

THEY DODGE TAXES.

THE "HONEST MONEY" MEN OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

Public Plunderers to Shield Themselves Within the Folds of Old Glory—Waving the Flag with One Hand and Plundering with the Other Is Altogether Too Common in This Country.

Chicago, Sept. 28, 1896.—[Special]—The Chicago gold bug papers announce that a movement is on foot to decorate the streets with American flags and bunting in honor of the "honest money campaign."

Imitation is the sincerest flattery. The flag adjunct to the gold standard cause had its start one afternoon in the New York Stock Exchange. The zealous patriots and patrons of American labor and industry who compose this exchange, had finished a hard day's work. They had hammered down several industrial stocks on encouraging McKinley news, and were feeling good. A leading gold broker was seized with an inspiration. Pinning a McKinley badge to his breast, he produced an American flag and marched around the hall. Other stock brokers and money lenders followed him. The press accounts declared "that scores of well-known Democratic stock brokers tore Bryan badges from their breasts and joined in the parade."

This was the inception of the flag movement in behalf of honest money. It must have been an inspiring sight. Future generations will shed tears when they read how Mr. Ickleheimer, of the well-known firm of Heidelbach, Ickleheimer & Co. (maintainers of the national credit), dashed his Bryan button on the floor and declared for McKinley, honest, sound money and for his beloved country.

Bluff, old Ben Johnson once said: "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel."

A modern philosopher declared that "Waving the flag with one hand, and plundering the pockets of the people with the other, is a form of patriotism which is becoming altogether too common in this country."

The honest money men of Chicago should lose no time in spanning the down-town streets with flags. Next to honest assessments the Chicago millionaire loves honest money.

Let us throw a little light in on these "honest money" citizens who are about to stop over with patriotism. You will get no information concerning them by reading the Chicago papers. Here are a few facts about Chicago millionaires who are now raising a corruption fund to insure the triumph of honest money:

Without an exception they are tax dodgers.

By systematic bribery, perjury and fraud they evade the payment of their taxes and throw the burden of maintaining government on the small property holders and the working classes.

By reason of these crimes on the part of Chicago honest money millionaires, the city treasury is bankrupt, the streets are unpaved, and unswept, public school facilities are lacking, and the various municipal departments are the laughing stock of other cities and a disgrace to Chicago.

Every tax dodger in Chicago is for McKinley, honest money and a permanent gold standard.

They should raise the flags at once. It will not be the first time the folds of Old Glory have shielded public plunderers.

In 1872, after the great fire had swept out of existence the larger part of the city, the assessed valuation of Chicago was \$347,600,000. The population was less than 400,000.

Today, twenty-four years later, with a population of not less than 1,800,000, Chicago property is assessed at \$237,600,000. Look back at those figures of 1872. What do you think of it? According to the sworn statements of Chicago property owners, the city is worth \$100,000,000 less today than it was twenty-four years ago. It may be that this is on account of the crime of 1873. If so, it is a bad showing for the gold standard.

Property in the down town district which recently sold for \$750,000, is scheduled and assessed at \$65,000. Great railroad corporations owning city real estate and property worth \$25,000,000 are assessed at \$300,000. One piece of property—a sixteen story building—worth \$1,250,000, pays taxes on \$65,000.

There are some honest money people for you. They are going to drape their buildings with flags and proclaim to the open-mouthed world their honesty, purity and patriotism. They are not in favor of repudiation. They demand that the people of the United States shall pay their debts. They insist that every American dollar shall be just as good as any other American dollar—unless it is invested in their buildings. They are the guardians of the public morals; the keepers of the public conscience.

Who has to pay the taxes which these millionaires evade? The farmers of Illinois. His farm is assessed at nearly its full value. What is left after the Chicago board of trade has absorbed its share of plunder, is taken by the tax collector and poured into the public treasury, to be expended in protecting the property of Chicago's honest money patriots.

Waving a flag with one hand and plundering the people with another is a form of patriotism which is becoming altogether too common in this country.

That's What It Did.

It can hardly be said that Mr. Cleveland has bolted from the Democratic party. The party bolted from him.—New York Recorder.

They Will Hear Him.

Mr. Bryan talks because about 50,000 persons a day insist upon it.—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Talk about "strong men"—there's Bryan carrying the country!

BRYAN'S SAYINGS.

