

PATRIOTIC FARMERS.

Whenever Danger Threatened the Country They Have Rallied to Its Support.

HARD TIMES AND THE CAUSE.

Employment of Labor in Mechanical Industries and Not Debased Money is Needed.

Whenever danger threatened our institution the farmer has always rallied to the support of his country. There is good reason in this, in the fact that he owns the broad acres of our territory and is so identified with our institutions that protect him in this ownership that his interest is necessarily of a character to make him the safe conservator of our government's perpetuity, prosperity and honor.

In the present campaign we are confronted by an issue that affects every class of our citizens, hence, there is an interest in the outcome more intense than in any campaign since 1860. One reason for the manifestation for so much interest is the fact that the country has been suffering from an unprecedented period of depression and is earnest in its intent to secure relief. Among those who labor none have more reason for complaint than the farmer. Prices of his products have been low, values of land and stock have continued to decline, until discouraged and disheartened, demagogues seem to believe him ready to accept any promise that they make, but the fact is, and better still, he is ready to review and discuss fully the merits of the propositions offered.

There never was a more deceptive proposition, one more startling in its effects and results and one that would be more disappointing should it become a practical fact. It is advocated by men having a pecuniary interest at stake, backed by a combination of capital unequalled by any that has ever attempted to control our government since the day of the slave power. The silver mine owners of the United States, skilled in political maneuvering, have organized themselves into a syndicate for the purpose of forcing upon the country, without regard to consequences, the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

The magnificent scheme was outlined by Mr. Bryan in his Madison square speech when he said: "At the present time and under the present law, a silver dollar when melted loses nearly one-half its value, but that will not be true when we can establish a mint price of silver and leave no surplus silver upon the market to drag down the price of silver bullion," and then to show the possibility of forcing silver and forcing it to a price satisfactory to mine owners, "we cannot even expect all of the annual product of silver because India, China, Japan, Mexico and other silver-using countries must satisfy their annual need from the annual product; the arts will require a large amount of silver; the standard coinage will need a considerable quantity for subsidiary coinage; we will be required to coin only that which is not needed elsewhere, but if we stand ready to take and utilize all of it, other nations will be ready to buy at the price we fix."

The "silver miners' scheme" as outlined by Mr. Bryan. The people are invited to loan the resources of this government to a silver syndicate in order that it may be able by taking all the silver that is offered to the world to fix the price and compel other nations to buy. This is worse than the free and unlimited coinage, yet it is the only way Mr. Bryan says whereby the price of silver can be maintained at parity with gold. The magnitude of the scheme and their audacity in attempting its execution challenges admiration, but the American people are accustomed to investigate the claims of demagogues. They want to know for themselves the why and wherefore, if some great radical change is proposed. That they will thus investigate and judge for themselves is evidence that they are qualified for self-government.

The present conditions are hard, especially among the farming class, every one admits. There is undoubtedly a cause for this abnormal condition. The silver advocates attribute the existing depression to the demonetization of silver, "the crime of 1873" as they designate the suspension of coinage of silver dollars in 1873.

They fail to show how that legislation reduced prices; they simply assert that it did. They fail also to show why prices continued to decline after coinage of silver was resumed in 1878. They ignore all the facts of development, the large and unprecedented production of farm products and especially the unprofitable division of labor. The building of new railroads and the opening of vast territories for cultivation are entirely ignored. During the years 1878-79 and 80 it is known that over 800,000 mechanics left the factories and shops of New England and the middle and older Western states to locate on the lands in Kansas and Nebraska and the Dakotas. These all became active producers instead of consumers of farm products.

What we now need is to reverse this condition of affairs and secure less producers and more consumers of farm products. If by any way we can do this, we will have accomplished something practical in correcting the ills our farmers have to bear. There is a method by which this may be accomplished, a remedy that is not only practical but permanent and far reaching in its effects.

There is a well established principle in political economy often referred to by writers that "the greatest creator of labor is the greatest possible division of labor." Previous to the election of 1862 under the operation of the Republican policy of protection, we were struggling to realize our benefits from this principle and were rapidly overcoming our adverse conditions by increasing the demand for farm products. The interest which the movement of labor has in protective duties lies in the effect which the movement of labor has upon the supply and demand of agricultural products. It is impossible to maintain a proper division of labor, except we produce the largest amount of manufactured goods possible within our own territory. Open our ports free and allow our markets to be supplied by the manufacturers of Europe and the effect would be to compel our wage earning

class to become farmers or producers of farm products.

