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Address, THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Nebraska.

done this thing. It seems more incredible that having done it, public opinion, when advised of the facts, does not rush to arms! The only comfort in spite of the written protests of the Times (July 11, 1898), and the Statist (July 15, 1898), of Lord Avebury and Sir Robert Giffen,

of every mono-metallist authority, of every chamber of commerce, of every reputable economist without one exception. But for the tragedy and consequent unrest, the episode in our history, though disreputable, is yet amusing. It shows the overwhelming Kopenik tendency in this

nation—that we are at all times prepared to lie down in the mud and let three or four officials walk over our prostrate bodies.

Yours faithfully,  
**MORETON FREWEN.**  
 Innishannon, January 1, 1909.

**IROQUOIS CLUB, SAN FRANCISCO**

The Iroquois club of San Francisco, through its president, Thomas E. Hayden, sends to Mr. Bryan a resolution adopted in December as follows:

Whereas, The Iroquois club, believing in the fundamental principles of the democracy taught by Jefferson and expounded by Bryan, and among them: Equal and exact justice to all men; peace, commerce and honest friendship with all nations; the support of the state governments in all their rights, as the most competent means of administering domestic concerns and the bulwarks against despotic tendencies; the preservation of the national government in its whole constitutional vigor; economy in public expense; the diffusion of information and the arraignment of all abuses at the bar of public reason; freedom of speech, of the person, of religion and of the press; and opposing any system of taxation that takes from the many and gives to the few; therefore be it

Resolved, That we again affirm our faith in these principles, our faith in the people when fairly informed and our faith in the wisdom, in the honesty and in the patriotic leadership of the people's tribune, William J. Bryan, who, without wealth, without office, without undue influence of any kind, simply by the splendid gifts of his genius and great excellence of his character, has made himself the idol of millions of his fellow citizens; and be it

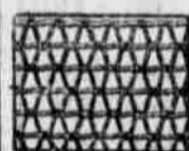
Further Resolved, That this club send to you, our late and present leader, the above resolution, accompanied by the club's best wishes for you and yours, and followed by our loving greetings for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**A HISTORIC PARALLEL**

F. M. Mason of Charlestown, W. Va., sends to The Commoner a communication clipped from the Farmer's Advocate. The communication follows:

Mr. Editor: A half a century in politics is but a short time, and one who takes a contracted view would probably despair of the political success of a party often defeated, but fortunately past records are open to the student and from these much hope can be drawn. A few extracts from Macaulay's Life and Letters by G. O. Trevelyan will show this. Lord Macaulay belonged to the liberal party and Mr. Trevelyan states describing the condition of the parties, the tory (the conservative) and the whig (the democratic or liberal party) in the year 1830: "It is enough to assert what few or none will deny that for a space of more than a generation from 1790 onward our country had with a short interval been governed on declared reactionary principles. We \* \* \* find it difficult to imagine what must have been the condition of the kingdom when one and the same party almost continuously held not only place, but power, over a period, when to an unexampled degree public life was exasperated by hatred and the charities of private life soured by political aversion. Fear, religion, ambition and self interest, and everything that could tempt and everything that could deter, were enlisted on the side of the dominant opinions. To profess liberal views was to be hopelessly excluded from all posts of emolument, from all functions of dignity, from the opportunities of business, from the amenities of so-

ciety. Whig merchants had a difficulty in getting money for paper, and whig barristers in obtaining acceptance for their arguments. No motive but disinterested conviction kept a handful of veterans steadfast around a banner which was never raised, except to be swept contemptuously down by the disciplined and overwhelming strength of the ministerial phalanx. Argument and oratory were alike unavailing under a constitution, which was indeed a despotism of privilege. The county representation of England was an anomaly and the borough representation little better than a scandal. The constituencies of Scotland, with so much else that of right belonged to the public, had got into Dundas' pockets. In the year 1820 all the towns north of Tweed together contained fewer voters than are now on the rolls of the single borough of Hawick and all the counties together contained fewer voters than are now on the register of Roxburghshire. So small a band of electors was easily manipulated by a party leader, who had the patronage of India at his command. The press was gagged in England and throttled in Scotland. \* \* \* Amidst a population which had once known freedom and was still fit to be entrusted with it, such a state of matters could not last forever" (but presto change!) "The opponents of progress (rational progress) began to perceive that they had to reckon not with a small and disheartened faction but with a clear majority of



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