

The Democratic Sentinel.

"A FIRM ADHERENCE TO CORRECT PRINCIPLES."

VOLUME XX.

NUMBER 41



For President,
WILLIAM J. BRYAN,
Of Nebraska.

For Vice-President,
ARTHUR SEWALL,
Of Maine.

State Ticket.

Governor—B. F. SHIVELY.
Lieut.-Gov.—JOHN C. LAWLER.
Appellate Judges,
First District—EDWIN TAYLOR,
Second—FRANK E. GAVIN,
Third—THEODORE DAVIS,
Fourth—ORLANDO LOTZ,
Fifth—GEORGE E. ROSS.
State Secretary—S. M. RALSTON.
State Auditor—JOS. T. FANNING.
State Treasurer—MORG. CHANDLER.
Atty General—J. G. MC'UTT.
Sup. Court Rep.—HENRY WARRUM.
Supt. Pub. Inst.—W. B. SINCLAIR.
State Statistician—O. H. DOWNEY.

For Congress—Tenth District,
MARTIN T. KREUGER.

Joint Representative,
WILLIAM W. FILMAN.

Judge 30th Judicial Circuit,
WILLIAM DARROCH.

Prosecuting Attorney 30th Circuit,
MEADE S HAYS

Democratic County Ticket.

Treasurer—AMMON BEASLEY.
Recorder—JUDSON J. HUNT.
Sheriff—FRANK FISHER.
Surveyor—EUGENE DILLEY.
Assessor—AUSTIN N. LAKIN.
Coroner—WILLIAM W. REEVE
Commissioner, 1st Dist. Wm. COOPER
2d—W. D. BRINGLE

"LOWEST YET FOR CORN!"

Yesterday when work was over,
And the evening closing down,
Reading through the evening paper,
News of country and of town,
Glancing at commercial columns
To learn how trade had ruled since
morn.

I saw, in striking type, a headline
Reading: "Lowest yet for corn!"

"Lowest yet for corn!" What of it?
Surely, nothing new to hear;
Every week tells the same story,
Month by month and year by year.

"Lowest yet for corn!" Consider—
Though the story may be old—
There are those who have to suffer.
Every time the tale is told.
Every time the tale's repeated.
Unto care well-nigh deformed
Some surviving hope's defeated,
Hearing: "Lowest yet for corn."

But I fancy some are saying:
"It is safe at all events;
Safe to say Chicago market
Won't go under twenty cents;
We're those fearless speculators
For the chance before them—
They'll become bold operators!"

And—"There's nothing left to fear."

We have heard some such assertion
Bravely made from year to year;

"Lower than this last quotation,
There is nothing left to fear."

"Nothing left to fear!" Where are
they?

Who with less with strength to cope
With this ever-downward pressure?

No! There's nothing left to hope!

Nothing left to hope; if wisdom
Has not yet the lesson taught,

By the striking down of silver
Has the wretched wreck been

wrought.

Nothing left to hope! Remember!
Back in eighteen seventy-three
Gold and silver both sustained us,
Silver coinage then was free.
Unrestrained each noble metal
Aided all the works of man,
Each in turn relieved the other
On the bimetallic plan.

Only once or twice this nation
Had endured bimetallic way,
Now all your poor relation
Panics comes full-dressed to stay!

Dismal periods of depression.

Disappointment on all hands.

See us raise in sad succession
Half-priced crops on mortgaged
lands.

Half-priced crops, which in the selling,
Leave such small rewards to toil,
Sorrow quarters in the dwelling
On the tiller of the soil.

Cunning tricksters said though silver

Had been king in days of yore,
Now its royal reign was ended,

It should be free-coined no more.

Times by tricks that treason played us,

Silver's coining rights were sold;

And the crime's results have made us

Slaves to Europe and to gold.

Patiently till now we've borne it,

But the outlook growing worse,

Love of country! Love of freedom!

Call us now to end the curse.

We have got a heaven-selected

Champion by God's good grace,

Bryan—by our votes elected—

To the nation's highest place,

Bryan, and our silver treasure,

Free-coined dollars bright as morn,

Banish sorrow! Welcome pleasure!

