SUPPLEMENT TO THE
M'COOK TRIBUNE.

Friday, August 28, 1896.

FARMER'S EGG BASKET

The McKinley Law Checked Importation and Gave Home Market.

EFFECT OF THE WILSON BILL.

The Canadian Farmer Has Protection but the American Farmer Has None.

There is no reason why Canada, Mexico, China, or any other country should supply the United States with a single egg. Canada does not buy a single egg from us, and there is no reason why we should buy from her. When we do, the American farmer loses the benefit of part of his natural market.

The purpose of this article is to show by a few figures the benefit which the American farmer derived from the McKinley law; not merely because the law stopepd imports from other countries, but because under that law he received an average of 15 cents a dozen for his eggs all the year around. Under the present Wilson-Gorman bill, he hardly averages 5 cents a dozen; and the people could better afford to pay 15 cents a dozen in 1892, than they can 5 cents a dozen in 1896.

From 1883 to 1890, there was no tariff upon eggs. The Canadian farmer could send his eggs across the line from Maine to California. Mexico, China, France, Germany and other countries supplied us with 15,500,000 dozens of eggs, annually, on the average. We paid every year to the foreign farmer on this small product alone, at 15 cents a dozen, $2,500,000. This importation of over 1,000,000 dozen a month or 50,000 dozen a day was felt, in the way of competition, by our farmers chiefly in the large cities. Farmers can get the best prices for eggs and their products in the large cities; but when New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago, San Francisco and many other markets are supplied with eggs, shipped at cheap rates of transportation by water, how can the farmer expect to compete who has to ship his eggs by rail?

The following statement shows importations of eggs, by countries, the year before the McKinley tariff went into effect, for the year ending June 30, 1889:

Importations of eggs, by countries, July1, 1888, to June 30, 1889.

Countries.	Dozens.	Value.
Austria-Hungary	1,528	$382
Belgium	215,164	33,223
China	126,300	6,425
Denmark	74,950	11,899
France	140	99
Germany	73,355	14,119
England	4,914	897
Scotland	4,100	820
Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island	3,637,222	481,609
Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba Territory	11,731,864	1,864,020
British Columbia	975	86
Hong Kong	15,219	780
Italy	12,468	2,078
Japan	20	5
Mexico	18,587	2,380
Netherlands	500	70
Cuba	10,503	154
Turkey in Africa	.....	5
Total	15,918,809	$2,418,976

The next table shows the points at which these eggs were received:

AMERICA PORTS OF ENTRY FOR EGGS.

Ports.	Dozens.	Value.
Aroostook, Maine	1,958	$277
Bangor, Maine	546,826	68,142
Bath, Maine	385	35
Boston and Charleston, Mass.	1,938,267	270,990
Buffalo Creek, N. Y.	5,740,946	920,096
Cape Vincent, N. Y.	9,400	1,347
Champlain, N. Y.	829,894	125,603
Corpus Christi, Texas	32	4
Cuyahoga, O.	600	80
Detroit, Mich.	437,993	54,314
Genesee, N. Y.	735	104
Gloucester, Mass.	15,783	2,342
Huron, Mich.	11,777	1,418
Key West, Fla.	1,503	154
Marblehead, Mass.	1,729	204
New London, Conn.	316	33
New York, N. Y.	392,469	63,845
Niagara, N. Y.	1,412,963	240,686
Oswegatchie, N. Y.	1,020,293	141,521
Oswego, N. Y.	25	5
Paso del Norte, Texas and New Mexico	18,555	2,376
Passamaquoddy, Maine.	1,122,638	138,131
Philadelphia, Pa.	.....	5
Portland and Falmouth, Maine.	2,681	382
Portsmouth, N. H.	164	18
Providence, R. I.	30	6
Puget Sound, Wash.	975	86
Salem and Beverly, Mass.	4,184	563
Sandusky, O.	720	62
San Francisco, Cal.	126,300	6,425
Superior, Mich.	7,764	1,162
Vermont	2,256,070	377,407
Waldoborough, Me.	3,364	485
Willamette, Or.	10,215	507
All other customs districts	1,255	211
Total	15,918,809	$2,418,976

It would evidently be impossible for farmers fifty miles in the interior of any of the states bordering on the Great Lakes, to compete with eggs shipped by water from Canada.

