

Very Hot Stuff.

The following very convincing document is being distributed by the thousand by commercial men: Money is intended to be a medium of exchange.

It is made for the use of the people in buying and selling.

The original system was to make gold and silver coin for the people as they brought the metal to the mint. The metal was theirs and the money was theirs.

Alexander Hamilton advised the system adopted by congress.

The ratio was finally made 16 to 1—sixteen ounces of silver equal to one ounce of gold for coinage purposes. The ratio was substantially maintained for 80 years, as it had been for 100 years and more. The ratio of production made no difference. For the first 25 years under the double standard there was \$3 of silver produced in the world for \$1 of gold. During the last 25 years there was \$3 of gold to \$1 of silver, but our money was not disturbed.

Bimetallism is the free and unlimited coinage of the two money metals, at a ratio fixed by law. It is not a new thing. It is not a visionary scheme. It is approved by Prof. Andrews, of Brown's University; Prof. Arendt of Germany; W. H. Greenfeld, M. P., and many others.

Why did we change? The people have never heard good reasons for it, but history tells us.

We had a war. We went into debt. Had to. The war debt was funded in United States bonds.

Our creditors turned this gold into paper to buy our debt—with \$1 of gold they bought \$2 85 of our debt.

Soon after the war they raised the question of public credit.

Congress pledged for the people in 1869 they would pay their debt in coin.

Coin at that time was silver and gold, 16 to 1.

What was the matter with our creditors?

Were they afraid we would not pay our debts?

No, they were afraid we would. That would stop interest and speculations in bonds.

It would make the people free from debt.

If they could take away the right to pay in silver, they knew the people could never pay in gold.

Prices would go down; gold would go up; and that it would require more and more labor and stuff to buy the same amount of gold.

Now a little gold in the hands of a few men is the only measure of value. It measures everything, silver included.

The silver dollar was stolen in 1873. When the people found it out they demanded that it be given back again.

Ridgpath, the historian, says: "As the time for resumption drew near and the people learned that they could no longer pay a debt in silver, the cry went up all over the land for the remonetization of silver."

Did they get back the silver dollar?

No. They said we will buy you some silver dollars. Now they say to us your silver dollar is a fifty-cent dollar. We say, give back the dollar you stole from us. That was a good dollar, worth 100 cents, under free coinage laws. They say they can't do it. And when we want to know why, they say that England will not let them do it.

We have made laws without England's consent for more than 100 years.

But they say England will not lend us any money. We will make our own money.

They say that England will not sell us any goods. Then we will buy American goods with American money.

They do not say that England will not buy our goods, for they do not believe such trash, and that she has been buying wheat in India with our cheap silver for a long time. We lost on the silver and they made on the wheat.

Just imagine a republican afraid that England will not sell us any goods for our silver when they claim that they want a protective tariff so high that other countries cannot drive our manufacturers out of business. They are not consistent.

We have been trying to do business on a falling market for a long time.

A falling market is death to business.

Give us free silver and a rising market, and we will become a free people, as we ought to be.



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