Banish "Lowest yet for Corn!"

H. de B.

THE CRIME OF '73!

THE GREAT CONSPIRACY LAID BARE
BY GEO. C. GORMAN.

The Dark Methods Used by Senator Sherman and Others to Secure the Demonetization of Silver—Statements of Senators and Members on the Subject.

Colonel George C. Gorman, for many years resided in California, and was a member of the national Republican committee from that state from 1868 to 1880. He was secretary of the United States senate from 1868 to 1879, and was in the national political councils of the Grant and Conkling element. He edited The National Republican at Washington for four years. For more than twenty years he has favored the restoration of the free coinage of silver, and left the Republican party in June last, when it adopted the gold standard, and is now an earnest supporter of Bryan and Sewall. He has written the following letter:

The Hon. Charles P. Johnson, St. Louis, Mo.—Dear Sir: In compliance with your request I present the following narrative of the steps which led to the demonetization of silver in the United States in 1873, and the methods adopted to accomplish that result:

The national debt at the close of the civil war was about \$2,500,000,000, the principal being payable by law in any legal tender money, and the interest in coin. Certain great banking houses of Europe—following the example set by their predecessors in England immediately after the fall of Napoleon, and setting an example which was followed by their class in Germany after the Franco-Prussian war—inaugurated a scheme to greatly enhance the value of this vast obligation by making it payable in gold and then increasing the value of gold.

The Methods Adopted.

This involved two legislative measures:

First. Such changes in the laws of the United States as would provide for the payment of the principal of the bonds in coin only, and would forbid the payment of any portion of it prior to the resumption of specie payment, in legal tender treasury notes, in which it was expressly made payable by the law authorizing the issue of the bonds, and in exchange for which, when greatly depreciated, they had all been issued.

Second. The demonetization of silver in the United States so that coin would mean gold only, and the value of that metal at the same time be greatly enhanced.

The Hon. John Sherman, a senator from Ohio, became the chief promoter of this foreign scheme.

The 13th of May, 1867, being then on a visit to Paris and having just visited London, he addressed a letter to the United States commissioners to the international conference on coinage, from which the senate proceedings of Jan. 17, 1873, in the Congressional Globe, from which I will quote some passages: Congressional Globe, parts 1 and 2, third session, Forty-second congress, pages 685-674.

There was no reference in the debate to the fact that the bill would abolish the legal tender quality of silver. The house bill changed the weight of the silver dollar from 412½ grains to 384 grains, and made it like the smaller coins, a legal tender for \$5 only. Mr. Sherman had reported an amendment to strike this out, and insert instead a "trade" dollar, to weigh 420 grains, with the same limitation as to the legal tender quality. The bill prohibited the issuance of the dollar in any coins not made of silver. The intent was to make sure that the 412½ grain dollar would not survive by any application.

The question may be asked how could Mr. Sherman thus deceive the senate. The reply is that the bill was being hurried through by him on his statement, at the outset, that its consideration "would not probably consume any more time than the time consumed in reading it." That meant that its seventy-one sections contained nothing of sufficient importance to even require explanation by him, much less, to call for debate. It was represented by him to be merely a bill to enact into law some changes in the mintage laws which the mint officers deemed necessary. He evidently satisfied senators that it was not worth their serious attention. Those who have now their acquaintance with the same proceedings understand very well that such mere routine legislation as this was represented to be attracts no attention in the senate chamber. The senator in charge is trusted to truthfully state its objects, and no one thinks of doubting his word.

"We have a distinctive American policy to work out—one sufficiently free from the traditions of Europe to be suited to our peculiar situation, and the genius of our enterprise countrymen."

From this stalwart blow by the great merchant senator from New York the bill never recovered. Mr. Sherman never again called it up.

The movement for a gold standard was not renewed in any quarter until nearly two years afterwards, and more than a year after the bill was introduced in the senate in 1873. On Feb. 15 of that year Senator Thurman said:

"If it is desirable to have money come from abroad, then it is evident that we have not enough money here to pay for it. We must make sure that the 412½ grain dollar would not survive by any application."

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The Testimony of Senators.