The McKinley tariff imposed a duty of 5 cents a dozen on eggs. This law went into effect October 1, 1890. During the year ending June 30, 1890, we imported nearly 900,000 dozen eggs less than in the year previous, when there was no protection. The importation of eggs steadily decreased until the repeal of the McKinley law in 1894, so that instead of nearly 16,000,000 dozen eggs being brought into this country, as heretofore, in 1890-1 we imported 8,000,000 dozen; 4,000,000 in 1891-92; 3,000,000 in 1892-3; 1,750,000 in 1893-4. By 1894 nearly $2,000,000 had been taken from the foreign shipper, which now went into the pockets of the American farmer.

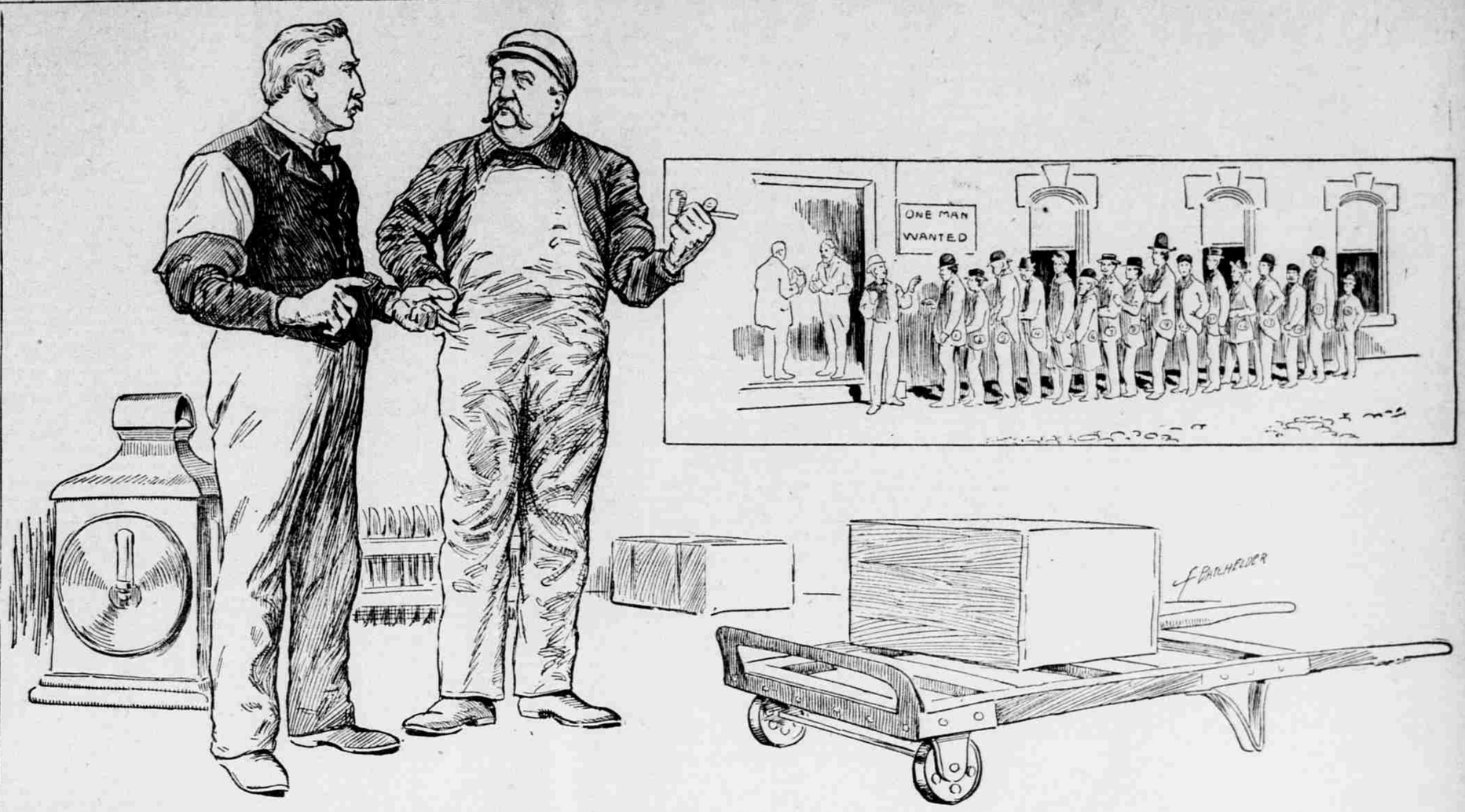
The following table shows the importations of eggs since 1883:

