a simple scheme for readjusting the inequalities between the men who worked and the men who have not. What is the golden rule of the silverites? Do others as they would not do you. What are we to understand by 'honesty' and 'good faith between men'? That creditors are to be cheated out of one-half of their property whenever the debtors control congress. Why not benefit debtors still more by repudiating all the claims of creditors? That will come later. The public must be educated into silverism by degrees. What is a creditor? A fender in human shape who loaned 100 cent dollars and doesn't want to be paid in dollars worth 50 cents. How will free silver help the farmers? By causing the withdrawal of all loans, paralysis of industry, stagnation of commerce and idleness of millions of workers who now buy farm products. How will the 16 to 1 scheme benefit the working classes? By making them pay twice as much for everything they buy, while giving them little or no increase in wages. It will also confiscate half of their savings bank deposits. What is a silver mine owner? A good, kind, unselfish citizen, who doesn't want higher prices of silver so that he will get rich, but simply because he loves his fellow man. Does his love for the workers lead him to pay more than market rates for his labor? Not much. Business and sentiment are two different things. Besides he doesn't have to. What is a sound currency? Dollars with 50 cents' worth of silver and 50 cents' worth of fiat or paper dollars all flat. What is the chief duty of a good citizen? To hate everybody who is industrious and thrifty, and to meekly swallow all the nostrums of the cheap money office seekers. How can the people be made prosperous? By setting class against class; discouraging the investment of capital; contracting the currency by ruining employers, driving out gold and overthrowing our sound financial system.—Whidden Graham.

MCKINLEY'S LETTER—Con. from 1st page.

FOREIGN IMMIGRATION.

The declaration of the platform touching foreign immigration is one of peculiar importance at this time, when our own laboring people are in such great distress. I am in hearty sympathy with the present legislation restraining foreign immigration and favor such extension of the laws as will secure the United States from invasion by the debarred and criminal classes of the Old World. While we adhere to the public policy under which our country has raised great bodies of honest, industrious citizens who have added to the wealth, progress and power of the country, and while we welcome to our shores and to our homes the honest and industrious immigrant who contributes by his energy and intelligence to the cause of free government, we want no immigrants who do not seek our shores to become citizens. We should permit none to participate in our political rights, and no immigration who do not sympathize with our acts and form of government. We should receive none who come to make war upon our institutions and profit by public disquiet and turmoil. Against all such our gates must be firmly closed."

OUR SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

The soldiers and sailors of the United States are not to be forgotten. The government which they served so well must not make their lives or condition harder by treating them as supplicants for favor in the halls of congress, nor regard with disdain or contempt the earnest interest our comrades naturally manifest in the welfare of another. Doubtless there have been persons who have abused the trust and honor claims allowed by the government, but the policy governing the administration of the Pension Bureau must always be fair and liberal. No deserving applicant should ever suffer because of the jumble and confusion of another. Our soldiers and sailors gave the government the best they had. They freely offered health, strength, limb and life to save the country in the time of its greatest peril. And the government must honor them in their old age in their service with the respect and gratitude due to brave, noble and self-sacrificing men, who are justly entitled to generous aid in their increasing necessities."

OUR MERCHANT MARINE AND NAVY.

The declaration of the Republican platform in favor of the upbuilding of our merchant marine has my hearty approval. The policy of discriminating duties in favor of our shipping which prevailed in the early years of our history should be again promptly adopted. The city of Mexico, which is supported until our prestige and supremacy on the seas is fully attained. We should no longer contribute directly or indirectly to the maintenance of the colossal marine of foreign countries, and must employ our own complete marine of our own. Now that the American Navy is assuming the position commensurate with our importance as a nation, a policy I am glad to observe the Republican platform strongly indorses, we must support it with a merchant marine that will give us the advantages in both our coastwise and foreign trade that we ought naturally and properly to enjoy. It should be at once a matter of public policy and national pride to possess this immense and prosperous trade."

