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HE HEARS FROM HOME.

Then Vest Goes to the Mourner's Bench and Repents of His Sins.

IS HE GENUINELY CONVERTED?

Sherman will be Secretary of the Treasury—Hill gets a Knock Down from Butler.

Wall Street Will Take in the Chicago Convention.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 8.—The past week has been of more than unusual interest in congress. Senator Vest has followed Senators Teller and Tillman in making a declaration on the same line as theirs. The position which Senators Teller and Tillman took was not unexpected, as their views were known, but the position of Senator Vest was a great surprise, as well as a great gratification, to many of his friends. A few months ago Senator Vest stated that he would stand by whoever was nominated at the Chicago convention. This caused him to be criticized by a few in Washington who had thought that he was a man who would put his convictions and principles above party; and, besides, it raised a storm of protest among the rank and file of the democratic party in Missouri. At that time Senator Vest thought that the silver men would control the Chicago convention. He now sees that the gold men and monopolists have the machinery and will dominate the convention, as they have in the past.

On yesterday, in a deliberate and earnest speech, he pointed out the tactics and methods which the gold men are now using to control both old party conventions, and closed by saying that if the administration continued to dominate the state democratic conventions with federal patronage and other influence as it did the democratic state convention of Michigan, that he and the people would not be bound by the action of such a convention.

His speech was listened to with the deepest interest by every senator, and by the crowded galleries. Senator Vest, in his speech, admitted that the great masses of his party at home had criticized him severely for saying that he would stand by the nominee of the Chicago convention, whoever he might be. This shows, and there are many other evidences to the same effect, that the people are determined not to follow gold bugs and machine politicians any further; that they are determined this year to condemn the traitorous parties that have brought the country to stagnation and poverty, and to vote for more money and better times.

It is safe to say that the electoral vote of Missouri will be given to the candidate that the people's party nominates for president at St. Louis on July 22d. Senator Palmer was making a speech in favor of the gold standard one day this week, and asked if any senator would dare to say that if we had free coinage of silver that the bullion value of the silver dollar would be equal to the bullion value of the gold dollar. Senator Butler



MARION BUTLER

arose and said that he would be glad to answer the question by quoting from a speech which Senator Hill of New York made at Elmira on December 4, 1892. In that speech, Senator Hill argued that free coinage would make the silver dollar not only by law but by weight equal to the gold dollar in every respect, as free coinage did before 1873. Senator Butler proceeded to read the following extracts from the speech of Senator Hill:

"Did ever anything but free bimetallic coinage, down to 1873, make our gold and silver dollars equal to every test? Did ever free bimetallic coinage, down to 1873, for one hour fail to make the silver dollar equal to the gold dollar, whether at mint or crucible, or at any market in the wide world?"

"But to maintain a parity implies the existence of a parity. No parity exists between the two. Melt the gold coin and it can be recoined again and again, a gold dollar, for its private owner, because gold has free coinage, and 25.8 troy grains are the fixed weight of the gold dollar. Melt the silver coin and it cannot be recoined for its private owner. It can be sold to the treasury, but for 75 cents or less, silver has not free coinage, though 412 1/2 tray grains of silver are indeed the present weight of the silver dollar."

When Senator Butler had read to this point, seeing that the leading gold man on his side had thoroughly answered four years ago all of the gold bug arguments he was now making as well, Senator Palmer, in that speech, objected to the further reading of the speech. The next paragraph that Sen-

ator Butler would have read, and Senator Palmer objected to the reading of it as follows:

"But free metallic coinage is the one thing needful. Free bimetallic coinage would purchase neither silver nor gold, but would monetize both in their old rated true parity."

"I admit that last year the mere hope of free bimetallic coinage at the hands of congress (not as ignorant persons say enlarged treasury purchases of silver) lifted all silver in all markets, in all mints, in all banks, in all treasuries, throughout the civilized world, and not merely in the United States, from less than \$1 per ounce to more than \$1.20 per ounce, \$1.29 per ounce being the point at which, with free bimetallic coinage, price would cease and the fixed ratio begin, surmounting two thirds of its present legalized disparagement in countries formerly bimetallic."