Annual importations of foreign eggs, 1883-1895.

Year ending June 30.	Dozens.	Value.
a 1883	15,279,065	$2,667,604
a 1884	16,487,204	2,677,630
a 1885	16,098,450	2,476,672
a 1886	16,092,583	2,173,454
a 1887	13,936,054	1,960,396
a 1888	15,642,861	2,312,478
a 1889	15,918,809	2,418,976
b 1890	15,062,796	2,074,912
b 1891	8,233,043	1,[illegible]5,595
b 1892	4,188,492	522,240
b 1893	3,295,812	382,617
b 1894	1,797,430	199,836
c 1895	2,709,411	324,133

a Under Free Trade.
b Protected, October 6, 1890, at 5 cents per dozen.
c Gorman 3c Tariff.

During the last year of the McKinley tariff the only eggs we bought were from Canada, and from China for the Chinese. We bought none whatever from European countries, as before. Even at 5 cents a dozen the tariff would not be any too high. It simply made a difference to the countries across the Ocean, or places in Canada, far from the shipping



What does all this talk about sixteen to one mean?

It means that free coinage of silver will ruin business and close the workshops so that when there is a job for one man there will be sixteen men out of work applying for it.

If the McKinley law had been let alone, the American farmer in 1895-6 would be supplying nearly every egg in the American market. The farmer's wife would have felt encouraged to increase her stock of poultry, on which she depended for pin money to clothe herself and her children. When the McKinley law was repealed and the tariff on eggs reduced from 5 cents to 3 cents a dozen, importation increased 1,000,000 dozen in one year, at an increased price of $125,000. Unless the American farmer can see it to be his interest to vote for McKinley and the restoration of a proper duty on eggs, the Canadian and other foreign farmers will soon again ship us 16,000,000 dozen a year and the price of domestic eggs will continue to decline, as they have done for the last two years.

Question. Why Should Democrats Legislate in favor of the Canadian as against the American Farmer?

The American farmer could not sell eggs in Canada, even if they had no tariff on American eggs. There are only a few large cities there, and they are near to the Canadian cheap farms. The half-a-dozen small markets in Canada have a total population only one-quarter as large as that of the city of New York. A few election districts in the city of New York, or in Philadelphia, or in Chicago, afford a better market for American eggs than the whole of Canada. Yet Canada imposes a duty of 5 cents a dozen on our eggs, while we impose a duty of only 3 cents a dozen on her eggs.

The Canadians have protection, but under the Wilson bill we have not.

A Pointer for Farmers.

I remember one instance that bears particularly upon this question that came to me today as I sat here, and that was this: My father came from the New England states upon this prairie in 1837. He told me this instance once: That after sowing a crop of wheat by hand, cutting it with the cradle, binding it with the rake, and threshing it with the ball upon the floor, he put it upon a wagon and drove it to this city of Milwaukee, ninety-six miles away, and sold it here for 46 cents a bushel. This was in the '50s, and silver then was $1.30 an ounce. Now tell the silver men to explain to you how it was that in the early '50s wheat was 46 cents a bushel, and silver $1.30 an ounce, if the price of silver always carries with it the price of wheat. And when he hems and haws, say to him: "It is not only confined to wheat, but that other commodity you yoke up with silver, cotton; and tell him that for the four years ending in 1845 cotton in the city of New York averaged only 7 cents a pound; and that for the four years ending in 1894 the same class averaged 8 cents a pound. Tell him to explain that to you. That was when we had free coinage and silver was then $1.30 an ounce. He cannot explain it. That one illustration, my friends, utterly destroys the whole silver heresy.—Congressman Fowler of New Jersey.