Extracts from the Speeches of the Democratic Candidate.

"You tell me that we must have a gold standard because England has. I reply to you that we will have bimetallism and then let England have bimetallism because we have bimetallism."

"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."

"The vote—not the bosses—ran the Chicago convention and I am proud to be the nominee of the convention which gave expression to the hope, the aspirations of the common people of the Democratic party."

"The gold used in the arts is increasing every year, and we shall reach a time—in fact, some insist 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 the demand for money."

"When these Republican politicians refuse to tell the American people what kind of a system they would have they must not expect the American people to put their financial affairs in the hands of those who do not know what ought to be done, or, if they do know, are determined not to let anybody else know what they know."

"They tell us that the election of the Chicago ticket will drive gold from this country. I want you to remember that the mere nomination of a candidate for president on a free silver platform has been bringing gold to this country for the last few weeks."

"If it is desirable to have money come from abroad, then it is evident that we have not enough money here now, and if we have not enough money now it is better to let the money come out of our mountains and be our own money than to borrow from abroad and have to pay it back with interest some time."

"We are sometimes accused of using extravagant language. But we do not have to use extravagant language. Whenever we want to be very emphatic we turn back to the utterances of men like Mr. Carlisle, who are now worshipping the gold calf, and use their language, to show what emphasis was before their hearts were turned from the people to Wall street."

"I am the nominee of three conventions, but I do not appeal to the votes of any man on the ground that I am nominated by my party. I have a higher claim to your suffrages than for party ties can give me. I appeal to you as the only candidate to the presidency who believes that the American people can have a financial policy of their own."

"The Republican platform adopted at St. Louis declares not that the gold standard is good, but that it must be maintained. How long? Until the American people are tired of it? No, they are tired of it now. Until the people desire to get rid of it? No, they desire to get rid of it now. How long? Why, we must maintain it until foreign nations desire us to get rid of it, and will let us get rid of it."

"In my judgment the income tax is just. It is not war upon property, but it is a demand that those who have property and who demand the protection of that property by federal laws should be willing to support the government to which they look for that protection, and not seek to use the instrumentalities of government for their own benefit and throw the burden of supporting that government on the party to lead and win."

Mr. Bryan is distinctly a people's candidate. I believe the plain people of this country—whom Abraham Lincoln loved—feel that they again have a candidate for president whom they can trust as they have not trusted any other candidate since Lincoln. His history of our country shows four such true representatives, appearing at cyclic intervals in this country—Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln, Bryan. These men were defenders of the rights of the people. They were called to leadership at critical periods of our history. We are now at a critical period. The crisis has brought forth the man to lead and win.

The idea that any considerable number of workingmen will vote for McKinley, especially since this far-reaching speech, is preposterous.

JOHN BOGART, Organizer New York state Branch of the American Federation of Labor.

The New York Sun, while professing to believe there is no possibility of Bryan's election, advises its readers, nevertheless, to protect themselves against all chance of loss from the success of the free silver craze by investing their surplus money in lands and other forms of good property, and to borrow more money to invest in the same way. This concedes the very point for which bimetallists have so strongly contended, that the opening of the mints to silver would cause money now hoarded to seek investment and increase the value of all forms of real estate, which is now so greatly depressed.

Mexico together may be able to do what Mexico cannot do alone."

"We apply the law of supply and demand to money. We say that the value of a dollar depends on the number of dollars and that you can raise the value of a dollar by making the dollars scarce, and we charge that our opponents are in favor of making the money scarce because they are controlled by those who want money dear. If you are in favor of dear money you ought to vote the Republican ticket. If you are in favor of making money the only thing which is desirable to own and making property the thing that everybody wants to get rid of, you want to vote the Republican ticket, because the Republican party proposes to continue the present financial system, the object of which is to make it more profitable to hoard money and get the increase in the rise of the value of the dollar than to put that dollar to work employing labor and developing resources of this great country."

STRONG APPEAL TO LABOR.

John N. Bogert of the American Federation of Labor Analyzes the Speech of the Nominee and Makes Predictions.

This speech is very timely. It is more than an address to the workers in Chicago—it appeals to the toilers everywhere. It will bring out and crystallize the "labor sentiment" of the entire country. The attempts to suppress this sentiment will rather develop it, broaden it, deepen it, strengthen and embolden it, make it more determined in its stay. Inquiry from all parts of the industrial world will now be focused upon the issues represented by Mr. Bryan's candidacy.