"The year 1862 shows a record of marvelous activity in the direction of securing a larger division of labor by employing more in our mechanical industries. Our shops were filling up, new enterprises were started, labor was in demand and good prices in mechanical industries, reciprocity was enlarging and extending our markets and we seemed in every way to be realizing for the American farmer and artisan the full value of that law of political economy creating wealth by "division of labor."

In 1862 the policy of protection was reversed and thus the laborers from the shops and factories were forced from sheer necessity to go out upon the lands and become producers instead of consumers. It has been estimated that over a million laborers have since the election of 1862 when compelled to seek employment in farming in order to obtain subsistence for themselves and families; many of these have converted parcels of ground near and around their homes into corn and potato patches, thereby enormously decreasing the demand for the products of the regular farm. It is easy to understand when the full effect of the shifting of labor from the mechanical industries to the farm is considered, what the effect must be upon prices of farm products.

In view of these facts, all of which can be verified in the past history of our country, it is plain that our farmers are directly interested in the employment of labor and that their prosperity depends largely upon whether that labor is employed as competitors in the production of farm products, or as consumers employed in the mechanical industries of the country. We are certainly learning from a severe practical experience the truth and value of the economic principle already referred to that "the greatest creator of wealth is the greatest possible division of labor." We are also learning that this division of labor may be brought about by a wise policy of protection.

The effect of production upon the products of the farm can be summed up in a few words. First, will it increase or diminish the number engaged in producing the products of the farm? Second, will it increase or diminish the number of consumers of farm products? When you have answered these two plain propositions you will be master of the entire argument of protection and free trade, so far as the farmer is concerned. You need be concerned in no way about the free coinage of silver as this cannot in any way possible increase or diminish the consumption of your products. Its adoption, however, would have the effect, as Mr. Bryan admits, of producing a panic and continued depression in our mechanical industries, forcing more labor to the farm and thereby adding to the number already producing farm products.

The employment of labor in our mechanical industries and not the free coinage of silver is the thing that interests the farmer and is to secure for him a prosperous life so much desired.—H. A. Willard, Chattanooga, Tenn.

NO MONEY IS TOO GOOD.

Maj. McKinley Recalls the Days of State Banks and Wildcat Currency.

Maj. McKinley said to a delegation from Indiana which visited his home on September 23:

I believe in America for Americans—native-born and naturalized. (Applause.) I believe in the American pay roll. (Laughter and applause.) And I do not believe in diminishing that pay roll by giving work to anybody else under another flag while we have an idle man under our flag. (Tremendous applause.) Four years ago the laborer was agitating the question of shorter hours. We then had so much to do, I have heard no discussion of that kind for four years. (Laughter and applause.) But I have never heard of the laboring man discussing the desirability of having shorter hours. The complaint—the chief cause of complaint of our opponents is first, that we have not enough money; and, second, that our money is too good. (Laughter.) To the first complaint I answer that the per capita of circulating medium in this country has been greater since the so-called crime of 1873 than it ever was before (applause), and that it has been greater in the last five years than it ever was in all our history. (Cries of "That's right.") We have not only more money in the world, but we have more of it per capita than most of the nations of the world. (Applause.) We have more money per capita than the United Kingdom per capita; than Germany, than Italy, than Switzerland, Greece, Spain, Roumania, Servia, Austria, Hungary, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Russia, Mexico and the Central and South American states, and more than Japan or China. (Great applause.) So that some reason rather than the lack of volume of money must be found to account for the present condition of the country.

To the second complaint that our money is too good, it would seem to be enough to say that the money of any country cannot be too good; and that no nation ever suffers from having its medium of exchange of the highest and best quality. (Great applause.) It has been poor money—not good money—that has been the cause of so much loss and ruin in the past, both to individuals and to nations. (Applause.) The older men of this audience will remember that before the war we did business with an uncertain and fluctuating currency known as state bank money. Many of these banks and their notes were absolutely sound; but for the most part they were subject to a discount. The total number of banks in 1860, exclusive of state bank branches, was 1570. Of this number, the "counterfeit detector," then in constant use, reported 622 as "broken, closed, failed, fraudulent and worthless." The notes of these banks were in circulation among the people and had been received by them for their good labor and their good products. They were absolutely worthless and of no more value than the paper upon which they were printed. Upon whom did this loss fall, my citizens? There is scarcely an old gentleman in this audience who will not recall that it fell upon the laboring man and the farmers of the United States. (Cries of "That's right.") I allude to this only to show that those who suffer most from poor money are the least able to bear the loss. It is the history of mankind that the least valuable money which will pass current is the money that at last finds its resting place in the pockets of the poor people and when the crash comes, the loss must be borne by them. And I doubt if there is a man in this audience who has not among the belongings of his family or the family of his father some of the old bank paper as a reminder of what they lost. (A voice: "I had \$10 at home myself.") I cannot imagine any interest that can be permanently subserved by having poor money. The bare suggestion of such a proposition to a man of reason meets its instant rejection.