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

The pledge of the Republican Convention that our civil service laws "shall be sustained and thoroughly and honestly enforced and extended wherever practicable" is in keeping with the position of the party for the past twenty-four years, and will be faithfully observed. Our opponents deny those reforms. They appear willing to abandon all the advantages gained after so many years of agitation and effort. They encourage a return to methods of party patronage that will be a menace to the often denounced, that experience has condemned and that the people have repeatedly disapproved. The Republican party earnestly opposes this reactionary and entirely unjustifiable policy. It will support the laws that have been enacted. It will seek to improve, but never degrade the public service."

IT DEMANDS SPECIAL ATTENTION.

There are other important and timely declarations in the platform which I cannot here discuss. I must content myself with saying that we, the republican party, have lately addressed our attention with what may seem great stress and earnestness to the new and unexpected assault upon the financial integrity of the Government, and will do so to demand special consideration, and because we are convinced that if the people are aroused to the true understanding and meaning of this silver and inflation movement, they will be able to give the best service possible to the country, and we appeal to the intelligent conscience and patriotism of the people, irrespective of party or section, for their earnest support."

WILL MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER.

We avoid no issue. We meet the sudden demand for law and order and upon those to whom is confided by the legislation and the laws, the authority to uphold and maintain them which our opponents have made, with the same confidence that we have faced every emergency since our organization as a party more than forty years ago. Government by law must first be assured, everything else can wait. The spirit of lawlessness must be extinguished by the fires of a unselfish and lofty patriotism. Every attack upon the public faith and every suggestion of the repudiation of debts, public or private, must be rebuked by all men who believe that honesty is the best policy, who love their country, and would preserve unscathed our national honor. SECTIONALISM ALMOST OBLITERATED.

The country is to be congratulated upon the almost total obliteration of sectionalism which for many years marked the divisions of the United States in slave and free territory and finally threatened its partition into two separate governments by the dread ordeal of civil war. The era of reconciliation, so long and earnestly desired by General Grant and many other great leaders, North and South, has come, and the feeling of distrust and hostility between the sections is everywhere vanishing, let us hope never to return. Nothing is better calculated to give strength to the national wealth, increase of power and influence abroad, and add to the permanency and security of our free institutions than the restoration of cordial relations between the people of all sections and parts of our beloved country."

If called by the suffrages of the people to assume the duties of the high office of President of the United States I shall count it a privilege, even in the slightest degree, to increase the spirit of fraternal regard which should animate and govern the citizens of every section, State or part of the Republic. After the lapse of a century since its utterance, let us, at length and forever hereafter, heed the admonition of Washington: "There shall be no North, no South, no East, no West, but a common country." It shall be my constant aim to improve every opportunity to advance the cause of good government by promoting that spirit of forbearance and justice which is so es-

essential to our prosperity and happiness, by joining most heartily in all proper efforts to restore the relations of brotherly respect and affection which in our early history characterized all the people and all the States. I would be glad to contribute toward binding in indivisible union the different divisions of the country, which, indeed, "Have every inducement of sympathy and interest" to weld them together more strongly than ever. I would rejoice to see demonstrated to the world that the North and South and the East and West are not separated or in danger of becoming separated because of sectional or party differences. The war is long since over; we are not enemies, but friends, and as friends we will faithfully and cordially co-operate under the approving smile of Him who has thus far so signally sustained and guided us to preserve inviolate our country's name and honor, its peace and good order and its continued ascendancy among the greatest governments on earth."

A PLAIN TALK TO JOHN SMITH.