This shows how Hill was talking when he was candidate for the presidency in 1892, and we now see that if he had been elected that he would have taken just the same course that Grover Cleveland has. The people of the south in 1892 very foolishly declared in all of their state conventions for free silver and for Grover Cleveland. They got Grover Cleveland, but they did not get free silver. If they had nominated David Bennett Hill, they would have gotten David Bennett Hill, but they would not have gotten free silver. Neither can they get it by electing the man the democratic convention will nominate at Chicago this year.

A few weeks ago the silver men claimed that they would surely control the national democratic convention, but every day it grows plainer that the same thing will happen at Chicago on July 7th that has happened at every other national democratic convention—that is, that the money power and the monopolists will again write the platform and name the candidate. But, fortunately, such action on the part of the national democratic convention this year, instead of being a misfortune, will be a blessing. It will give the silver republicans of the west, the silver democrats of the south, and patriots everywhere, a chance to get together under one banner and fight the enemies of our country, who in the past have, to some extent, managed to hide behind party name and a straddling party platform. It matters not what the leaders do. The great masses of the people in the south and west will support the man nominated by the people's party at St. Louis on July 22d and that candidate will stand a better chance of being elected president than Abe Lincoln stood when he was elected in a three cornered fight.

SENATOR WOLOOTT'S TREASON.

The Senatorial Gold Bugs Land Him to the Skies.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 14, 1896.

In our last letter we called attention to how the gold bug papers were praising Senator Wolcott (who claimed to be a silver man) for saying that he would help the gold bugs elect a gold bug president. Senator Hill in his speech against the bond investigation, went out of his way to speak warm words of praise for a silver republican like Senator Wolcott, who would turn his back on his convictions, and stand by a gold bug party. This is significant. It shows that not only the gold republicans are anxious for every silver republican to stay in his party, but that the gold democrats are equally anxious that the silver republicans should stay in the republican party, under all circumstances. In short, the only hope for the success of the gold trust is for silver republicans and silver democrats to stay in their parties to help elect whoever the gold men put up.

In this same speech Senator Hill said that a man could be a good democrat and hold any views that he pleased on the money question. Now it is admitted by all that the money question is the overshadowing question for the coming campaign—that it is more important than the tariff or any other issue. Therefore, Senator Hill could have said, with even a greater show of truthfulness, that a man could be a good democrat and hold any views on the tariff that he saw fit; or, in fact, could be a democrat and hold any views on any question that he saw fit. That is, a man could be a high protectionist, a rank gold bug, a shouting British Tory, a subservient tool of trusts, monopolies and combines. This is the correct view of the matter from the gold bug standpoint, and the hope of the gold men is to get the silver men, and those who claim to be the friends of the people, to take the same view and follow the lead of the gold machine.

McKinley Himself is Silent.

CHICAGO, May 5.—The Times-Herald today prints this statement respecting McKinley's position on free silver:

"A year ago in Thomasville, Ga., Major McKinley, when offered the delegation of three southern states if he would declare for free silver, said in the presence of the editor of this journal:

"If the republican platform declares for free coinage I will not be a candidate. I would not run on a free silver platform."

H. H. Kohlsaat, the editor of the Times-Herald, is perhaps McKinley's most intimate friend, next to Mark Hanna, and his statement would scarcely have been made without the knowledge of the protectionist leader.

The World telegraphed Mr. Kohlsaat's statement to its correspondent at Canton, O., with instructions to submit it to McKinley and obtain from him, if possible, a verification.

McKinley read the statement carefully and returned it to the correspondent. He declined to say a word concerning it.

Watch it Grow.

The people's party is growing. If you don't think so, just ask Taylor Flick to let you look at the list of members of the popular club here.—Custer County Beacon.

ALLEN ON INCOME TAX

He Sends His Compliments to the Supreme Court.