If the New York World wants to bring either of the current Democratic parties into a tariff fight the Republican party is ready. The Democrats will be defeated all the more emphatically. A tariff for revenue only, which both Democratic parties demand, this country will not have.—Minneapolis Journal.



Socialist—The reason I'm a Bryan man is because I want to cut down the wealth of these plutocrats. Workingman—Well, I've thought a bit about that, but it strikes me a good deal like biting off one's nose to spite one's face. Socialist—How's that? Workingman—Well, I'll tell you. Just suppose, for instance, that a man whose income is \$10,000 a year has his purchasing power cut down to \$5000 by free silver; he can carry along very nicely, can't he? But how about the fellows whose incomes amount to only \$200, or even \$300? If free silver cuts the purchasing power down to \$200, or \$150, it will squeeze them pretty hard, won't it? —St. Paul Pioneer Press.

WOULD AFFECT WOMEN

Free Silver Issue of Vital Import to Wives and Mothers of Wage-Earners.

HIGH PRICES AND LOW WAGES.

Working Women will Also be Far Worse Off Than the Men.

While the value of the wages earned by everyone who works for a living will be greatly reduced by the free coinage of silver, the working women will be far worse off in this respect than the men. Their wages will not probably be reduced in a greater ratio than the wages of the men, but they will stand a poorer chance of securing an advance to meet the increased cost of living. They will have to submit to the hardship of high prices and low wages with less hope of remedying their condition.

One principal cause of this disadvantage is that the women employed in productive industries have not the organized unions with which to sustain their interests. The great advance in the wages of labor, especially of skilled labor, which has been made during the past twenty years, is due in large measure to the intelligent organization of the workmen. It is an error to regard the labor unions as the machinery for producing strikes and boycotts. Properly and sagaciously conducted, labor organizations are for the relief of widows and orphans, and for the relief of the aged and infirm.

The wages of women workers have, indeed, advanced along with those of men, though not to a corresponding figure, and the labor unions have regard in some degree for the wages of female operatives as well; but the lack of organizations of their own will leave the thousands of women workers in our manufacturing industries at a marked disadvantage if their wages should be cut down in value by the free coinage of silver and the consequent depreciation of the money in which they are paid.

In this respect, as always, it is the free silver issue that is the danger to the weaker that must bear the greater share of the burden; and the struggle to bring wages up to a living rate after free coinage has reduced them by perhaps one-half of their purchasing value would be long and weary for the working women. It is not a pleasant prospect for the thousands of women who today work in our mercantile and manufacturing establishments. They are an industrious, self-supporting class, many of them contributing to the family fund from their weekly earnings and having a just pride in their own independence and their ability to aid others. Any public policy which cuts off their resources is a cruel wrong by which the whole community must suffer.

Every mother of a family has ever before her the dread possibility of the death of the one whose labor provides the means of living before the day comes when the sons will be able to take up the burden of support and the daughters be comfortably settled in homes of their own. Even if the children are grown up and taking care of themselves, and even if they are doing so well as to be able to give her a home after the death of the husband and father, she looks forward to the time when she will be left alone with a dread of the loss of independence in case the accumulations of her husband's working years, have not been great enough to provide her means of subsistence after he is gone. So it is that the prudent man insures his life for the benefit of his wife and his children, paying from year to year during his active life the cost of assurance that at his death his family will receive a sum of money sufficient to avert the sufferings of destitution.

In many cases, the insurance policy is the only thing of value the husband and father can leave to the wife and children. He may have been able to lay by no money in the savings bank, he may die suddenly in a period of hard times and business reverses, which have stripped him of the savings of better days, and the insurance money may thus become the sole resource of the widow and orphans. Surely, a fund such as this ought to be safeguarded against robbery through depreciation of the value of the money in which it is paid. Free silver, on the basis of the present value of the two metals, would rob every widow of half the money value coming to her from the insurance carried by her husband.

