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THE REFORM LEADER

He Does Not Yield, He Cannot be Tempted
Is Not Cajoled, and Is a Giant
Among Men.

Mr. Bryan is forcing recognition from the most eminent writers and thinkers among his opponents. While the degenerates of the State Journal continue to speak of him in the language of the dives and gutters, the brilliant and able writers among the republicans have long since dropped such tactics. The Washington Post and New York Sun, still strictly republican papers, as well as such able and distinguished independent republican papers as the Springfield Republican, acknowledge his ability and statesmanship. The next day after Bryan was nominated, the Washington Post published the following leading editorial:

Mr. Bryan's nomination by the democratic party yesterday was as much a foregone conclusion as had been Mr. McKinley's by the republican party two weeks ago. It was as rational, as logical, and, if possible, even more inevitable. The republican organization, thanks to Mr. Hanna's heroic methods, is well nigh perfect. It is in fact, a rigidly constructed and smoothly running, if remorseless machine, operating with absolute precision, if without human weakness or emotions. Mr. McKinley was nominated not because the party depended wholly on his leadership, but rather because the members of that party, despite its almost despotic discipline, love and honor the man, believe in him, and are fond of him. Unquestionably he will receive a few hundred thousand more votes than any other republican candidate would receive, but the fact remains that the controllable vote, the drilled and regular vote of the party, could, under the present management, be delivered to any candidate whatever. In Mr. Bryan's case it is entirely different. He is the one democrat alive who can develop the party's utmost strength this year. His nomination appeals to the hearts of his unswerving respect and confidence; they now recognize his absolute honesty and his magnificent, unswerving courage. With him as the leader all is not harmony, but without him the democratic party would be an incoherent and heterogeneous mob. He does not, like McKinley, appeal to the sentimental side of men. He does not, again like his distinguished antagonist, win personal affection. He is strenuous, dominant, compelling. He does not consult or seek advice or lean upon another. He is a captain, a commander, a law unto himself.

Four years ago he leaped from comparative obscurity to the leadership of a party which Mr. Cleveland had practically wrecked. In the eyes of the country at large he seemed an accident—the grotesque fruit of divided counsels; the product of despair; the spruce of an idle and a young man. His political experience had been very brief; his record hinted at no special brilliancy, and his achievements warranted but very modest expectations for the future. Nevertheless, he magnetized ten thousand men assembled in the Chicago convention, and, in the face of no similar audience was ever magnified before, and he did this by any gift of rhetoric or trick of eloquence than by the overwhelming passion of his earnestness and the irresistible force of his convictions. He was not the evolution of a deep insight, but the result of a carefully contrived conspiracy. He was the spontaneous choice of every democrat within hearing of his ringing words—within the influence of his tremendous personality. The astounding campaign which he conducted subsequently has no parallel in the chronic of American politics. Almost unknown, backed by no party organization worthy of serious appraisement; without money; abandoned by the Cleveland faction; ridiculed and misrepresented; fighting against the most desperate odds, including the democratic administration and its hirelings and mercenaries, this youthful stranger from the far west brought out nearly a million votes more than Mr. Cleveland, with all his eastern millions behind him, had been able to summon to the polls four years before, and forced the republican party to say on every God's Hill in the land for his salvation.

No one to-day affects to hold Mr. Bryan in contempt. No man at once intelligent and honest ventures to dismiss him from the equation of 1890 as a factor of small consequences. Even the New York Sun, perhaps the most ardent and able republican organ in the country, felt called upon, some weeks ago, to pay tribute to the man's consistency and courage. Indeed, Mr. Bryan stands upon his own feet, a perfect specimen of physical intellectual and moral strength. He is no trimmer. He does not go to the people for assurance, and encouragement. He draws them to him and he holds them by his unaided power. His face reveals his character. It is a face without softness, and equally without cruelty. It is the face of a man who does not yield, who cannot be tempted, who is not cajoled, and who believes absolutely in himself—the face of an enthusiast, a fanatic, if you will, but of a leader and a giant among men.

CHINA AND THE BOXERS

The Great Bank of the Chinese Peasants,
and Agriculture Their Principal
Occupation.

