

BRYAN SURE OF VICTORY!

Issues a Signed Statement Expressing Confidence in His Success.

THE PEOPLE AWAKENED.

There Can be No Permanent Prosperity So Long as the Gold Standard Is Maintained.

The Numbers in Favor of Free Coinage Are Daily Increasing, but Its Friends Are Nevertheless Urged to Continue Their Work Until Election Day to Make the Majority Overwhelming.

W. J. Bryan will certainly be the next president of the United States. The campaign has progressed far enough to show that the result is merely a question of how large a majority the people will roll up against the domination of Wall street and the supremacy of the English gold standard. Mr. Bryan has issued the following signed statement, which fully coincides with and verifies the judgement and sentiment of the overwhelming majority of the people. It looks as if the election was going to be a landslide, a tidal wave, which will sweep all before it. The following is Mr. Bryan's statement, issued to the press Saturday morning from Cincinnati:

"I have no doubt of my election. I base my confidence upon the fact that the free coinage sentiment is growing every day. The people are studying the money question, and the study of it is convincing the people generally that there can be no permanent prosperity so long as the gold standard is maintained.

"The gold standard makes a dearer dollar. A dearer dollar makes falling prices, and falling prices mean hard times. The people who profit by hard times are relatively so few in number that they would amount to nothing at all but for the fact that they are aided by a considerable number of people who, not having studied the money question themselves, have received instructions from a few financiers.

"The number of Republicans who have declared for free silver outnumbers the Democrats who have deserted the ticket, and while the number of silver Republicans is increasing all the time, the number of booted Democrats is all the time decreasing.

"While I have no doubt as to my election, I believe that the advocates of free coinage should work from now to election day to make the majority in the electoral college so large that no party hereafter will ever dare to propose submission to a foreign financial policy."

W. J. BRYAN.

PRINCE BISMARCK.

SAYS THE ACT OF 1873 WAS TOO PRECIPITATE.

And That the German Government Must Review Its Monetary Position — The World Must Return to Bimetallism — Farmer Must Not Be Estranged.

New York, Sept. 23.—A dispatch to The World from London says:

"Moreton Frewen came back today from the international agricultural congress at Buda-Pesth. One delegate, Herr von Kordoff, leader of the Free Conservative party in the German reichstag and a neighbor of Prince Bismarck at Friedrichsruhe, reported a conversation he had recently with the prince on the American political situation, as follows:

"Frankly, Mr. Kordoff, I am too old to go to school over the currency question, but I recognize that, although I acted in 1873 on what I regarded as the best advice, my action was too precipitate, in view of the results which have followed.

"The one class that we cannot afford to estrange is the farming class. If they are convinced, and they assure you they are convinced, that agricultural depression is peculiar to these monetary changes, our government must review its position."

If you could enter the homes of this nation and see how hope deferred has made the heart sick, if you could see the parents, who, in hopes of better days, have planned for the higher education of their children, in order that the children might begin the battle of life with greater advantages than their parents, but who have been compelled to keep the children at home in order to keep the wolf from the door, you would understand what the gold standard means. It means a lower order of civilization, and, if continued, we will sink down where the few own all the wealth, and the many are simply dependent tenants.—Mr. Bryan at Charlotte, N. C.

Chairman Gowdy of the Indiana Republican state committee, recently addressed a letter to the Indiana Stove works of Evansville, Ind., detailing the wretched condition of the country and asking a contribution of money to assist in the restoration of the Republican party to power, "to avert further calamity." Instead of sending a contribution, Mr. J. W. Boehne, secretary of the Indiana Stove works, replied: "The election of Bryan will cure most of the evils from which the masses are suffering. Have voted for Garfield, Blaine and Harrison, but will vote for Bryan this time."

A year ago, when the election of a gold standard seemed absolutely certain, gold left this country in large quantities. Now, with the odds in favor of the free coinage candidate, it is returning in such quantities that the Bank of England has been obliged to raise its price.—Waverly (La.) Democrat.

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 1873, and was in the national political council 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.

On the 18th of May, 1867, being then on a visit to Paris and having just visited London, he addressed a letter to the United States commissioner to the international conference on coinage, weights and measures, then in the former city. In that letter, which was published, he strongly urged the adoption of the gold standard, and said of his own country: "As coin is not now in general circulation we can easily fix by law the size, weight and measure of future issues." The conference adopted the gold standard, and our commissioner reported that this result was largely due to the letter of Mr. Sherman.