ADVISES FIRST VOTERS

Maj. McKinley's Felicitous Remarks to a Delegation of Young Buckeyes.

TRUE WORTH OF SUFFRAGE.

Priceless Privilege of Being Able to Vote for Protection and National Honor.

The first visitors to Maj. McKinley's home on September 25 were members of a big delegation of voters from Wood county, O. They were headed by Attorney R. S. Parker of Bowling Green, who made the speech of presentation. In responding Maj. McKinley said in part:

"Mr. Parker, Ladies and Gentlemen: I am very glad to meet at my home this representative delegation from Wood county. I cannot imagine a body of citizens more representative than that which I see before me here today—men and women, old and young, workmen and farmers, men of every profession and calling in your country; and it indicates to me that no matter what may be asserted in other quarters of the country there is no such thing known as 'classes' in Wood county. (Great applause and cries of "That's right.") I am especially glad to make suitable recognition of the women who have honored me with their presence today. (Cheers.) They are a mighty factor in our progress and civilization, and they have been most potent in every crisis of American history. (Renewed cheering.) I am glad to know that they are interested in the party of good morals, good politics, good government and public and private honesty. (Great applause.)"

CAMPAIGN NOTES.

There is not so much fanaticism and foolishness in the country as was supposed when Bryan captured the Chicago convention with his "crown of thorns" and "cross of gold" harangue. The level-headedness of the masses is still to be counted upon as a safeguard against Socialism and anarchy.

Powderly hits the nail squarely on the head when he tells the workmen that his motto with regard to money should be, "The best is none too good for me."

A man is said to have injured his ankle in a silver debate. That's what comes of letting people with comparatively little length juggle with these heavy arguments.

Mr. Powderly, who says the Bryan free-silver panic would be worse for labor than all the strikes ever known, will come in for the abuse of the Debitists, who want strikes galore, free silver, free money and a general break-up.

A government, like an individual, must have a reputation for honesty and good backing if it does business with the great world outside of its own limits.

Mark Hanna is firmly of the belief that the only effective confidence restoration is put up at Canton.

Bryan says that the present dollar has too great purchasing power. Ask someone who sweats through eight hours to earn one whether this is true.

Spain wants more money. She should send for Bryan.

An honest dollar is the noblest work of politics.

Even the Democrats of Michigan, Wisconsin and Ohio are flocking to the standard of McKinley. The same thing afflicts Mr. Bryan, it seems, that led the parrot of story into serious trouble. He talks too much.

DEEDS NOT WORDS.

What McKinley Did for Destitute Miners Less than Two Years Ago.

While Candidate Bryan is going about the country telling fairy tales of what he and his policy will do for the poor, the question naturally arises: "What has been done for the working poor? Is it his habit or nature to feel for and try to relieve the suffering of those less fortunate in life than himself?"

His most loyal supporters make no claim that he has ever shown this feeling for his fellowman until now. In fact, he has no record of ever having gone out of his way to do anything for what he calls the "masses." On the other hand, Maj. McKinley, while not posing as one who "weeps for the masses," has a record. He says nothing about the occurrence which gave the about the insight into the heart of the world an occurrence which demonstrated that he was the friend of those who are poor and hungry, but a great multitude remembers it. Such acts live in the memory of those who earn their bread by the sweat of their face.

In speaking of Maj. McKinley, the Grand Rapids Herald says: "No account of McKinley's connection with labor problems would be complete without some mention of the tireless energy which he displayed in securing relief for the 2000 miners in theocking valley mining district who early in 1885 were reported out of work and destitute. The news first came to the governor at midnight, but before 5 o'clock in the morning he had upon his own responsibility dispatched a 10000 dited district a car containing \$1000 worth of provisions. Later he made appeals for assistance and finally distributed among the 2723 families in the district clothing and provisions to the amount of \$32,796.95."

"I fear sometimes that few of us estimate suffrage at its true worth. It is a guaranty to our liberties and institutions and is our surest safety. It is the constitutional mode of expressing the popular will. Through it public policies are determined and public laws enacted. Through it administrations are changed and administrations are made. Through it our whole governmental machinery is conducted. It is indeed a priceless inheritance, and should be valued as such by every young man.