UPSET ALL FORMER PRECEDENTS

They Put a Nail in the Coffin of the Industrial Slave.

And Let the Millions of the Rich Escape All Taxation.

Senator Allen delivered a speech in the senate which was printed in the Record May 9th, in which he discussed several topics in a very able manner. The following is the part that referred to the late income tax decision:

What has happened recently? We passed, as one of the important features of the Wilson bill, now known as the Wilson-Gorman Act, an income-tax law. It was in strict accordance with the established usage of the government. In 1796 the supreme court of the United States, in the Hylton case, in Third Dallas, decided the constitutionality of an income tax without a dissenting opinion. There were opinions delivered in that case by Mr. Justice Chase, Mr. Justice Iredell, Mr. Justice Patterson, and by one other justice whose name I do not now recall. There was no dissent from the proposition that by the constitution the power was conferred upon congress to impose an income tax. We imposed an income tax as one of the features of the Wilson bill of 1894, directly in accordance with precedent. There were at least one-half dozen income-tax laws passed between 1790 and 1890. They had passed in favorable review before every judge who had occupied a place on the supreme bench of the United States as chief justice or associate justice up to the last date. And following these precedents, in 1894 we put an amendment on the Wilson bill which would have brought to the government \$30,000,000 of revenue annually if it had not been annulled by the action of the supreme court.

Mr. President, it was necessary to get rid of this provision in order that the plan of the money power might be carried out. The highly protected industries could never have the people completely by the throat until they were able to get rid of the government's power to tax incomes. I remember as distinctly as though it were yesterday how the honorable senior senator from New York [Mr. Hill] inveighed against taxing the prosperity of the country, as he was pleased to call it, as though the poverty ought to be taxed, as it is being taxed now, and idle income gatherers be permitted to escape taxation. I remember how he met the decisions in the Hylton case, by the assertion—it sounds now like prophecy—that the law would be declared unconstitutional. I have never before given the senator from New York credit for being a prophet. But I now give him credit for being a successful prophet in that case.

Mr. HILL. The senator speaks of the decision of the supreme court on the income-tax question as though it were a surprise.



W. V. ALLEN.

MR. ALLEN. I am not surprised at anything that happens here—absolutely nothing. If I were to be told tomorrow that every citizen of the 70,000,000 was to be a bond slave I would not be surprised. They are, as a matter of fact, industrial slaves now. I was, however, speaking of the supreme court of the United States, and the peculiar effect of their opinions on the income tax.

Mr. President, do you see the purpose? It is just as plain as the thimble-rigging game with which we were all more or less familiar as boys. If the money power could induce the supreme court to declare the income tax invalid, the millions of the rich would escape taxation. Then they could put the final nail in the political coffin of the industrial slave and make him bear the burden for all time. How was that to be done? How could it be done? There was only one place to go to accomplish it. I will not say it was accomplished by design, but I call attention to the fact that the first decision of the court in May last—I think it was in May—upheld some of the main features of the income-tax law. It would have been unblinking and inexorable to have overruled at one time five decisions extending over a period of almost one hundred years, so the court was reconvened and a reargument was ordered. These rearguments are always dangerous, no matter where they occur, and are always open to suspicion. Mr. Justice Jackson was brought to Washington more dead than alive—for he died shortly after the second hearing—and by

some mysterious process, which the world does not know and never will, one of the judges, who had joined in deciding the act constitutional in part, changed his mind and pronounced it wholly unconstitutional. His change of mind possesses great significance to me from the fact that he is a citizen of a state that is peculiarly benefited by tariff taxation. In 1796 the supreme court unanimously declared the constitutionality of the income tax in the Hylton case. They declared its constitutionality as late as October, 1880, in the Springer case in 102 United States Supreme Court Reports; they declared its constitutionality in the Phoenix Insurance Company case, in the Vezie Bank case, and in still another case, the name of which I do not at this time recall. And yet in 1895 all the great judges who had passed on the laws authorizing an income tax were overruled by the supreme court as now constituted by a bare majority.