What Stewart Thought in 1894.

Senator Stewart of Nevada made a speech in Congress February 11, 1874, in which he said:

Let everybody know what a dollar is worth. The farmers will then know how to measure the difference in price between his wheat in Illinois and the wheat in Liverpool. The wheat will be measured by the same standard—gold—in Illinois as it is in Liverpool and any man can figure it up. But now it is a mystery; the whole subject of finance is a mystery, and what do we see every day? We see those who devote their attention to it making large fortunes out of this mystery.

Let us do as all the people of the world have been doing from the beginning—measure our values by gold, adopt the standard that all can understand, and get rid of this mystery.

Mr. Logan—What does the senator want?

Mr. Stewart—I want the standard gold, and no paper money not redeemed in gold, no paper money the value of which is not ascertained, no paper money that will organize a gold board to speculate with it. Who pays for this gold board? Who pays these immense fortunes? How is it that millions and millions can be rolled up annually there? Did anybody ever calculate who paid for it? It comes out of the producers. How do these men exist? By the latitude which your depreciated currency gives to speculation and nothing else.

Persons who are speculating in your depreciated currency are making the money, and they will continue to make it so long as you have a depreciated currency.

If the farmers would get rich they have got to become skilled in this fluctuating currency and make corners and manipulate the market, and if they do that they cannot farm.—(Congressional Record forty-third Congress, first session, [illegible] 1874.)

THE MORTGAGED FARM

Payment of Debts in Debased Currency Means Practically Repudiation.

A NEBRASKA FARMER ANSWERED

Fallacy of What is Considered the Strongest Free Trade Argument.

The following letter is one of many that are daily received by the Times-Herald. It is supposed to contain the strongest free silver argument that can be addressed to the farmer, and it is used by the free silver orators with immense assurance of its success:

Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 3.—To the Editor: My land is encumbered by a mortgage of $1000, payable in lawful money November 1, 1897. I must pay this debt with the products of my farm. Under ordinary circumstances I will be able to raise 1000 bushels of wheat next year. If there is no change in our financial system, this wheat, at 50 cents per bushel, will pay half the debt. When the value of a silver dollar is reduced to 50 cents by free coinage a bushel of wheat, without any change in its value, will be worth a 50-cent dollar. With free coinage of silver I shall, therefore, be able to pay the entire debt with the 1000 bushels of wheat. The burden of paying a debt of $1000 has doubled since I borrowed the money. I have obeyed the laws of my country under the gold standard and shall obey them under a silver standard. The opponents of free coinage of silver are appealing to the laborers, the creditors and policy holders to protect their own personal interests. If I should fail to look out for my own interests who will do so for me? Is there any reason why I should not vote for the free and unlimited coinage of silver? Very respectfully, J. W. Binger.

The answer is not far to seek.

When this farmer borrowed the money it was the equivalent of $1000 in gold. It was the same as if he had received it all in gold $20 pieces. He could have had it that way if he so desired. Perhaps he did, for many such loans have been made. When he expended it he got $1000 in gold equivalent. He probably improved his farm to that extent or bought stock or machinery. In whatever way he used it, unless he burned it up or squandered it, he got value received. The borrowing and lending was a business transaction and the borrower used the money to promote his business interests.