In Which He Is Shown How Free Coinage Will Injure Him. This means you, John Smith. It makes no difference what your calling may be, if you are a workingman the question which now confronts you is of the very greatest importance to yourself, your family and your friends. This question is: Will you, John Smith, vote for the candidates who favor the free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1? You are asked to do so on the ground that free silver will make you more prosperous. You know that you would like to get higher wages, have a better house to live in, wear better clothes and be able to provide more comforts and luxuries for your wife and children, and being a hardworking man who has not had much time to study financial questions, perhaps you are inclined to believe that there's something in this talk of cheap money for the workers. If so, here are some points for you to think over:

This free silver agitation did not start with you, John Smith. It began with the owners of the silver mines, who wanted to get a higher price for their product. They were cunning enough to see that the people would not listen to a barefaced scheme of special favors to one small class, so they went to work to convince the farmers that prices of farm products are too low. To them they said, "If prices were measured in cheap silver dollars, you would get twice as much money for what you sell." They did not tell the whole truth, that the farmer would also pay twice as much for everything he buys, and so they soon found themselves with a considerable number of followers. Then they tried the workers. To them they said: "Free silver will give the country more money. More money will give the workingmen better wages. If you want more wages, vote for free silver."

In the first place, John Smith, you will notice that when the silver mine owners and their agents are talking to the farmers they don't say anything about increasing wages. This is because the farmer wants to get his labor as cheaply as possible. Then, when they talk to you, they keep mighty quiet about raising prices. This is because they know you don't want to pay high prices for what you buy. Yet it is as certain as that two and two make four that if goods are measured in 50 cent silver dollars your bread, meat, fish, vegetables and everything you eat, your clothes, your furniture and everything for which you spend your wages, will be just twice as dear as they are now. This is not gold-bug lies. It is what the silverites say when they are talking cheap money to the farmers.

Now, John Smith, do you see what free silver means? And do you want a system under which the price of everything you buy will be at once doubled? Are you willing to vote for a certainty of being paid in cheap dollars which have only half of the purchasing power of those you now get? The 16 to 1 shouters will tell you that your wages will be doubled and that if your employer does not at once give you twice as many dollars per month or week you will simply have to ask for more pay. Do you think you will get it, John Smith? You know how hard it is for the workers to get even a slight advance in wages. You know that there are many idle men who would be glad to take your place if you went on strike. Can you afford to take chances with a scheme which is certain to double your living expenses for the sake of the bare possibility of higher wages? Think it over, John Smith, between now and November. Talk it over with your fellow workmen and vote according to your own best interests.

INevitable Consequences.

The experiences of all lands and of all ages utterly exclude the possibility that any one should profit by a depreciated currency except an exceedingly small minority of money dealers and successful speculators in public distress. In the spirit of gambling that is thus engendered in an epoch of depreciated currency very few of these persons are permitted to enjoy their winnings in the long run. When the prices of products nominally rise, the balance is redressed by a rise also in the cost of production and in the wants of the producers. Every rise in prices under an inflated currency, as well as under a sound system of money, is followed by increased production and by a depression of prices through increased competition. But a violent disturbance of business through a sudden change of the monetary standard to a silver dollar containing only 63 cents of bullion could not be made without causing widespread distress. The only adequate explanation of the course of the advocates of free silver coinage is that they are but dimly conscious of the consequences that would follow the adoption of their policy.—Philadelphia Record.

A Sixteen to One Town.

"Is this a 16 to 1 town?" asked the drummer. "It air on Sunday," answered the native. "On Sunday?" "Yas. Sixteen goes fishin to one go to church."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

A MONEY CATECHISM.

SOME PLAIN ANSWERS TO IMPORTANT QUESTIONS CONCERNING MONEY.

Why Gold Is Preferable to Silver—Less Bulky, and Business of Civilized World Is Adjusted to It—Laws Cannot Make It Less Acceptable Money—Senator Stewart and Silver States Prefer Gold.

Question. What is money? Answer. Any common medium of exchange which is accepted as payment in itself.

Q. What is representative money? A. Any common medium of exchange which promises to pay money.

Q. What is meant by primary money? A. This is a new phrase introduced to confuse people by suggesting that there is also secondary money.

Q. What is money of final redemption? A. This is another late addition to the American language implying that there are several different kinds of money. There is only one kind of money in this country. There are several different kinds of representative money.