Washington, D. C., July 16.—[Special correspondence.]—Although the vast mobs which infest Peking and the larger cities of China, worked up to a state of frenzy and fanaticism, have rendered impossible any satisfactory action by the available forces of the powers, the great Chinese population proper is agricultural and naturally extremely peaceful

and peace-loving. Agriculture, however, is most primitive and the wonder is how such an immense population can be supported from the soil, until the great economy practiced in all things is understood. On the Great Plain of China, every available foot of land is utilized for growing something and every particle of fertility returned to the soil. Waters are used for irrigation and in many cases laboriously distributed over the fields.

The Great Plain itself is one of the most wonderful sections of the globe. It is about 700 miles in length and varies from 200 to 400 miles in width, occupying the northeastern part of the empire, and containing over 200,000 square miles of wonderfully fertile soil. The most interesting feature of this plain is its enormous population as it supports, according to estimates of 1872, no less than 177 million human beings, making it the most densely settled of any part of the world of the same size, its inhabitants amounting to nearly two-thirds of the entire population of Europe.

The most wonderful feature in the physical geography of China is the portion of a vast region of loess in this portion of the empire. Loess is a very solid but friable earth, brownish yellow in color and is found in many places from 500 to 1,000 feet deep. The loess hills rise in terraces from 20 to several hundred feet in height. Every atom of loess is perforated by small tubes, after the manner of root fibers, only the direction of these little channels is always from above downward so that cleavage in the loess mass is invariably vertical. The loess region of China is perhaps the most broken country in the world, with its broken cities and villages, its narrow roads and deep cut ravines. Owing to the ease with which it can be worked, caves made at the bases of straight cliffs, afford homes to millions of people in the densely populated northern provinces where the Boxers have thus far been most active. Whole villages cluster together in the crevices of the loess, and some of which extend back more than 200 feet. The capabilities of defense in a country such as this, where an invading army must necessarily become lost and absolutely bewildered in the tangle of interlocking ways and where the defenders' retreats remain concealed, are innumerable means of escape is peculiarly significant at this time when consideration is being given to a conquest of China.

It may not be generally known that the Chinese were the discoverers of coal as a fuel. The earliest trader who crossed the Gobi Desert, and came over the country of Cathay (China) there is a kind of black stone existing in the beds of the mountains which they dig out and burn like firewood. This stone burns better and costs less.

The rivers of China are her glory and her life. They are her highways, and she is watered and none with such splendid natural water transportation facilities. The three great rivers of the empire are the Yang-tse-Kiang (Child of the ocean), the Hoang Ho (Yellow River) and the Chu Kiang (Pearl River or Canton). The Yang-tse-Kiang, which is the largest, flows through extensive and fertile plains and finally emptying into the Eastern sea, after traversing a distance of over 2,000 miles. Its discharge is estimated at one million cubic feet per second. The banks of the Yang-tse-Kiang are crossed by a series of bridges, the most famous of which are Nankin and the new treaty port of Hankow. The Hoang Ho or yellow river is noted especially for its frequent and violent floods. Its current is very rapid and its course circuitous, nearly approaching in length the Yang-tse-Kiang. The Hoang Ho is the largest of the rivers of the empire, and its waters are used for irrigation and thousands of drains and creeks have been made to connect with it along its route.

Irrigation, nevertheless, is practiced to a considerable extent through the use of the waters of the Grand canal arising from the waters of the Yellow River, a work of great magnitude. It was constructed in the 7th century and enlarged in the 13th century. It traverses the Great Plain and flows with but slight current for a distance of but 700 miles. While built for purposes of communication, the Grand canal is used for irrigation and thousands of drains and creeks have been made to connect with it along its route.

ANTIQUATED METHODS

The methods of irrigation are ancient and crude. One of the most picturesque is by means of the water wheel which is used where the land to be watered is well above the channel of the river. The wheel is turned by the force of the current and is perhaps thirty feet high. Its buckets being sections of bamboo which as they are raised by the stately motion of the wheel, empty their contents into troughs or ditches. Hollow bamboo pipes or tubes are sometimes used for distributing water over the fields. They rest upon wooden supports and branch in every direction from the source of supply. The chain pump is also a common means of lifting water, the chain running up from the water on a slant and being provided with little buckets at intervals, which as they reach the highest point and begin to descend, discharge their contents. These machines are worked by buffaloes or sometimes by human labor, a man working a crank with his feet something after the manner of riding a bicycle. The most primitive and laborious method is the ancient well sweep, such as is seen to-day on many an old New England homestead. GUY E. MITCHELL.