At no time since that mortgage was executed, for few mortgages run over five years without renewal, would a thousand bushels of wheat have paid it. Suppose we had borrowed the money from a neighboring farmer more prosperous than he. That neighbor would probably have to carry something like two thousand bushels of wheat to town, sell it for a thousand dollars, get the money and hand it over to his friend. There have been in the past thousands of such transactions. In fact, in every farming community there are a few farmers, more thrifty and of better business qualifications than the others, who always have money to lend out of their savings. They get the money from the products of their farms, but they are not loaning those products. They are loaning the money, and since 1879 it has been gold or its equivalent. Why should they not have the same kind of money in repayment?

Is it any wonder that the advocates of unlimited free coinage are charged with dishonesty and that silver is called dishonest money, when by the passage of a law a thousand 50-cent dollars will be sufficient to discharge a debt of a thousand 100-cent dollars? Such a law amounts to the repudiation of one-half the debt obligations of all the debtors in the United States.

When Mr. Binger in the above letter says, "The burden of paying a debt of $1000 has doubled since I borrowed the money," he must remember, if he is stating what is true, that the "burden" is not alone upon him, but upon every other business man who has borrowed money. Merchants and manufacturers feel the same stress of the hard times as the farmers do. It is not because they borrowed gold and have to repay gold that the burden is greater, but that their earnings and assets have not turned out as they hoped and expected. Competition and overproduction have affected the whole world, but repudiation is not the proper cure for it.

Honesty is the best policy—as a policy merely, without reference to its moral quality—for nations as well as for individuals. A man who has repudiated his debts is never trusted again and is regarded with contempt by all his neighbors. And so is a nation.

A free-coinage law is repudiation, and that it is understood in that sense is indicated by such letters as the above. For if under free coinage the silver dollar is to appreciate to the value of a gold dollar how will the farmer get more of them for his thousand bushels of wheat? How can he pay his debt any easier than he can now?

No, it is repudiation the silver men want, and repudiation is dishonor.—Chicago Times-Herald.

VALUES DECREASED.

Prices of Live Stock Under Republican and Democratic Rule.

When we resumed specie payment in 1879 our domestic animals, horses, mules, cattle, sheep and swine were valued at	$1,445,423,062
During the ensuing six years, until the election of Mr. Cleveland in 1884, the values increased to	2,467,868,924
A gain during six years of Republican rule of	$1,022,445,862
During the ensuing four years until the election of Mr. Harrison in 1888, values decreased from	2,467,868,924
To	2,409,043,418
A loss during four years of Democratic rule of	58,825,506
During the ensuing four years, until the second election of Mr. Cleveland in 1892, values again increased from	2,409,043,418
To	2,461,755,698
A gain during four years of Republican rule of	52,712,280
During the last two years, under the second administration of Mr. Cleveland, and under preposed and accomplished free trade and sweeping tariff reductions, values again decreased from (1893)	2,483,506,681
To the comparatively insignificant total of	1,819,446,306
Showing the enormous loss in two years of Democratic rule of	664,060,375

Cheap Dollars.

Everything is cheap or dear according to what we have to pay for it. Sugar is cheap at 5 cents a pound, but would be dear at 10 cents.

A cheap dollar, therefore, is one that the merchant buys with less goods than he would have to give for a dearer dollar. If a merchant now gives twenty pounds of sugar for a dollar, and the dollar which he gets is a 200-cent dollar; and if the 200-cent dollar is a dishonest dollar and ought to be replaced by a 100-cent dollar, worth only half as much; in that case, the merchant will give only half as much sugar for the cheaper dollar as he now gives for the dishonest 200-cent dollar. That is clear, is it not? This is precisely what "cheap money" means.

Is this what the farmer and the workingman really want?

Apply this illustration to labor, if you please. The workingman buys dollars with labor. Does he want a cheap dollar, for which the merchant will give only ten pounds of sugar? Or does he want a 200-cent dollar, for which the merchant will give twenty pounds of sugar? Cheap dollars would cut his wages in half. He surely does not want that.

"Oh, no," says the workingman, "that is not what I want; but, if dollars were cheap, I would get twice as many of them for a day's work."

Would you, indeed? Not on your life. Free and unlimited coinage of silver, at the ratio of 16 to 1, is simply a scheme to reduce your wages without your knowing it or having an excuse for striking.