Q. Give examples of each. A. Gold coin is money. Everything else that circulates, whether of metal or of paper, is representative money.

Q. Is silver coin representative money. A. It is.

Q. In what way does the government promise to redeem its silver coins? A. By the act of congress of June 9, 1879, it promises to redeem all coins smaller than \$1 when presented in sums not less than \$30. By the act of Feb. 28, 1878, the government promises to receive silver dollars at par in all payments to itself. By the act of July 19, 1890, it declares it to be the policy of the government to keep the two metals at a parity with each other. By two different acts the secretary of the treasury is authorized to purchase coin and to issue the obligations of the United States therefor.

Q. What is the indispensable quality and first requisite of money? A. That it should be universally acceptable.

Q. Is there any kind of money universally acceptable but gold? A. There is not.

Q. Would not silver be equally acceptable if it were equally legal tender? A. Silver dollars are legal tender. Give any man the option of taking 100 of these pieces or 10 goldpieces of \$10 each and he will choose the latter. Therefore they are not equally acceptable.

Q. Is the difference in weight the only reason why gold is more acceptable than silver? A. That is not the only reason now, but it was the main if not the only reason when civilized nations made their choice between the two.

Q. What reasons exist now that did not exist then? A. A variation of 50 per cent has taken place in the value of the two metals. In addition to being 16 times as heavy, silver has lost one-half of its value during the interval.

Q. Are there any other reasons why silver is not equally acceptable with gold? A. Yes; although a limited amount of silver (and also of nickel and copper) is used as a medium of exchange, it is now a commodity in the markets of the world subject to the same fluctuations as other commodities. People do not like to use a fluctuating commodity as money, and will not if they can get anything better.

Q. Have you mentioned all the reasons why gold is acceptable as money and silver is not? A. The most decisive reason is that the civilized world has adjusted itself to the gold standard during a long period of time. All business is bottomed on it. It is an accomplished fact coextensive with the commercial world. To change to another standard would be literally turning the commercial world upside down.

Q. Can such a change be produced? A. Absolutely impossible. In a conceivable case one country may turn itself upside down, but that feat would not make gold less acceptable or silver more so, even in that country. Acceptableness is a state of the human mind which laws cannot change.

Q. Is the preference for gold universal? A. It is universal among civilized men. Even the silver advocates in the United States prefer gold in their business affairs, that is everywhere except on the stump. Senator Stewart of Nevada makes his mortgages payable in gold. When he was reproved for this bad example, he said that he merely followed the universal custom on the Pacific coast, where he lives. So we have his authority for the statement that in the section of the Union where the demand for silver is most vociferous everybody prefers gold in his private business.

Q. Can you give any other examples? A. The territory of Arizona brought a bill before congress two or three years ago, asking authority to issue bonds payable specifically in gold, on the ground that the money would be borrowed at a considerable lower rate of interest than if they were payable in dollars without specifying the kind of dollars. The state of Utah is negotiating a specific gold loan now for the same reason. Yet both Arizona and Utah are politically for silver.

Q. What do these acts signify? A. Two things: First, that gold is preferable to silver in the general estimation of mankind; second, that payment in gold is an advantage to borrowers.—New York Evening Post.

Silverite Campaign Urges.

The platform adopted by the silverite wing which controlled the Democratic national convention contains abundant material for stirring campaign mottoes. "Free Silver Inflation," "Debt Repudiation," "Property Confiscation" and "Commercial Stagnation" are brief and truthful statements of the aims of the cheap money Democrats and the certain results which would follow their success in November. Shouting these cheerful strains, the silverites can march to the certain defeat which awaits all movements based on sectionalism, greed, appeals to prejudices and hatred of property rights.

THE SILVERITE CATECHISM.

In Which Free Coinage Theories Are Plainly Stated.

What is money? Something made out of nothing by government.

Is there any limit to the amount of money which government can make? Only the opacity of the printing press of the country.

What kind of money is the best? That which has the least value.