Senator Sherman next attempted to "easily fix by law" in this country the new monetary system so essential to the success of the scheme above described. To that end, on the 8th of February, 1868, he introduced in the senate a bill (No. 217) to demonetize silver by discontinuing the coinage of the silver dollar. He reported this bill favorably from the finance committee, but Senator E. D. Morgan, of New York, vigorously antagonized it in a minority report, in which, after showing the advantages to the United States of continuing the double standard, he said:

"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 enterprising 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 expiration of Senator Morgan's term of office.

Strengthening the Bondholders.

Meanwhile, in obedience to the concerted newspaper clamor inspired by the operators in bonds, congress passed the act of March, 1869, "To strengthen the public credit," by which, without any consideration whatever, the principal of the bonds of the government, then payable in any lawful money, was made payable in coin only.

The advantage this gave to the bondholders will be apparent when we consider that the major portion of the bonds were by law redeemable in any lawful money at the pleasure of the United States. The act of 1869, to strengthen the purses of the bondholders, surrendered this privilege and bound the government to redeem in coin, then an enormous premium.

This was followed, July 14, 1870, by the refunding act, under which existing bonds were authorized to be converted into bonds payable, principal and interest, "in the coin of the United States of the present standard value."

That is to say, the value of July 14, 1870. Silver dollars were at that time equally with gold a full legal tender.

A second unsuccessful attempt at the demonetization of silver was inaugurated on the 25th of April, 1870, by the introduction in the senate by Senator Sherman of a bill (No. 859) revising the laws relating to the mint, assay offices and coinage of the United States. It contained seventy-one sections, the fifteenth of which gave a list of all silver coins to be thereafter issued, and the eighteenth of which prohibited the issuance of any not named therein. The silver dollar was omitted from the list.

The bill passed the senate Jan. 10, 1871,

but was never acted upon by the house.

The Third and Successful Attempt.

The third and finally successful movement for the demonetization of silver was the introduction in the house of representatives on the 9th of March, 1871, of "A bill (No. 1,127) revising and

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 on the 9th of January, 1872. 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. 10 and again reported with amendments Feb. 9, 1872, 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 only 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 or cared on the subject." (Same, page 1603.) Garfield declared that he knew nothing about it. (Congressional record, vol. 7, part 1, page 989.) Mr. Holman of Indiana, declared that the passage of the bill through the house was a "colossal swindle," and "never had the sanction 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, contradicts in plain terms some positive assertions made by Mr. Sherman during the debate upon it as to the provisions it contained concerning the standard silver dollar. It demonetized silver, which he declared to the senate it did not. Mr. Hooper had misled the house by omissions, evasions and directions; Mr. Sherman deceived the senate by direct misrepresentations. This was "the crime of 1873."

The Proof of Deception.

The ineffectual 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 665-674.

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 from the mints of any coins not named therein. This was to make sure that the 412½ grain dollar would not survive by any implication.

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 any acquaintance with senate 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.

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 Feb. 15 of that year Senator Thurman said:

"I cannot say what took place in the house, but know, when the bill was pending in the senate, we thought it was simply a bill to reform the mint, regulate coinage and fix up one thing and another, and there is not a single man in the senate, I think, unless he dare question their right to dictate votes or control legislation. The 'bankers' boycott' against those who dare express an opinion favorable to silver is a feature of this campaign.

5. Every man who ever denied the right of workingmen to organize for mutual protection, is for McKinley. Every hater of labor organizations; every man who has grown rich by oppressing workmen; who has fattened just in proportion as he has reduced wages, is against W. J. Bryan and in favor of the gold standard. Name an exception if you can.

6. Every unprincipled corporation which finds it necessary to employ men to bribe legislators and secure special legislation, is contributing money to swell the corruption fund for "McKinley and honest money." Every man whose money has been used to debauch congressmen, members of state legislatures and of city councils can be found arrayed against William Bryan and denouncing the common people as thieves.

7. Every wealthy tax dodger, who makes it a practice to bribe assessors, is for William McKinley and a gold standard. Name an exception if you can. Pick out the richest, meanest and most stingy man in your community and see how he stands in this campaign. Select those men who have grown rich by grinding the poor, by taking advantage of the unfortunate, and who, having thus acquired a fortune, perjure their souls, and evade the payment of a fair share of taxes, and see how they are going to vote.

8. Every mortgage-shark, every pawn-broker, every man who thrives on the enforced poverty of the people is opposed to the election of William J. Bryan, and is heartily in favor of perpetuating the gold standard.

9. Every newspaper owned by a banker or controlled by a syndicate, and every newspaper mortgaged to a bank has been compelled to declare for the gold standard and in many instances stultify an honorable record and prostitute its columns at the dictation of Mark Hanna and Wall street.

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