

Likes Harmon for Same Reason He Likes Taft

This letter was received by Mr. Bryan in response to a circular letter sent out from The Commoner office

Form 2103

Standard—6-11-25000

Union Pacific Railroad Company

Office of
Assist. Superintendent

In reply please refer to
No.

Ogden, Utah, January 5th, 1912.

The Hon. W. J. Bryan,
Lincoln, Neb.

My Dear Mr. Bryan:

In reply to your letter of Decr. 18th., in regard to the Presidential Campaign which is now approaching, and who should be the choice of the Democratic party as their standard bearer this year.

After looking over the available candidates, their records and what they have done for the democratic party in the past, and what they might do in the future, I have come to the conclusion that Judson A. Harmon is the logical candidate for President on the Democratic ticket in 1912. My reasons for this are:— That Governor Harmon is the strongest man that the party has got; he carried the state of Ohio with a plurality of about one hundred thousand, when it was carried by a republican candidate for President by nearly the same number. While in 1896, Governor Harmon did not support the democratic ticket, which was the ticket you ran on, as he could not agree with you on the silver question, I understand that he did support you in 1900; he also supported the ticket in 1904 and gave it his undivided support in 1908. Many of the best laws in the Statute books of the State of Ohio were placed there during the term of office enjoyed by him.

We have, as you know, many candidates, among them Woodrow Wilson, Champ Clark and Joseph F. Folk, but none of these men measure out to the standard of Governor Harmon.

While I am a stranger in the state of Utah and not in touch with the Political situation here, I intend to use what influence I may have in this State to send a delegation to the next Democratic Convention in favor of Judson A. Harmon as Candidate for President of the United States on the Democratic Ticket.

At present, I am at a loss to understand whom your choice for candidate is, but I trust you will see the wisdom and the great benefit which would come to the Democratic party by having such a man as Harmon at the head of the ticket. The warring factions in the Republican party makes our success seem more plausible. At present the complexion of the Republican party would indicate that Taft will be re-nominated, whom if we must have a republican president, I would much rather see there than a man of La Follette's type, as I think that the greatest calamity that could happen to this country would be to have Robert A. La Follette as the next president.

With best wishes, I am,

Yours very truly,

GEO. O. BROPHY,
Asst. Superintendent.

conversation. I have not seem him since that time. If I mistake not there in an implication perhaps in Col. Watterson's letter to Senator Tillman—probably not intended—to the effect that he secured funds for the campaign from Mr. Ryan. No such contribution has been made and this, of course, Col. Watterson well knows.

"The well-timed assaults upon Governor Wilson are rendering a real service. I will specify in one respect. Since the beginning of these attacks I have received in my mail many small contributions from all over the country from people who have not been asked to contribute and whom neither I nor Governor Wilson know. Their letters all convey expressions of resentment at the unfair and concerted attacks that are being made upon him."

WATTERSON'S LATER STATEMENT

Following are Associated Press dispatches: Washington, Jan. 29.—Colonel Henry Watterson, in a statement issued tonight intended to bring a "distasteful episode" to an end so far

as he was concerned, declared that the issue between him and Governor Woodrow Wilson was solely as to which one had "lied." Colonel Watterson said he "had engaged conclusively to show" that Governor Wilson had lied, and charged that the New Jersey executive "dared not face the facts." Colonel Watterson declined to make public any proofs in his possession. He denied that Thomas F. Ryan had even been approached for campaign contributions for Governor Wilson, but stated that the matter had been talked over with Governor Wilson, and the latter had "expressed the fear" that if the knowledge of a contribution from Mr. Ryan got abroad it might do more harm than good.

Trenton, N. J., Jan. 29.—Governor Woodrow Wilson refused tonight to make any statement in reply to the one issued by Col. Henry Watterson. The governor said he would first read the matter given out by Colonel Watterson carefully before deciding to make any reply.

"At any rate," he said, "I shall not issue a statement tonight."

New York, Jan. 29.—"Colonel Watterson has

a beautiful vocabulary and has composed a splendid speech," said William F. McCombs, Governor Wilson's campaign manager, when asked by newspaper men tonight if he had anything to say in reply to Colonel Watterson's new statement on the so-called Harvey-Wilson controversy over campaign contributions.

"An analysis of the colonel's statement shows clearly that he refutes himself and confirms all that I have said about the matter," added Mr. McCombs, who refused to make any further comment, except that he could not imagine who the "gentleman of distinction" referred to by Colonel Watterson could be.

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 29.—William J. Bryan passed through Kansas City tonight on his way to his Texas farm. Mr. Bryan said that so far the Wilson-Harvey-Watterson controversy had not caused Governor Wilson to smart.

"His manager," Mr. Bryan continued, "says that Ryan's money was offered and rejected and that was to Wilson's credit. Unless they have something to offset, Governor Wilson will profit decidedly by the incident."