That no suspicion was being entertained at the time that silver was being demonetized by the bill is evidenced from the declarations subsequently made in the senate in 1873.

On the 30th of January, 1873, Senator Beck said:

"It is the bill demonetizing silver never was understood by either house of congress. I say this with full knowledge of the facts. No newspaper reporter, and they are the most vigilant men I ever saw in obtaining information, discovered that it had been done."

From the record, which I have fully read, it is impossible to track any other conclusion than that the confidence of the house was abused by Mr. Hooper, that the confidence of the senate was abused by Mr. Sherman and that by their joint efforts the most important piece of legislation of the century was carried through congress by stealth and the double standard, which had existed by the will of the people for more than eighty years, was taken away from them without their consent or knowledge, in the interests of aliens, by the manipulations herein described. I am, very truly yours,

GEORGE C. GORMAN.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 5, 1896.

amending the laws relative to mints, assay office and coinage of the United States." It was introduced by Mr. Kelly, of Pennsylvania, chairman of the committee on coinage, and reported by him favorably from that committee the 9th of January, 1873. He informed the house that it had been prepared in the treasury department for the purpose of codifying and simplifying the mint laws, the only important change being the creation of a mint bureau in the treasury department.

It was recommitted Jan. 16 and again reported with amendments Feb. 9, 1873, this time by the Hon. Samuel Hooper of Massachusetts. He stated that the bill reduced the weight of the silver dollar from 412½ grains to 384, but he did not state that it proposed, as it did, to demonetize silver by making the silver dollar a legal tender in sums not to exceed \$5.

The bill then passed the house in the substitute form under a suspension of the rules.

Ignorant of its Contents.

Mr. Kelly of Pennsylvania, who introduced the bill, declared on the floor of the house in 1873 that, though he was chairman of the committee on coinage, he was "ignorant of the fact that it would demonetize the silver dollar." (Congressional Record, vol. 7, part 2, page 1605.) Mr. Blaine, who was speaker of the house when the bill passed, declared on the floor of the senate in 1873 that he "did not know anything that was in the bill at all" and that little was known cared on that subject. (Same page 1605.)

Garfield declared that he knew nothing of the bill. (Congressional record, vol. 7, part 1, page 880.) Mr. Holman of Indiana declared that he was "ignorant of the fact of the bill through the house was a 'colossal swindle,' and 'never had the audacity of the house.'" (Congressional record, vol. 4, part 6, appendix 193.) Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, said: "Neither members of congress nor the people understood the scope of the legislation." (Same page, 197.)

In the senate the bill was taken up for consideration on the 17th of January, 1873, and debated and passed on that day. All the debate that was ever had upon it in that body took place on that date.

The bill, as it passed the senate, contained in plain terms some positive assertions made by Mr. Sherman during the debate upon it as to the proposed changes in coinage and the standard of the silver dollar. It demonetized silver, which he declared to the senate it did not. Mr. Hooper had misled the house by omissions, evasions and indirections; Mr. Sherman deceived the senate by direct misrepresentations. This was "the crime of 1873."

The Proof of Deception.

The inescapable proof of this serious accusation is contained in the report of the senate proceedings of Jan. 17, 1873, in the Congressional Globe, from which I will quote some passages: Congressional Globe, parts 1 and 2, third session, Forty-second congress, pages 685-674.

"There is no ground upon which the opposition is willing to fight this battle. They dare not declare in favor of the gold standard, because all history teaches that nothing but suffering has followed the experiment of a gold standard."

"We have been opposed to the importation of criminals and paupers from abroad and we shall oppose the importation of a financial system which is criminal and which makes paupers wherever it goes."

"We have been opposed to the importation of criminals and paupers from abroad and we shall oppose the importation of a financial system which is criminal and which makes paupers wherever it goes."

"The vote—not the bosses—will decide the battle. They dare not declare in favor of the gold standard, because all history teaches that nothing but suffering has followed the experiment of a gold standard."

"The gold standard is increasing every year, and we shall reach a time—the fact is, that the time is already reached—when the total amount of gold produced every year will be needed for the arts, and leave no annual product to keep up with that demand for money."

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