

MANUFACTURERS NEED SILVER

Hon. Charles R. Sligh, President of
World's Largest Furniture Fac-
tory and Always a Republican
Till the St. Louis Plat-
form Was Adopted.

FARMERS AND WAGE EARNERS

The president of the largest furniture
factory in the world declares for Bryan
and the monetization of silver in the
following letter:

"SLIGH FURNITURE CO.,
"GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., Sept. 4, 1896.
"Colonel R. M. Johnson, Elkhart, Ind.

Dear Sir—It affords me pleasure to
comply with your request to submit a
few reasons, from a manufacturer's
standpoint, why the independent, free
and unlimited coinage of silver by the
United States would be beneficial to our
country.

"It is a well established principle in
finance that the quality or value of
money is regulated by the quantity, and
that the quantity of all the money in
the world regulates the value of all
commodities and products that are
bought and sold. If the volume of
money is large prices will be high, and
if money is scarce or hoarded (and it is
scarce it will be hoarded) prices will be
low. This principle has been repeatedly
demonstrated in all times of the world's
history, and the men who secured the
demonetization of silver were perfectly
familiar with it. They were the money-
lenders of the world who desired that
their money should become more valua-
ble, and they accomplished their ends
through corrupt and dishonorable means.
The results of demonetization have
justified their judgment, and while it
has brought misery to millions, it has
doubled the value of their dollars, and
in its culmination in the last two years
has brought the producing classes and
the manufacturers to the verge of bank-
ruptcy, and if continued for two years
longer, three-quarters of the manufac-
turing establishments now operating
will be wiped out of existence, and their
plants will pass into the hands of the
money-lenders, who will acquire them
at from one-quarter to one-third their
value. The election of McKinley, which
promises nothing but higher taxes and
a monopoly of the spoils, cannot avert
this disaster, as the United States sen-
ate is anti-gold standard and sure to re-
main so for at least the next four years.

The Only Hope.

"The only hope of the producing
classes is in legislation that will
cheapen money, thereby compelling it
to seek investment in productive enter-
prises, employing idle labor and making
a market of farmers' products. The
only way to cheapen money is to make
more of it. With our mints open to the
world's silver, as they were previous to
1873, and as they are now to gold, the
demand for gold must be lessened, and
its value thereby decreased, and the de-
mand for silver must be increased, and
its value thereby appreciated, ultimate-
ly bringing the two to a parity.

How the Farmers Are Situated.

"All manufacturers who understand
this question are convinced that no last-
ing prosperity can be attained until the
agricultural classes (one-half of our pop-
ulation) receive prices that will give
them a profit on their products, and
that they can secure better prices under
a gold standard is absurd to contem-
plate. Our farmers today are selling
their surplus products to Europe in com-
petition with Russia, India, Argentina
and other countries in which gold is at
a high premium. It is this premium on
gold which acts as a bonus on exportation
and has stimulated production in all
silver standard countries, the farmers
there are getting as much for their
wheat, cotton and other products now
as they did 20 years ago, while our
farmers are getting only half as much.

"This is accounted for by the fact
that previous to 1873, when England
bought our silver to pay for purchases
in India, Russia, etc., she had to pay \$1.33
an ounce for it, while now she is buying
it for 69 cents an ounce, and she can se-
cure the same quantity of products from
those countries now for an ounce of sil-
ver that she could then. Under free
coinage by the United States, silver
would be worth \$1.29 cents an ounce,
and no one would sell it for less, because
he could take it to the mint and realize
that; therefore, England would be com-
pelled to pay nearly double what she
pays now for our silver, and this would
mean nearly double cost to her for the
wheat and cotton she buys of India,
Russia and Argentina, and a correspond-
ing increase in the price in the United
States. This would enable our farmers
to again become consumers of manu-
factured goods, which they have largely
ceased buying during the last three
years, and would afford a home market,
not only for our protected industries,
but the vast number of manufactures
which are not directly benefited by a
high protective tariff, chief among which
are furniture, agricultural implements,
bicycles, iron, leather, carriages, oils,
tablets, etc.

Manufacturers Threatened.

