

AROUSING CLASS HATRED

Secretary Taft, speaking in the Ohio campaign at Akron last Saturday, said:

"It is perfectly apparent that Mr. Bryan is gradually resuming control over the democratic party and proposes to assume the aggressive in a controversy in which he hopes to array the poor against the rich, to shake the present system of private property and freedom of contract."

There was more of the same kind of demagoguery, but that quoted suffices for present purposes. Why do the republicans always attack Bryan when they have a desperate case on hand? There is not in his public or private life any evidence that he is lacking in honesty or patriotism. He is gifted with ability to make his points clear and simple. He is magnetic and draws people to him. He dares to speak his convictions, yet he has never been guilty of an effort to inflame the people. Mr. Taft decries arrayal of the poor against the rich, yet he seems to think it legitimate to arouse popular feeling against Bryan. Is it any worse to array the poor against the rich than to array the rich against the poor? Arraying the poor against the rich is arousing class hatred, but so, also, is arraying the rich against the poor. If one should be condemned, so should the other.

The campaign of 1896 was made against Bryan and a bugaboo Bryanism. The effort was to arouse prejudice against the democratic party and its candidate. The thievery like that of McCall from the funds of the New York Life Insurance company, by blackmail paid by corporations fearing to deny Hanna's importunate hand, by tribute from special interests dependent for pillage on legislation in the shape of the Dingley bill, the money was gathered together with which to buy Bryan's defeat. While the campaign speakers were arousing class prejudice the gray wolves of business and politics were behind the scenes extorting money from whomsoever had it to pay and using it to corrupt a nation.

Yet in the light of all these proven facts, in the face of the McCall admissions, Mr. Taft has the temerity to go to Ohio and attempt to arouse the old fury that a discredited governor may be saved as the plaything of the ill-famed George B. Cox, boss of Cincinnati. Notwithstanding Taft, the fact becomes clearer every day that Bryan represents the interests of all the people, rich or poor, willing to live honestly themselves and desirous of making others live likewise. He was against corporation highwaymanry and embezzlement in 1896 and he made his campaign without the assistance of a corrupt dollar—more than can be said for the man who defeated him, or for the present occupant of the White House. The talk about Bryan arraying poor against rich is for no other purpose than to protract the tenure and methods of what Mr. Lawson graphically describes as "The System." It is an ignoble effort for an ignoble end, and

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ignoble is Mr. Taft in resorting to it to preserve the Cox dynasty in Ohio. —Fulton (Mo.) Gazette.

SUBLIME AUDACITY

Some months ago The Post made brief mention of the astounding fact that the American Economist, the weekly organ of the leagued stand-patters, was displaying at the head of its editorial department an extract from Washington's farewell address, and had placed over it, in conspicuous type, the title, "George Washington's Reciprocity." As week after week that busy, bustling little organ, with its bold advocacy of special interests, shows up with that grand triumph of audacity—of an audacity that really reaches the sublime—nailed to its masthead, the impression grows upon us that simple justice to the genius who achieved it requires a higher tribute than was paid by The Post in the few lines heretofore submitted. The utterance of the first president which the leagued standpatter parade as a justification of the republican party's repudiation of its policies and pledges, its standing pat on that repudiation at the dictation of enormously over-protected interests, runs thus:

"Harmony and liberal intercourse with all nations are recommended by policy, humanity, and interest. But even our commercial policy should hold an equal and impartial hand; neither seeking nor granting exclusive favors or preferences; consulting the natural course of things; diffusing and diversifying, by gentle means, the streams of commerce, but forcing nothing."

Of course, that wise and patriotic deliverance by the Father of His Country, in his Farewell Address in September, 1796, has no more relation or application to existing industrial and commercial conditions in the United States than it has to steam power and electricity and their application to transportation on land and sea. And to quote George Washington with the idea of making him endorse a tariff that is so iniquitous that no public man dares to deny its injustice or attempt a defense of its most important schedules—well, that is as shocking a caricature of the moral and intellectual endowments of the Father of His Country as the marble figure in front of the capitol is of his habits and manners. —Washington Post.

BACK TO HOME, DOWN ON THE FARM

Now and then the clouds enwrap me, Closing all the world from view; And alone I sit in dreamland, Where the meadow bathes in dew. All about the flowers blooming, Nod and bow their pretty head, And the bluebells seem to jingle Merry songs to roses red.

Down the pathway to the pasture Grain is swaying in the sun. I can hear the cornblades rustle— I can see the shadows run. In my vision I am listening In the twilight, when the stars Dimly peep through mellow azure— Hastening toward the rustic bars.

Again I loiter near the moorlands, Chasing butterflies at will; Again I hear the cowbells tinkle, And the call of whip-poor-will, The lazy cows I find in hiding 'Neath the willows there in vafn, And I drive them homeward singing, "O, to be a boy again."

Then the clouds that close enwrap me In my retrospective dream Seem to lift and bear me onward Toward the ocean—down the stream,

O, how sweet is memory's calling, Lifting one from thoughts of harm Back again a barefoot boy— Back to home, down on the farm.

—A. U. Mayfield, in Denver News.

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