

and obstructed always by corruption—as we now know by insurmountable corruption—he led sublimely; that he set before his countrymen the standards alike of God and truth; and that he went down beaten with clean hands and high repute, carrying with him the homage of patriotic men.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

**BRYAN AFTER A THIRD DEFEAT**

The democratic candidate is an earnest believer in popular rule, and though disappointment is natural to a man in his position the philosophy he has cultivated will lead him to accept the verdict of the majority of the people with a reasonable amount of cheerfulness just because it is the verdict of the people—of a large majority of the people.

If the election had been a close one there might have been temptation among politicians to attribute the result to improper influences. But with a large majority for the winner in the electoral college, and a popular plurality of about a million, it would be absurd to charge corruption or intimidation or any other such factor. Mr. Bryan should be the first to appreciate this fact and its corollary—that Taft is the people's choice because they have confidence in his character and mind, because they believe him to be es-

entially progressive and sound, because they feel that their interests are safe with him.

"Shall the people rule?" asked Mr. Bryan. Their answer is unmistakable. They expect and mean to rule through Taft and a republican congress. They have no fear of reaction, and while they appreciate Mr. Bryan's many admirable qualities they prefer Taft as their instrument of constructive and orderly reform.

Mr. Bryan's ambition was thoroughly legitimate and honorable. He undoubtedly wished and hoped to serve the country with single-minded devotion. But he has the consolation of knowing that, albeit in a different spirit and after a different manner, the main policies which he has eloquently advocated in common with Roosevelt and Taft will be continued and extended.

Moreover, Mr. Bryan has nobly and sincerely preached to his fellow men the "peace" that is "the reward of conscience void of offense toward God and man." The humblest citizen, he has said, can secure that peace, that satisfaction, equally with him who wields great power. Mr. Bryan will never be "a humble citizen," for he is too gifted for such a role. He has a strong hold on the affection of millions, and as an orator, writer and moral leader his place is high among his contemporaries. High it will remain, and his third defeat after a brilliant campaign should bring him no bitterness and no lasting sorrow.—Chicago Record-Herald (rep.)

**MR. BRYAN IN DEFEAT**

Mr. Bryan has met defeat for the third time as candidate for president of the United States. It is the first instance in our history that any man has persevered to run three times for that office and three times has been rejected.

This may be said to end Mr. Bryan's career as a presidential candidate. No man can expect a fourth nomination from a party which he has led thrice to defeat; and the party would be foolish to give it.

Mr. Bryan is a man of remarkable and brilliant talent, a good citizen, honest and incorruptible, earnest in his convictions. He is a great orator, a master of the art. As a citizen he is moved by kindly impulses, in close sympathy with the people and with the popular aspirations. He is a good American, a square man.

What has defeated Mr. Bryan in three campaigns is his lack of sound judgment in matters of high public importance. The sober sense of the country—which is always right when allowed entire freedom of expression—has rejected Mr. Bryan's views on the free coinage of silver at a depreciated ratio, on government ownership of railroads, on the guarantee of bank deposits.

Mr. Bryan has been sincere in his advocacy of these propositions. Sincerity is one of the strongest traits of his character. But the judgment of the people is that he has been sincerely wrong; and being wrong in these, it has caused apprehension lest he might be wrong in others with which in the course of events he should be brought to deal.

This defect in Mr. Bryan's mental habit is what has defeated him three times in succession.

But while the event marks the end of Mr. Bryan's running for president, it leaves him still a public man of weight and consequence. There is a large field for him in the service of his fellow citizens as a leader and inspirer of high popular purpose—as our great commoner.

This final defeat will not sour his spirit. His character is too sturdily hopeful. He stands today secure in the affections of a large part of the common people of the American republic.—Boston Post.

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