"The manufacturers of the United
States are also threatened with a com-
petition from the Asiatic countries,
that under a gold standard will be
blighting in its effects.

"The premium of 100 percent on gold
in Asia has stimulated manufacturers
there, as it has also in Mexico, and with
labor at only 20 cents a day, it gives
them an advantage that cannot be over-
come in this country under a gold
standard.

"An Asiatic manufacturer can ship
his goods to this country and receive
his price in gold, which gives him 100
per cent bonus besides his regular profit.

That they are not slow to appreciate
this is evidenced by the fact that Japan
exported to the United States in 1890
\$9,910,719 worth of goods, while for
1895 she exported to us \$27,551,764, as
reported by William E. Curtis and Con-
sul-General Melvor. Free coinage in
the United States would bring the
Japanese up to our standard and oblit-
erate the 100 per cent difference in ex-
change.

Free Coinage.

"Free coinage in the United States
would not only increase the price of our
farm products, but would largely in-
crease our trade in manufactured goods
with all Latin-America, as it would en-
able them to pay in silver for purchases
instead of gold at 100 per cent premium
as they are now compelled to, and
would eventually lead to the consum-
mation of Blaine's idea—a Pan-Ameri-
can dollar, which would be a legal ten-
der in every country on this western
continent.

"I urge manufacturers everywhere to
study this question and lend their in-
fluences to the election of the only can-
didates who can bring relief—Bryan
and Sewall. CHARLES R. SLIGH.
"President Sligh Furniture Company,
"Grand Rapids, Mich."

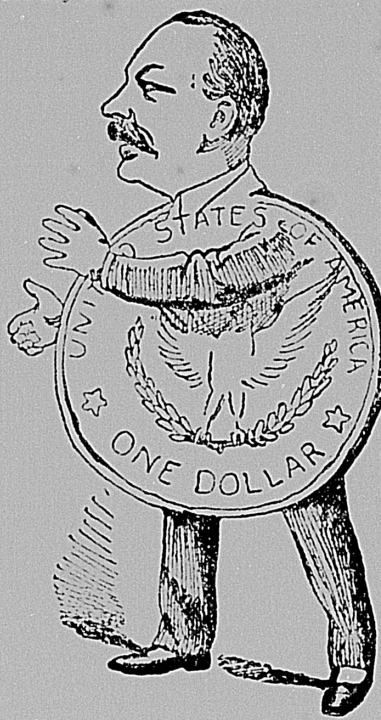
Always an Active Republican.

Mr. Sligh has always been an active
Republican until the St. Louis con-
vention adopted the gold standard policy
and "went back on its whole history,"
when he, with hundreds of thousands
of other patriotic Republicans, refused
to follow after strange gods and became
parties to the crime of attempting to
fasten on the United States the finan-
cial policy of England and the bond-
holding aristocracy of Lombard street
in London and their American-Tory-
Wall-street-annex of this country, and
openly declared themselves for such a
policy as would sustain and protect the
interests of American common people
and prevent the doubling of our public
and private debts to Europe and the
London holders of our public and pri-
vate securities. There can be no partic-
le of doubt but that the interest of all
American manufacturers lies in the di-
rection of the monetization of silver;
and that the raising of the tariff, as pro-
posed by McKinley and Hanna, will
drive them still further to the wall than
they now are, and thus subvert the
very end which the British lords of
finance aimed to secure by their procur-
ing our congress, without the knowledge
of our people, to demonetize silver in
1873. The gold standard policy will de-
stroy our manufacturing interests as
well as our agricultural interests, as Mr.
Sligh so clearly shows, and these de-
stroyed, British manufacturers will have
a clear monopoly of the markets of the
world and will soon render the United
States dependent upon them for all the
goods and merchandise consumed by our
people. Every manufacturer of the
United States ought to read this article,
ponder it well and follow its concluding
advice and vote for Bryan and Sewall.

"THE FRIEND OF SILVER."

How Bynum Paved Before a Colorado
Audience Five Years Ago.

The Denver News of Oct. 15, 1891,
printed the following cartoon and report
of Mr. Bynum's speech in that city on
the day before:



CONGRESSMAN BYNUM.
"I have always voted for free silver and al-
ways will."