"With the privilege comes grave responsibilities in its use. It should express the intelligence and judgment and conscience of the voter. It should never be employed for any base use. It should be exercised with courage, wisdom and patriotism. It should never, no never, be thrown against the country, and should never represent public dishonor. (Great applause.) I recall, young men, my first vote. With what a thrill of pride I exercised for the first time the full prerogative of citizenship. I have not realized greater pride since. I felt that I had some part in the government. The period and circumstances when I cast my first vote may have made a deeper impression upon me than in otherwise would, but I recall it now after thirty-two years with sensations of joy and satisfaction. (Applause.) In the crisis of war, in the very field of conflict, my first vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln. (Great cheering.) It is to me a priceless memory. What a glorious privilege to have been permitted to vote for a candidate for President whose services to his country in the greatest peril of its life rank with the services of Washington, the father of his country. (Applause.) Priceless memory to me that I could vote for the martyr to liberty, the emancipator of a race, and the savior of the only free government among men. (Great cheering.)"

"You, gentlemen, did not have that privilege, but it having been denied you there will be some satisfaction to you to vote for the party of Lincoln, which rallied the young men of the country

around the banner of liberty, union and national honor, between 1860 and 1865 (applause), and now summons you under the same glorious banner. (Renewed applause.)"

Appropriate Quotation from Lincoln. "I cannot omit here to make a quotation from Mr. Lincoln, written to the young men of Illinois on June 22, 1848. Mr. Lincoln said: 'Now as to the young men. You must not wait to be brought forward by the older men. You young men get together, form a rough and ready club, and have regular meetings and speeches. Take in everybody you can get. As you go along gather up all the shrewd, wild boys about town, whether just of age or a little under age. Let everyone play the part he can play best. Some speak, some sing and all holler. (Great laughter.) Your meetings will be of all evenings. The older men and women will go to hear you and see you. It will not only contribute to the election of Old Zach, but it will be interesting pastime and improving to the intellectual faculties of all engaged. Do not fail to do this.' (Great applause.)"

"I commend these homely words of Mr. Lincoln to the young men of the country. Such organizations as he advises will have powerful influence in the political contest which is now upon us. They will not only inspire the young men, but will cheer the hearts of the old guards of the Republican party. (Applause.) It is seldom given to the first voters of this country to start in so important a national contest, where so much is involved, and where so many interests are at stake. It is a year, too, when old party divisions count for little in the United States. (Great applause.) I congratulate you upon the glorious opportunities you have, and, appreciating those opportunities, I am sure you will use them for the welfare of the people and the glory of the country. (Cheers.)"

Further Reference to Mints and Mills. "My fellow citizens, I ventured a few weeks ago to suggest in a public speech that I made that it would be better to open the mills than to open the mints. (Great cheering and cries of "That's right.") I see that some of our political adversaries criticize the statement, saying that it is 'putting the cart before the horse.' (Cries of "That's right.") I will wrong labor and wreck values, and has done so wherever it has been used. (Great applause and cries of "That's right.") More cloth might require more yardsticks (laughter), but more yardsticks or shorter ones will not create a demand for more cloth. (Renewed laughter and cries of "Good, good.") Nor will short dollars with wide open mints free to all the world increase our factories. (Applause and cries of "You are right.") More factories at work will find work for the good dollars now in their hiding places, and find employment for the good men now idle at their homes. (Tremendous cheering.)"

"Industry must come first. Labor precedes all else. It is the foundation of wealth. (Applause.) Its active employment puts money in circulation and sends it coursing through every artery of trade. (Great applause and cries of "That's right.") The mints don't distribute it; the way of money is to be made, not to be distributed. (Renewed cheering and cries of "That's right.") Start the factories in full blast and the money will flow from bank and vault. The lender will seek the borrower, not as now, the borrower the lender. (Great cheering and cries of "That's right.")"

"Start the factories and put American machinery in operation, and there will not be an idle man in the country who is willing and able to work; there will not be an American home where hunger and want will not be dispelled; there will be great abundance and cries of "That's right"; and there will not be a farmer who will not be cheered and benefited by his improved home markets and by the better and steeper prices for his products. (Renewed applause and cries of "That's right.") Credits will take the place of debts. The wasted earnings of the poor will be restored. A surplus will take the place of a deficiency in the public treasury. (Cries of "That's right"; plenty and prosperity will return to us again; and do not forget, men and women of Wood county, that you cannot coin prosperity (great cheering), and you cannot revive industries through the mints. (Great applause and cries of "That's right.") They come through labor and confidence, skill and enterprise, and honesty, and they will come no other way." (Great applause.)"

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