The summer meeting of the Nebraska State Historical society will be held in the court room, Geneva, Nebraska, Wednesday and Thursday, July 25-26, 1900.

VICTORY IN THE AIR

The Fusion Forces are a Unit in Nebraska
and that Means Twenty Thousand
Majority for Bryan.

The State Convention of the reform forces have met, performed their work and adjourned. It took some little time and effort to fully adjust all matters wherein the three parties were interested, but this was done, and so effectively that when they finished their labors, there was a better feeling in existence between the parties than there has ever been at any time in the past, and likewise between the contesting candidates.

As is always the case where a party is in the majority, there are a number who think, as well as their friends, that the party could be better served by the nomination of this or that particular individual than by naming any other. The condition above referred to is a healthy sign and demonstrates that the reform forces have men who are capable of filling all positions of trust and honor, and secondly, that such persons have unquestioned faith in the success of their cause at the polls.

In addition to the state ticket a satisfactory agreement was reached in the marked increase in the majority ticket, the Populists four, the Democrats three, and the Silver Republicans one. This division insures Mr. Bryan the vote of Nebraska. In 1896 the electoral ticket was carried by him by almost fourteen thousand, and we predict a marked increase in the majority this year, as there are a number of changes in his favor. There is an earnest desire on the part of all persons connected with the reform forces, to see Mr. Bryan president of the United States. None know better than do the people of his own state what it means for him to be successful. The firm stand which has characterized his entire official life will be fully realized in the event of his success, and there cannot be any doubt as to where he stands on all public questions. The common people, the masses, will have a friend at the head of this government.

That Mr. Bryan is the leader of his party and not the party a leader of Mr. Bryan has been demonstrated in the recent transactions, and especially in this true in the shaping of the platform that was adopted by the Democratic National Convention in the Kansas City. While all who have watched his course know nothing short of this would have been satisfactory, and that which was not satisfactory would not have been accepted, and as a result the Democratic National Convention has gone further than any other in the history of the country in accepting and demanding the principles advocated by the Peoples Party. With this done, and Mr. Bryan the candidate, there can be no good reason offered why he should not have the full strength of the Peoples Party vote at the November election, and we believe with this known, it places the entire body of voters in the Peoples Party enthusiastically at work for his success, which means victory.

Yes, Nebraska will be in the Bryan column by twenty thousand majority this fall and the state ticket will, as it always has, keep pace with the electoral college. The platform of the Democratic National Convention in the Kansas City, named at the state conventions of the reform forces will be elected. The state in this way will be saved from the misrule of the republican party, which party convinced the citizenship of this state that it could not be trusted in positions of honor and respect, and in the hands of abusing the same. With the same list of managers desirous that they shall be again placed in power, no one can imagine that the people who have been deceived and robbed by them will again place their trust or confidence in the republican party. When the good record which has been made by the reform forces of this state is compared with that of those who preceded them, it is then that the hopes of the republican party fade away into insignificance.

The record made and referred to is deserving of the careful consideration of every citizen who desires an intelligent government conducted in the interests of the people. For instance, the large increase of school funds which have been placed in the hands of school boards for the purpose of assisting in the education of our children. If your republican friends would desire an honest state government, take them to your district treasurer and show him the increased amount per capita for each child of school age. This was brought about by the constant efforts of the present state officials, in seeing that all school lands were leased and that all school funds in their hands were placed where they will draw interest for the benefit of the children. When these benefits are considered, coming directly as they do, as the result of the change in the management of the state's affairs, we feel like congratulating ourselves and the party at large for its successful efforts in the interests of the people.