The Friend of Silver.

Mr. Bynum said: "I have always
been in favor of free coinage of silver
[applause] and I don't desire to adver-
tise my own record, but in this connec-
tion I think it not improper to say what
action I have taken in respect to this
question. I was on the committee on
coinage in the Forty-ninth congress and
was one of the three members of that
committee who reported the bill in favor
of free coinage, away back at the begin-
ning of Mr. Cleveland's administration.
[Loud and prolonged cheering.]

"I have voted for free coinage from
the time the question has been before
congress, and will do so every time the
question comes up. [Renewed cheers.]
I am willing to restore a silver basis. I
am willing to restore, as McKinley calls
it, the 87-cent dollar, a dollar going
down to that figure. But I want to say
this, if we are unable to maintain free
coinage or the parity between the two
metals by free coinage of silver it is be-
cause of this prohibitory tariff (the Mc-
Kinley bill, now repealed) and nothing
else."

Are you a member of organized labor?
Are you not bound by every pledge that
is sacred, to exert every effort to pro-
tect yourself and your brother from
harm that may come to him from with-
in and from without your order? Are
you true to yourself or true to him, or
your loved ones at home when by your
vote you place the insolent, arrogant
labor-hating Mark Hanna (who will
then control McKinley as he controls
him now) in a position to disrupt every
labor union in the country?

THE PROOF

That British Manufacturers Are Requesting Their Employees to
Contribute Money to the McKinley Campaign Fund.

Because the Election of Bryan Will Open American Mills and Raise the Price of
American Farm Products, Injuring the British Importers and Money Lenders.

[Several days ago a letter from George W. Francis, of Pierre, S. D., who is
now visiting his old home in England, was received by his old friend John James,
a fruit farmer of New London, near Kokomo, Ind., who permitted its publica-
tion in the Kokomo Dispatch. This letter was such a remarkable revelation of
the attitude of the English capitalists and manufacturers in the present effort of
Hanna and McKinley to perpetuate upon the people of the United States the
British gold standard that its authenticity was immediately questioned by the
gold standard press. Three pages of the letter are therefore produced in fac-
simile below, the second page being omitted in order to get the matter within
two columns. The complete letter is published elsewhere in this issue.—Ed.]

Southport
England Oct 1/96
Mr James
My Dear friend John
You will be surprised to get
a letter from me and to know
that I am back in old England
on a visit I landed on Aug
11th at Liverpool soe had a pleasant
voyage, how are you getting along
in old Indiana I have been
trying to get your address for
a long time, but have succeeded
at last by finding your sister
in Southport I have been down
in Herefordshire most of the
time but have been in London
and Manchester There dont seem
to be much change in the looks

them that if free coinage
was established in America that
they would have to pay double
price for their flour also that
the price of raw cotton would
rise accordingly and that the mills
of America would start to run
again and come in competition
with England in foreign markets
and perhaps throw them out of
work they raised 67 pounds
brother Harry gave nothing as he
is coming with me I came
to England a Republican but
I will come back a free coinage
man I did not intend to go
back until spring, but will
go back at once and do what
I can for the free coinage
of silver I have heard a great
about politics in America and
have heard things that made

my very hair stand on end
with rage in London and
Liverpool, now John speaking
for our own interest we must
vote and work for Bryan regard
of what party we represented here
to fore it is of vital importance
we will stop over at your inn
at portage this 2 weeks and
then go on to Dakota plan
write soon and in conclusion
will say do all you can for
Bryan if this letter will do
any good use it address
me at 307 bot Pereri
South Dakota
George W Francis
best wishes to all

IF YOU WANT

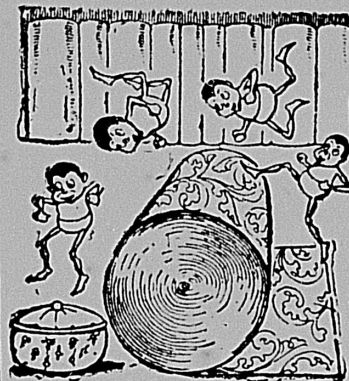
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