His strong expressions in behalf of the common people; his quotations from Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln; his demand for government without favoritism; his recommendation of arbitration in labor disputes; his advocacy of proper legislation on the problem of the unemployed; and finally his exaltation of labor organizations and their achievements, placing them above associations of bankers, railroad magnates and monopolists in their relations with the general public—all these will touch the responsive chord among the city workers and farmers.

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Mr. Bryan is the embodiment of the principles for which organized labor is battling. Our platform might well be simply "Bryan!" This is labor's golden opportunity, to be embraced with zeal, and utilized as the chance of a lifetime. And, thank God, that, although capital is banded together as never before, there is a steadily growing unity of purpose among the workers that will, by election day, sweep aside this evil power and give an enduring triumph to the new and true Democracy.

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[Signed.] J. H. WILSON.

This is a most appropriate reply to such a circular. It is strange beyond comprehension that the McCormick Harvester company, of all the corporations in existence, should attempt to coerce its agents and employees to support the existing gold standard system of finance. It has grown enormously rich from the sale of its machines to the farmers of the country. It has no business relations with any other class of people. One would think it would naturally oppose the gold standard, under the operations of which agriculture has suffered most and the prices of all farm products have fallen even below the cost of production; and that it would favor the remonetization of silver, the immediate result of which would be to make agriculture once more prosperous and profitable. But it has as little regard for its customers as for its employees. It will excite no wonder that the agent at Carthage, Mo., should protest against farmers harvesting 40-cent wheat on McCormick machines.

Other instances of the attempts of corporations to coerce their employees are numerous. A few days ago Martin Spangler, an expert electrician, called at National Democratic headquarters and stated that he, with two other employees of the General Electric Light company of Chicago, had been discharged because they refused to join the McKinley club. According to Mr. Spangler's statement, the foreman of the company approached them last Friday and asked them to join a McKinley club. Spangler and two of his fellow-employees refused to do so. Nothing more was said at the time and they were paid off as usual on Saturday night. On Monday morning when they returned to work they were informed by the foreman that their services were no longer needed. Mr. Spangler has worked at his trade throughout Mexico, Central and South America, and in China, Japan, India, and several European countries, and speaks seven languages. He is thoroughly posted on the effects of a gold standard as compared to bimetallism in the countries he has visited, and has been giving his fellow-workmen some object lessons that could not be answered. For this reason, added to his refusal to wear a Mark Hanna collar, he was thrown out of work. Mr. Spangler owns property in Denver, Colo., and enjoys the friendship of Thomas Patterson of the Rocky Mountain News. Hon. Charles H. The

WICKED COERCION.

PRACTICED UPON EMPLOYEES BY BIG CORPORATIONS.

Compelled to Work for McKinley or Lose Their Jobs—An Agent of the McCormick Harvesting Machine Company Who Would Not Be Bulldozed.

The wholesale bulldozing of their employees by the railroads and other great corporations, to compel them to vote for McKinley, is a new feature of American politics, and is as infamous as it is new. Weak attempts are occasionally made by the Republican managers to deny that such outrageous methods are being used to secure votes; but the proof is so plain and overwhelming that successful denial is impossible.

The Chicago Record, itself a strong advocate of the gold standard, and, therefore, not disposed to misrepresent its own side, contained the following dispatch on the morning of the 19th, from Cobden, Ills., amply confirming this charge:

"Cobden, Ills., Sept. 18.—James Davis, William Wilker, Thomas Smith and Charles Fuller, residents of this place, employed as track layers by the contractors laying the steel of the new double track of the Illinois Central between Makanda and Dongola, were notified this morning by their foreman, McCoy, to report to him and receive checks for their time. Twelve non-resident laborers received the same notice. McCoy informed them that the only reason that he could give for their dismissal was that they were advocating the cause of Bryan and free silver. Whenever they were promptly filled by Italians. As soon as the news reached this place the Bryan followers were very angry and excitement is at fever heat."

On Sept. 10 the McCormick Harvesting Machine company of Chicago sent the following circular to all its agents throughout the country:

"Dear Sir: We sent you by express yesterday a package of sound money literature. We want by return mail an estimate from you as to how much of this can be used in your territory, and an enumeration of the kind that will be most effective. We will then send you another supply by express, and will request in advance that you supply it to your travelers and instruct them to use it just the same as though it were advertising matter for the sale of our machinery."