It may be in some instances that friends of the state administration may feel that the right course has not been pursued in all cases, and disappointment may have come to some seemingly unjust cause, yet we must say to all friends who may feel that "it is better human to err, and divine to forgive." In many instances mistakes have occurred owing to lack of a full knowledge of all the facts that surrounded the case, and others have doubtless occurred from various reasons, but if persons who have been disappointed will take into consideration that this is true in almost every instance where the individual or officer is charged with the responsible duty of dispensing patronage to the constituents who have contributed to the election or success of the officer thus empowered. When we take into consideration the doubt attached to this election we doubt very much if any fusionist will refuse to give his earnest efforts to the support of our entire ticket.

The election of the electoral, state,

congressional and legislative tickets are all very necessary and we cannot neglect any one of them without serious loss and irreparable damage to the party. In such a nation we are expecting great reforms and there is certainly much room for the same. In the state we must have the legislature in order that two U. S. senators can be elected to represent our views. These senators, together with the congressmen, represent us in the halls of congress, and to act with them we must elect a president who directs the policies of the government, and in order that we may control the state government we must have the state officers without a single exception. With this done we have performed our full duty.

The bright outlook for Mr. Bryan's election should, we believe, do, inspire our people everywhere with new hope. We believe it an impossibility for the present administration to justify their action on the Cuban, Philippine and Boer questions, and the American people are calling them to account for their un-American course. Standing as we do in a solid republic, the cause of humanity we shall win in both state and nation, and with this done each patriot will feel he has performed his duty well and assisted in achieving the same. Let the word be passed along the line that we have but one enemy in this world, and that is the republican party. The state of Nebraska will be the state of this union with W. J. Bryan as president. We already have attracted the attention of the civilized world and there is now daily a stream of prominent men, commissioned by their fellow citizens, to various states, calling on him, delivering assurances that they will have much additional assistance as compared with that received in 1896.

The discontent in the republican party on account of the unfaithful manner in which Mr. McKinley has treated those with whom we have come directly in contact, is driving thousands out of the republican party, and Mr. Bryan stands on the broad platform of reform. He appeals to them for support, and we have no doubt but they will find it easy to join their fortunes politically with him in this contest for human rights.

Don't desert the republican party, stand united in this battle as they are, we believe victory can be felt in the air, therefore my friends in the cause of reform, take courage—this is our year to win.

J. H. EDMISTON,
Chairman.

A DRAMATIC INCIDENT

When Webster Davis Declared at Kansas
City That he Stood for Liberty and
W. J. Bryan.

The most dramatic incident of the most enthusiastic national convention ever held in the history of the country excepting the people's party convention at Omaha was the renunciation, by Webster Davis, ex-Assistant Secretary of the Interior, under McKinley, of the republican party. His bell-tongued voice filled the vast auditorium so that every one of the 20,000 persons present could hear his every word. The following portion of his speech is well worth repetition:

"I sympathize with people struggling for liberty everywhere, sympathized with them as they struggled for liberty in every country. And when the war broke out with Spain, we said then that it was not a war for conquest, not for glory, but to carry liberty to people who were crying for help at our feet. (Loud applause.) I marched up from the north land whose fathers once marched in tattered blue, with the song their fathers loved. 'My Country 'Tis of Thee' and the boys came from the south land, they whose fathers once marched in tattered grey, to the music, 'God Save the South' (loud applause) and they followed the men who once led the northern and southern armies down to Cuba and into other lands and into the islands of the sea. They marched under one flag, in behalf of one country, to the music of one splendid melody, as they felt in their hearts the music that inspired the men in the days gone by.

"In the beauty of the lilies, Christ was born As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free."

"Up until that point the war was right, but when we passed beyond that point the administration went too far. But it was another indication of following in the footsteps of Great Britain. When our flag rose over the flag of the rotten Spanish monarchy the American republic could not resist the temptation then of following in the footsteps of Great Britain, and it thirsted for land and gold, and that is where the mistake was made. We should have stopped at the end of the Spanish victory, when we brought liberty to the people who were being ground to death under the wheel of Spanish tyranny. We love liberty. The masses of the American people stand for the blessed idea liberty, justice and equality of rights and I dare say today if it were possible to get the sewers over the British cable to the Boer farmers in the two South African republics that these representatives of six or seven million American voters send a word of sympathy to them, many a Boer would shout for joy in the hills of the Transvaal. Grandeur struggle for liberty was never made in all the world's history than the struggle being made by the republicans and democrats in South Africa. Let us sympathize with them. I am glad that you have taken this action to-day. At the polls in November follow it up. Let American principles ever live. Let them go on down for years to come as an institution to generations yet unborn. Liberty, love of country, one flag, one country, one splendid destiny alone. I stand upon this platform and support William Jennings Bryan."