It may not be unimportant in the history of this question to glance over the list of gentlemen who have composed the supreme court of the United States in the past. When the Hylton case was determined in 1796, Oliver Ellsworth was the chief justice, William Cushing, James Wilson, John Blair, James Iredell, Thomas Johnson, William Patterson and Samuel Chase were the associate justices. That law passed in successful review before those gentlemen. It is true that Chief Justice Ellsworth took his seat on the bench on the day the opinion was rendered and did not participate in it, but never during his term of service did he dissent from it, or the principle recognized by it, and it passed successfully in review before that court without a dissenting voice. Chief Justice John Jay was nominated and confirmed as chief justice of the supreme court of the United States before Oliver Ellsworth, but he declined the appointment, and John Marshall was made chief justice and so remained from June 30, 1801, to July 6, 1835.

Now, Mr. President, here was Roger B. Taney, a great jurist, who was chief justice from November 15, 1836, to October 12, 1864, and no question was ever raised before him as to the constitutionality of any of the income-tax laws, although many of them were in existence and being enforced while he was a member of the court.

These acts passed successfully in review before Salmon P. Chase, and their constitutionality was affirmed by him and the court over which he presided. They passed successfully in review before Morrison R. Waite, and their constitutionality was affirmed by him and the court over which he presided. We come at last to the present chief justice, Melville W. Fuller, who became chief justice July 20, 1888. It was reserved for him alone, of all the distinguished and illustrious chief justices, to discover that his predecessors had been wrong as to the constitutionality of the income-tax law.

From the organization of the supreme court, from the day of John Jay to the day of Melville W. Fuller, no member of the court had supposed that the government did not possess the constitutional power to levy an income tax. The question had been thoroughly and exhaustively investigated by congress in the passage of some half-dozen or more income-tax laws; it had been patiently investigated by a majority of the chief justices whose names I have mentioned, and yet, in 1895, it remained for a bare majority of the present court to discover that the Hylton case, that the Vezie case, that the Phoenix Insurance Company case, that the Springer case, and all other cases on the subject, and all the laws that had been passed by congress throughout the history of the country, were wrong, and that the government does not possess the constitutional power to impose an income tax.

Mr. President, I am not a member of the supreme court, and no man entertaining the opinions I do ever will be, at least until there is a change in our system of doing business. I do not say that the last decision, which was made by a bare majority of the court, is not the honest opinion of that high tribunal. On that subject I say nothing. But I do say that it is a most singular circumstance, and that it will stand out prominently in the judicial history of the country, more prominently than the celebrated decision of 1877, which was one of the most vicious decisions of the age, as an exceptional case in the constitutional history of the country that great men like Oliver Ellsworth, John Marshall, Roger B. Taney, Salmon P. Chase, and Morrison R. Waite, were wrong in determining that congress, under the constitution, had power to impose an income tax, and that it was reserved for Melville W. Fuller and a bare majority of his associates to discover that their predecessors had been in error for nearly one hundred years. It will stand out prominently that over thirty associate justices who have occupied the supreme bench during our national existence, and before whom this question had passed in review successively, and who had given to the doctrine their full assent—it will be a marvelous thing in our judicial history—that five gentlemen out of nine, in the year of our Lord, 1895, discovered that all their illustrious predecessors for a hundred years had been wrong.

Passing this late decision—which I have noticed more for the purpose of showing somewhat in detail the history of constitutional power—passing from that, and admitting that the supreme court had a right to decide as it did—and we must obey its decision whether right or wrong—letting it remain a profound secret how the decision was brought about—let me observe that the direct result was to call loudly for the enactment of a tariff that will impose additional and heavier burdens on an already tax-ridden people.

Mr. President, can there be any doubt that the people have lost confidence in the supreme court? I declare it as my solemn conviction that the thinking people lost confidence in the supreme court when it rendered the decision in the case of Tilden against Hayes, when some of the judges of that high tribunal

suffered themselves to be dragged from the court room, where they belonged and where the constitution had placed them, to be put upon a political tribunal to decide a merely party question between contending political parties. The last income-tax decision will be as exceptional, anomalous, and suspicious in our judicial history as is the decision of the electoral commission in our political history.

