

## MANUFACTURERS NEED SILVER

Hon. Charles R. Sligh, President of World's Largest Furniture Factory and Alwa's Republican Till the St. Louis Platform Was Adopted.

### FARMERS AND WAGE EARNERS

The president of the largest furniture factory in the world declares for Bryan and the remonetization 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 value of money is large prices will be high, and if money is scarce or hoarded (and if 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 valuable, 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 bankruptcy, and if continued for two years longer, three-quarters of the manufacturing 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 senate is anti-gold standard and sure to remain 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 enterprises, 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 demand for silver must be increased, and its value thereby appreciated, ultimately bringing the two to a parity.

How the Farmers Are Situated.

"All manufacturers who understand this question are convinced that no lasting prosperity can be attained until the agricultural classes (one-half of our population) 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 contemplate. Our farmers today are selling their surplus products to Europe in competition 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 secure the same quantity of products from those countries now for an ounce of silver 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 compelled 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 corresponding increase in the price in the United States. This would enable our farmers to again become consumers of manufactured 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 manufacturers 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 competition from the Asiatic countries, that under a gold standard will be blighting in its effects.

"The premium of 100 per cent 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 overcome 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 1895 \$9,910,719 worth of goods, while for 1895 she exported to us \$27,554,764, as reported by William E. Curtis and Colonel General McIvor. Free coinage in the United States would bring the Japanese up to our standard and obliterate the 100 per cent difference in exchange.

#### Free Coinage.

"Free coinage in the United States would not only increase the price of our farm products, but would largely increase our trade in manufactured goods with all Latin-America, as it would enable 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 consummation of Blaine's idea—a Pan-American dollar, which would be a legal tender in every country on this western continent.

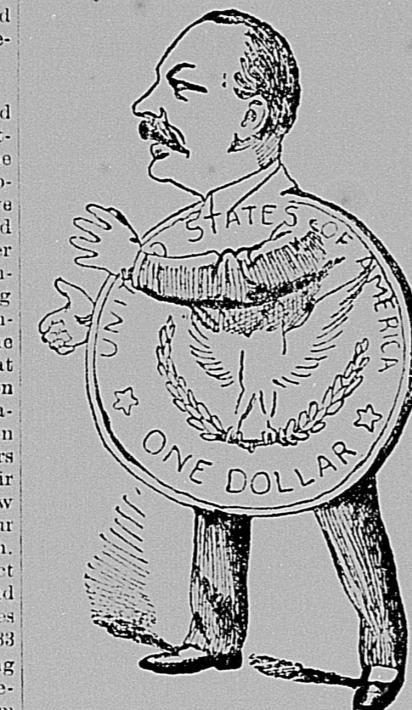
"I urge manufacturers everywhere to study this question and lend their influences to the election of the only candidates who can bring relief—Bryan and Sewall. CHARLES R. SLIGH, President Sligh Furniture Company, Grand Rapids, Mich."

#### Always an Active Republican.

Mr. Sligh has always been an active Republican until the St. Louis convention 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 financial policy of England and the bondholding 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 private securities. There can be no particle of doubt but that the interest of all American manufacturers lies in the direction of the remonetization of silver; and that the raising of the tariff, as proposed by McKinley and Hanna, will drive them still further to the wall than they now are, and thus subserve the very end which the British lords of finance aimed to secure by their procuring our congress, without the knowledge of our people, to demonetize silver in 1873. The gold standard policy will destroy our manufacturing interests as well as our agricultural interests, as Mr. Sligh so clearly shows, and these destroyed, 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 Posed 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 always 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 advertise my own record, but in this connection 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 beginning 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 37-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 because of this prohibitory tariff (the McKinley 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 protect yourself and your brother from harm that may come to him from within 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.

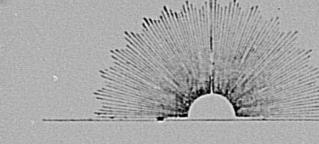
[Several days ago a letter from George W. Francis, of Pierre, S. D., who is now visiting his old home in England, was received by his old friend John James, a fruit farmer of New London, near Kokomo, Ind., who permitted its publication in the Kokomo Dispatch. This letter was such a remarkable revelation 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 gold standard press. Three pages of the letter are therefore produced in facsimile 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 we 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 don't 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 null  
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 policies 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 him  
to force it is of vital importance  
we will stop over at your house  
at portage 1/2 & weeks and  
then go on to Dakota place  
soile 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 lot 42  
South Dakota

George W. Francis  
best wishes to all



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We would like to call your special attention to the

## New Process Oil Stove.

Which has taken the place of the Gasoline Stoves.

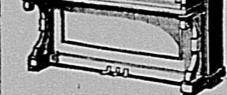
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