What good would it do you to get twice as many dollars for a day's work if $2 would buy no more sugar, and no more of anything else, than $1 will now buy?

Besides, if prices go up, under free coinage, as they will—we admit that—does not the workingman know that the first thing to go up will be rents, the next thing will be food and clothing, and the last thing will be labor? Under free coinage, instead of being better off, the workingman would be worse off than he is now.

Think this over, and see what it all means to you and to your little family.—Springfield (Ill.) Journal.

A Question for Farmers.

If the volume of silver money controls prices, as the free coiners would have us believe that it does, so that the more silver coin there is in circulation, the higher is the price of wheat, and the less silver coin there is in circulation, the lower the price of wheat; then will some farmer, who believes in the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1, answer the question:

How did it happen that wheat was lower in price in 1894 than ever before, while the amount of coined silver in the world was greater than ever before?—Illinois State Journal.

FIGURES FOR FARMERS

Arithmatic for Wheat Growers Which Neglects Tax and Interest Considerations.

A FREE SILVER MATHEMATICIAN.

Silver Accountants Concede Double Expense in Mexico and Assume Equal Profits.

Warren, Minn., Aug. 6.—To the Editor: I enclose comparative slips circulated by an advocate of free silver, which subject I would like your opinion on. If, of course, is intended to catch the farmer who raises wheat, and deductions of this kind have had their influence in this district, which is largely wheat growing.

I would like the going wages in Mexico and the rates of interest in countries on silver basis as compared with the gold standard countries. L. Lamberson.

The first slip professes to show the net profit to a farmer of raising 5000 bushels of wheat in the United States:

5000 bushels, at 56 cents per bushel	$2,800
Expenses	$1,000
Freight	800
Interest	200
Taxes	40
	2,040
Assumed net profit to American farmer	$760

The second slip makes a similar statement of the assumed profits of raising 5000 bushels of wheat in Mexico:

5000 bushels, at $1.12 per bushel	$5,600
Expense	$2,000
Freight	800
Interest	200
Taxes	40
	3,040
Assumed net profit to Mexican farmer	$2,560
Reduced to gold	1,280

As this assumed profit would be in silver and the wheat would have to be sold upon the gold standard, this skillful accountant reduces this to gold, making the net profit to the Mexican farmer $1280. But to produce this result this accommodating accountant, while conceding that the expense of raising the wheat would be twice as many silver dollars as in the United States, assumes that the profit on it would be the same number of silver dollars as in the United States. As a matter of fact the freight rates in Mexico are higher expressed in the gold standard than in the United States, but assuming that they are the same, the American railroad companies, as soon as they cross the border, require twice as many Mexican dollars to pay a given freight rate as they require of American dollars on American territory, so that the freight rate in Mexico would be $1600 instead of $800, as our free silver accountant states it. Moreover, interest rates are higher in Mexico than in the United States, if paid in Mexican silver dollars, and moreover the interest would have to be paid on twice the number of silver dollars borrowed by the American farmer, so that even supposing the rates of interest to be the same, the amount of interest would be double, raising it from $200 to $400. Moreover, the equivalent of $40 taxes paid by the American farmer would be $80 in Mexican dollars, so that the account of the Mexican farmer, thus corrected, would stand as follows:

5000 bushels at $1.12 per bushel	$5,600
Expense	2,000
Freight	1,600
Interest	400
Taxes	80
	4,080
	$1,520

Reducing this to gold, as in the original statement, the net profit of the Mexican farmer would be $760, exactly what that of the American farmer would be. This is a fair specimen of the illusory and deceptive statements put forth by free silver men to deceive American farmers.

Bryan a Greenbacker.

Mr. Bryan is not so much a silverite as he is a greenbacker. He said, on the floor of the House of Representatives in Washington, June 5, 1894:

"The issue of money by the government directly to the people gives us a safer currency (than national bank bills) and saves to the people as a whole the profit arising from its issue. When a bank issues money, you must pay the market rate of interest to get it; but when the government issues money, the people save the interest, if the money is afterward called in; and they save the principal also, if the money is kept in circulation."