What does "cheap money" mean? Money that will buy very little wealth.

Why are some people poor? Because the money they get in exchange for their products or their labor will buy a large amount of goods.

How can the poor all be made rich? By stamping 50 cents' worth of silver "one dollar" and thus decreasing the purchasing power of money.

What is a capitalist? A wicked sinner who has worked hard and saved up a little property.

What is a patriot? A man who covets his neighbor's property and wants to get hold of it by law.

What does "repudiation" mean? It is a simple scheme for readjusting the inequalities between the men who worked and the men who have not.

What is the golden rule of the silverites? Do others as they would not do you.

What are we to understand by "honesty" and "good faith between men"? That creditors are to be cheated out of one-half of their property whenever the debtors control congress.

Why not benefit debtors still more by repudiating all the claims of creditors? That will come later. The public must be educated into silverism by degrees.

What is a creditor? A fender in human shape who loaned 100 cent dollars and doesn't want to be paid in dollars worth 50 cents.

How will free silver help the farmers? By causing the withdrawal of all loans, paralysis of industry, stagnation of commerce and idleness of millions of workers who now buy farm products.

How will the 16 to 1 scheme benefit the working classes? By making them pay twice as much for everything they buy, while giving them little or no increase in wages. It will also confiscate half of their savings bank deposits.

What is a silver mine owner? A good, kind, unselfish citizen, who doesn't want higher prices of silver so that he will get rich, but simply because he loves his fellow man.

Does his love for the workers lead him to pay more than market rates for his labor? Not much. Business and sentiment are two different things. Besides he doesn't have to.

What is a sound currency? Dollars with 50 cents' worth of silver and 50 cents' worth of fiat or paper dollars all flat.

What is the chief duty of a good citizen? To hate everybody who is industrious and thrifty, and to meekly swallow all the nostrums of the cheap money office seekers.

How can the people be made prosperous? By setting class against class; discouraging the investment of capital; contracting the currency by ruining employers, driving out gold and overthrowing our sound financial system.—Whidden Graham.

The Grand Army of Creditors.

The gentlemen who think that they have made an attractive bid for votes by proposing a 50 cent dollar for debtors to pay their debts with are reckoning without their host. Every state of the Union is full of creditors, and they will never consent to defraud and cheat themselves.

Among these creditors are: All persons who work for wages, salary or by the piece. All members of building and loan associations. All depositors in savings, national, state or private banks. All holders of life, fire and accident insurance policies. All members of benevolent and fraternal insurance orders. All holders of industrial insurance. All widows, orphans or wards dependent wholly or partially upon the income from investments. All educational and charitable institutions dependent wholly or in part upon the income of their endowments. In fact, the 50 cent silver dollar would be of advantage to few persons in the long run save the speculators, who would gamble on the inevitable fluctuations in its purchasing power and in the price of commodities.—Exchange.

Some Things Nobody Can Do.

It is idle to "hurl defiance" and boast of what this great nation can do. It never has been able to maintain bimetalism under free coinage of both gold and silver, even when the conditions were far more favorable than now. This nation is unquestionably "broad enough to legislate for its own people without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation on earth," but this nation tried for over 80 years to secure bimetalism under a legal double standard and completely failed. And as this nation, "broad" as it is, is not able to work miracles, it can no more perform such a feat now than it could in the past.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Present Standard Best For All.

The present currency standard should be maintained because it guarantees an honest dollar to rich and poor alike. The farmer is sure of full value for his products. The laborer knows that his services are paid for with honest money. If the currency maintained on the present gold standard is the "money of the wealthy," as the free silver advocates assert to awaken the prejudices of the common people, by the same token it is acceptable to the poor. The wisdom of the present basis is seen in the fact that individuals prefer a gold standard dollar every time, and what is best for individuals is best for the nation.—Detroit Free Press.

The ratio of summer girls to summer men at the seashore resorts is 16 to 1. McKinley is the choice of the people.