THE POPULIST PARTY.

What it Will do if Intrusted With the Administration of the Affairs of Government.

About the first act of a populist administration would be to restore silver to its original, rightful and constitutional place as a money metal.

Free coinage of silver would be accomplished in thirty days by a populist congress and executive.

There would be no more so-called national banks (banks of issue) chartered by a populist administration. If the national bank law cannot be repealed, the present banks will cease to exist (as banks of issue) with the expiration of their charters.

Under a populist administration all money, whether gold, silver or paper, would be issued directly by the government and made a full legal tender.

One thing is certain, no more interest-bearing bonds would be issued by a populist administration. There is and has been no necessity for bonds except to furnish an investment for the money gamblers and banking corporations. No more bonds.

A populist administration would gradually but certainly bring the railroads and other natural monopolistic enterprises under the control or ownership of government, and operated under such civil service regulations as to insure honest and efficient service to the people. Under such a system discriminations will be impossible.

The populist party favors direct legislation—the referendum. This is the nearest approach to genuine popular government. By this system every citizen will have a voice and a vote in making or repealing the laws by which we are governed.

No more land grants to railroad and other corporations will be made under a populist administration. All land shall be held for actual settlers.

Equal rights to all and special privileges to none, is the watchword and motto of populism.

Fellow countrymen, it is to your interest to work for and vote with the populist.—Muskingum County Populist, Ohio.

Cyclone Davis Endorsed.

The populists of the Fourth congressional district of Texas met at Texarkana May 1 and elected eight delegates to the national convention of which J. H. Davis is chairman. The convention also passed the following resolution: "Resolved that this convention have and now express full confidence in the honesty and integrity of that prince of reformers, Hon. J. H. Davis." A delegate to the convention writes thus: "There was no opposition to Davis, save from one county and that was very weak indeed. The nominating convention will not be held until August and then there will be one voice and that will be for Davis."

Kansas Lump Rock Salt for Stock.

Healthiest and most convenient way of salting. It is not generally known that the use of common loose salt for cattle, sheep and hogs is injurious to them, but such, however, is the fact. Their nature requires only so much salt as will be absorbed by the saliva. By the ordinary method of salting more or less of the loose salt is carried undissolved into the stomach, causing irritation to the membranes and coating, while in using lump salt, your cattle have free access to salt all the time and only get what they need. One hundred pounds is guaranteed to go as far as a barrel of common fine salt. Try it. Best and cheapest way to salt cattle.

Lump Rock Salt.

In lumps from 25 to 200 pounds; lasts four times as long as fine salt. Nature's own way of salting stock. Healthiest and most convenient way of salting. Dairy cattle should have access to salt every day. Feeding rock salt to your dairy cattle will increase your milk yield 20 per cent. Try it in place of common fine salt, and note the result. Used and recommended by the largest dairymen and cattle raisers in the west. Ask your dealer for it or write to Western Rock Salt Co., St. Louis, Mo.

Sibley in the Field Again.

Mr. Sibley's reception at Conneautville was an ovation that did honor to the friends of reform in that section. As seemingly must be, the hall was much too small for his audience, and many went sorrowfully back to their homes. Nothing but out-door meetings will do in this congressional district when Mr. Sibley speaks. No hall can be found to accommodate such a large number of people.—Sledgehammer, Pa.

Brice Buys a Paper.

Editor Cormack, of the Memphis Commercial-Appeal, has been discharged because of his free silver ideas and the stockholders have decided to conduct the paper as a Cleveland organ, supporting Patterson for congress.

Gave up Editing.

Miss Mary O'Neill, formerly editor of the people's Record at Marshall, has gone to St. Louis to act as private secretary to H. E. Taubeneck, chairman of the national committee of the people's party.—Liberty Herald, [Mo.]