"We surely have a right to expect that all McCormick employees have the interest of the company at heart, and will take up this matter and carry it out as requested. Yours truly,

"M'CORICK HARVESTING MACHINE COMPANY."

The idea that a corporation has the right to the votes of its agents and employees, and to make mere political servants of them, has not heretofore, we believe, been advanced in this country. Men who sell their labor have not heretofore been compelled to sell their votes with it. They have still been American freemen, at liberty to affiliate with any party and cast their votes as they might please. But the encroachments of modern corporations, organized to promote party selfish interests do not now, it seems, stop short of attempts to make political serfs of their employees. Upon receipt of the above circular the agent of the McCormick Harvesting Machine company at Carthage, Mo., who seems to have an idea that he is still a free and independent citizen, in matters political, at least, replied in the following spirited manner:

"McCormick Harvesting Machine company: Dear Sir—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 10th inst. You are on a cold trail. Missouri will give Bryan 60,000 majority. If these letters are written by authority of your company, every Missouri farmer who uses a McCormick harvester, deserves to sell his wheat for 40 cents a bushel.

[Signed.] J. H. WILSON."

This is a most appropriate reply to such a circular. It is strange beyond comprehension that the McCormick Harvester company, of all the corporations in existence, should attempt to coerce its agents and employees to support the existing gold standard system of finance. It has grown enormously rich from the sale of its machines to the farmers of the country. It has no business relations with any other class of people. One would think it would naturally oppose the gold standard, under the operations of which agriculture has suffered most and the prices of all farm products have fallen even below the cost of production; and that it would favor the remonetization of silver, the immediate result of which would be to make agriculture once more prosperous and profitable.

But it has as little regard for its customers as for its employees. It will excite no wonder that the agent at Carthage, Mo., should protest against farmers harvesting 40-cent wheat on McCormick machines. The combined assessed wealth, real and personal, of these twelve great states of the west and south, as shown by the census of 1890, foots up between six and seven billions, while the combined wealth of 3,000 plutocratic families foots up over twelve billions—nearly twice as much.

What more need be said?—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Fruits of the Gold Standard.

Suppose that in 1892 a free silver president and congress had been elected and unlimited coinage at 16 to 1 inaugurated. Then suppose that these things had followed: The industry of the country sandbagged, workingmen thrown out of employment by the million, farmers unable to sell their products at a profit, bankruptcy hanging over countless thousands, banks everywhere so near the verge of insolvency owing to depreciation in values that to press their debtors would mean ruin to themselves, our bond obligations increased by \$262,000,000 to keep gold in the treasury, payment of the public debt stopped, and a deficit in the revenue of \$12,000,000 a month piling up—suppose all this under a silver administration, and who would then now be to question that our manifold calamities had been brought upon us by free coinage?

All these disasters have befallen under a gold administration, and why should not the gold standard be charged with them? Present facts are better guides than the predictions of prophets of evil. Let the defenders of gold monetarism tell why it is that while their money system has been in existence the country has so suffered. Thomas Patterson of the Rocky Mountain News. Hon. Charles H. The

Senator Teller, and Chairman L. N. Stevens of the Silver party national committee. He will talk to workingmen during the campaign.

A. H. Spindler, a conductor on the South Halsted street line of the West Chicago Street Railway company, reported at National Democratic headquarters that he had been discharged by Superintendent Fuller of the West Chicago Street Railway company because he would not wear a McKinley button. According to Mr. Spindler's statement Superintendent Fuller gave every employee of the company a McKinley button, and ordered them to wear it. Mr. Spindler threw his button away, and was promptly discharged. He states that the barn bosses were directed to pin McKinley badges and buttons on the conductors and drivers. Mr. Spindler has been in the employ of the company three and a half years. His only offense was that he would not wear a McKinley button. "It is safe to say," said Mr. Spindler, "that more than three-fourths of the street railway employees in Chicago are for Bryan, yet they are compelled to join the McKinley clubs and wear McKinley badges or lose their jobs. I know what I am saying when I assert that three-fourths of the members of the street railway McKinley clubs, and so-called sound money clubs, will vote for Bryan. They say they are compelled to submit to coercion on account of their families, but when they get behind the Australian ballot-box curtain they will aver the wrong."

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