He asserted that greenbacks "can be used to pay the expenses of the government." The tariff on some of the necessaries of life might be reduced, and the deficit made up by an issue of money." Or, if this is not deemed advisable, "government paper can be issued to pay for special improvements; harbors can be deepened and rivers improved in this way." He introduced a bill to issue $70,000,000 of United States treasury notes, with which to inaugurate the construction of the Nicaragua canal. He further suggested that "we can use any available coin on hand to take up matured bonds and replace the coin so used with paper money." He introduced another bill providing in this way for the payment of the $25,000,000 outstanding 2 per cent. bonds. He did not stop even at that point, but gravely proposed that "government paper should be issued in the place of national bank notes, as they are retired." His theory of the ultimate redemption of government obligations, as stated by himself, was that the larger the issue of treasury notes, the smaller will be the "coin" reserve required with which to meet them. By "coin" he explained that he meant both gold and silver, wilfully ignoring the disparity in intrinsic value between the gold and silver dollar.

And this is the financier and statesman for whom honest and sensible men are asked to cast their votes, next November!

Bryan Shown to be Uncertain.

There is abundant proof that Mr. Bryan is an insincere politician and an unreliable adviser of the people. He was a bolter in 1893 and in that year, too, he made a speech in which he declared that the exchangeable value of a dollar depended on something besides a congressional edict.

When Frank Irvine was running on the Democratic ticke for judge of the Supreme court of Nebraska Mr. Bryan supported a Populist. In reply to a letter from Mr. Irvine, calling Mr. Bryan's attention to his unexpected position, the present candidate for President on the Democratic ticket wrote a statement of his reasons for bolting which contained the following cool remarks and assurances of personal and peculiar esteem for the Democratic candidate:

> I regret that our people chose for slaughter so deserving a man. They ought to have selected some one of the numerous Democrats who are responsible for the falling off of the Democratic vote. I have spoken to you thus frankly and confidentially, because I feel that you deserve a better fate than the one which I fear awaits you this fall.

During the extraordinary session of Congress of 1893, called by President Cleveland, Mr. Bryan made a speech in which he declared that:

> While the government can say that a given weight of gold or silver shall constitute a dollar and invest that dollar with legal tender qualities, it cannot fix the purchasing power of the dollar. That must depend upon the law of supply and demand.
>
> If the number of dollars increases more rapidly than the need of dollars—as it did after the gold discoveries of 1849—the exchangeable value of each dollar will fall and prices rise.

Thus it appears that Mr. Bryan knew what the exchangeable value of a dollar depended on. His change of tune, therefore, is not because conditions have changed, but because he shifts his principles with the varying political breezes, and that he is willing to do anything for office.

In the spring of 1892 Bryan declared in a speech made by him on the tariff question that the fall of prices must be attributed—

> To the inventive genius that has multiplied a thousand times, in many instances, the strength of a single arm and enabled us to do today with one man what fifty men could not do fifty years ago. That is what brought the prices down in this country and elsewhere.

At this time another change has come over the spirit of his white house dream. He and his fellow Populists ascribe the fall in the prices of commodities to the fall in the price of silver. Mr. Bryan and his associates declare that "the crime of 1873," which the News has shown to have been no crime at all, has pulled everything down with it.

How can the people believe a man who thus stultifies himself and puts himself on both sides of vital questions, while, at the same time, he proves untrue to his party associates?—Buffalo News.

The Irishman and the Potato Bug.

Mr. Tenney's story at Madison of the Irishman who swallowed a potato bug and then a dose of Paris green, in the hope of killing the bug, is very pat to the political situation. The American workingman swallowed free trade in 1892, and now, to cure the misery which he has suffered ever since, the Populist quack doctor is trying to induce him to swallow an unlimited dose of free silver. But if the workingman takes it, he will find, when it is too late, that the cure is worse than the disease.