

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

TO THE EDITOR:

It seems to me the warning given out by the "Metropolitan and Rural Home," an Independent journal, should be carefully looked into by the Doubting Thomases who see no grave danger in making a change in the administration of governmental affairs. Let them read and be convinced, if such a thing be possible. X. X.

CLOVER FLAT, Sept. 21, 1900.

A COMPARISON OF FACTS.

You remember the old proverb, "Facts are stubborn things." Read these facts carefully and remember when you are reading them that they are facts and not theories.

The last time the Democratic party was in power and in charge of the government it increased the bonded debt \$262,335,800, and yet had an aggregate deficit of \$135,470,055.17, and this disastrous showing was made in a time of peace. The Republican party had a surplus for the four years 1889-92 of \$209,554,348.18 and for the four years 1897-1900, within which time the Republican administration carried on the Spanish-American War, and so adjusted the revenues to the needs of the country as to produce a surplus in excess of expenditures of more than \$63,000,000 the present year; and yet the debt was not so great by \$62,000,000 as during the four years of Democratic rule. Stop and think. The Republican party turned over the government to the Democrats in 1893 with a bonded debt of only \$585,029,330, and this debt was increased in time of peace to \$847,365,130. Confronted by these facts, must not every fair-minded man, who appreciates the absolute importance of the successful operations of the Treasury to every business enterprise—the employee as well as the employer—confess the unwisdom, the risk and the danger of again turning over the affairs of this country to the Democratic party? We certainly think it would be a very unwise and unbusiness-like proposition to even consider. The entire country being prosperous, now is the time, if there ever was one, to let well enough alone.

A LESSON WELL LEARNED

TO THE EDITOR:

I am not a politician in any sense of the word; neither do I take much interest in politics. But the time has come, in my opinion, when every true American should at least study the causes which lead from financial disaster and panic to prosperity and plenty with each succeeding change in the country's administration. We all know what it is to pass through the "hard times" period; thousands are only now getting over the panic of the last Democratic rule, which left the country in distress, and the farmers and stockmen in particular, in sore financial straits—bordering on bankruptcy. I was one of them. I am just getting over it like thousands of others, and I have been thinking over the causes which bring about these changes of fickle fortune. Every man should think it over seriously. There must be a cause that brings about an effect. These changes cannot be laid to Providence. The old saying that "one party is as bad as another" is played out. Some excuse more tangible than this must be

found to convince the thinking man of to-day that the opposite policies of the two great parties are not responsible for the changes from good to bad and vice versa.

Some may take issue with me, and say that I draw on the imagination to a great extent when I declare that to-day the people are enjoying the fruits of unprecedented prosperity under the wise administration of the Republican party—its adherence to the policies of protection to American industries and sound money—the two great leading issues.

I find this state of affairs in existence locally and must conclude that it exists, to a certain extent, throughout the length and breadth of the land. My business calls me to every part of South-eastern Oregon and Northern California, and close observation assures me that prosperity stalks gaunt and proudly throughout the country. Farmers and stockmen are paying off the last plasters of the hard-time mortgage; they are buying new machinery and new wagons and paying cash for them; they are building new houses and new barns; they are buying the best blood to infuse into their herds and improve their stock, and they all have dollars now that they can call their own against the dollars they had a few years ago that belonged to their bankers, and which they were compelled to pay or lose their homes and farms. This is no idle talk. Every man in business knows it. I would not miss the mark far were I to state that in Lake county, Oregon, alone, the ranchers and stockraisers have during the last twelve months paid out ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS for new wagons, implements, machinery and stock.

I for one don't want any change in the administration of governmental affairs. I can thoroughly realize and discern the difference—the difference between prosperity and happiness under Republican rule, and the disaster, panic and bankruptcy we have experienced under Democratic misrule.

It is a lesson well learned. Let every man look to his own interests, and let the man who, through blindness and foolish partisanship, thinks he wants a change, vote for it. He may get it, and the dire results to follow, to his heart's content.

I am satisfied as matters stand to-day. J. B.

Lakeview, Or., Sept. 23, 1900.

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