THE REPUBLICAN BOLT.

THE GOLD BUGS WILL NOT LET TELLER, CARTER, DUBOIS AND CANNON IN.

These Senators Planning to Unite With the Populists.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 17, 1896.

Special to the Denver News:—Gold standard senators and representatives now frequently discuss the way out of the dilemma which the action of the Idaho and Colorado republican conventions have confronted the party with. If Teller, Dubois, Cannon and Carter of Montana, can, they will lead their co-delegates out of the convention and use them as the nucleus of the new silver party which is to unite with the populists at St. Louis. This republican leaders are convinced, is their purpose, and they have about made up their minds either to shut the door of the convention in their faces from the first, or to effect them bodily from the hall as soon as proceedings will permit the preparation and adoption of the necessary resolution. The test of qualification to sit as delegate which Senator Conkling sought to have applied in the memorable republican convention at Chicago in 1880, to secure Grant his third term nomination, will be resurrected and an attempt be made to induce the convention to adopt it. It will take the form of a resolution that no delegate can sit with honor in the convention unless it is his purpose to support both the platform and nominees of the party. If such a resolution should pass, the delegates who propose to bolt will walk out at once. Neither Teller nor his silver colleagues would remain for a moment after such a pointed request to depart. The irons are being heated and the knives sharpened for the "silver above party" delegates, yet the silver senators are as serene as May mornings and are growing more determined as each day rolls by, to fight in the senate, in the convention and everywhere else, and sacrifice every other political measure until their fight shall be won.

THE POP ARE GAINING.

An Old Worker at the Editor's Home Still Tolls on.

BANCROFT, Neb., May 18, 1896.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—At this your old home, the populist party is gaining in members every day at least this is the case if people will vote as they talk. There are but few of the old party fellows that dare advocate the gold standard and even the Blade is out for the free coinage of silver presumably 16 to 1. And thus the good work goes on. If we can have some good German speakers in the county this fall, or populist literature in the German language I think we can secure a good vote from that source. Last week I sent you a club of four subscribers and no mention was made of it. I have been a subscriber to the paper ever since it has been published under whatever name it has assumed and have secured for it quite a number of subscribers also have written several communications for publication but in no instance have any of them appeared in its columns. I am aware of the fact that they contained but little merit, still some of them gave the number of votes polled by our party at Bancroft, frequently doubling the previous vote. I was a delegate to the Cincinnati conference also a delegate from Washington county to the Omaha convention and had I the means would like to attend the St. Louis convention, but shall be compelled to forego the pleasure. Will send the names of more subscribers as soon as possible. I was in this fight at the beginning with the populists (as I was with the republicans at the beginning) and aim to remain with it just as long as it adheres to present principles. Should the party consort to principles contrary to my own then I would leave it as I did the so-called republican party.

L. R. FLETCHER.

Overton will Irrigate.

OVERTON, Neb., May 8, 1896.

Special to the INDEPENDENT:—On our trip westward we stopped at Overton, situated in the southwest corner of Dawson county and about three miles north of the Platte river and about six miles from the highlands. It has a population of 300 souls, all of whom are engaged in some of the several lines of business. It has one bank, two churches, a good school building, two general stores, one drug store, two hotels, one lumber yard and a number of other smaller business places, all of which seem to be doing fairly well. She, like other Platte valley towns, is entering upon a period of prosperity, heretofore unknown in the history of this state, through and by the influence of the use in water in the dry seasons under a perfect system of irrigation. Push the good work along.

J. M. D.

Allen in Boston.

The banquet committee of the people's party announce the second annual banquet to take place Friday, May 29, at Arcade hall, Park square, Boston. Senator Allen is to be the guest of the occasion. A reception will be held commencing at 6 o'clock, and at 7:30 seats will be taken. It is also to be arranged that Senator Allen will speak in Faneuil hall at noon. The delegates and alternates to St. Louis will meet at 5 o'clock in the same hall that day, to complete arrangements, as far as possible, for the trip to St. Louis.