The Adam Forepaugh and Sells Brothers united menageries circuses and Hippodromes will exhibit in Lincoln, Tuesday July 31. Take a day off, come to Lincoln and have a pleasant day's vacation.

THE SPIRIT OF '96

The Address of Hon. Charles A. Towne at
the Bryan Ratification Meeting, Lin-
coln, July 11th.

"I rejoice to share with you the inspiration of this hour. We stand upon the threshold of the campaign of 1900, where in the allied reform forces of the country we hope and intend to restore the action of the federal government to the principles of Washington and Jefferson; to re-establish by the principle of 1896, the doctrine of 1776. (Applause.)

"I think I read this high and holy purpose in every kindling eye before me. It glories every face. It may be felt in the very air. It consecrates this occasion. For the time being it dedicates this meeting place as a temple of liberty and we are met about the altar of our country.

"The principles of 1776, that all men are created equal, that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, that governments are instituted among men to secure for them life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, are with us. (Cheers.) The principles of Washington and Jefferson, no alliances or entanglements abroad, and at home, equal rights for all, special privileges to none. The spirit of 1896,



CHARLES A. TOWNE.

that patriotic devotion which impelled the vast majority of the populist party to rise above every consideration of partisan pride and to waive all claim of presidency in the march of the great army, that recognition of the supremacy of loyalty to country over party fealty and that subordination of personal ambition to the duties of patriotism, which enabled the silver republicans to sever the political ties of olden times and to turn their backs on the temptations of place and power, that impulse of true democracy which wrested the control of the Chicago convention from the hands of the most adroit and resourceful politicians known to our history, proclaimed a platform in the interest of humanity, and nominated for the presidency that marvellous man who, during four crowded years, has remained the uninjured target of the most unscrupulous criticism and the undaunted leader of an unended contest, whose belief in the people and faith in God, whose ability, eloquence, sincerity and courage have inspired him in the hearts of millions of his fellow countrymen.

"My friends, the man who sees in the campaign of 1896 only an ordinary political contest has little or no philosophic insight. That campaign was the beginning of a life and death struggle between opposing forces of a fundamental character and between which, in the very nature of things, there can be no truce or parley until victory shall have crowned the one of the other.

"It was the first real clash of arms between those who would transform this government into an oligarchy of wealth and privilege and those who would arrest our present progress in that direction and retrace our steps to the safety and glory of the 'ancient ways,' (cheers) for we have fallen upon the evil days that lurk about the days of all republics. Greece, Rome, the free states of the middle ages, all tell the same story. All illustrate what Abraham Lincoln called 'The proneness of prosperity to breed the tyrants.' The enjoyment of special privileges on the part of a few, either by the permission or by the assistance of the laws, the consequent concentration of wealth and the stratification of society into classes; the erection of military defense to protect the body and the power thus unjustly gained; these are the invariable steps by which in times past, democracies and republics have been led down to dusty death.

"The control of the money system of a country has always been one of the methods, and one of the readiest and surest whereby privilege has become power. Designing men early learned, and it is wondrous strange that their victims have never learned it yet, that there is a relation between the quantity of money available for the exchange of commodities and the payment of debts on the one side, and the number of commodities to be exchanged for money and the amount of debts to be paid in money, on the other. If, therefore, these men could get other men in debt to them, and then so manipulate the money market as to make money scarcer and harder to get, compelling producers and debtors to offer more and more commodities and property for a given sum of money, it is plain that they would by and come to own both money and property. (Cheers.)

IS ALWAYS THE SAME.

"This cruel, though simple process has been practiced by the same class of men

in every age of the world's history, and inevitably with similar results in all cases. It has sometimes preceded, sometimes followed, but usually accompanied, other forms of the exploitation of the many by the few. Land monopoly and other monopolies, unequal taxation and harsh laws respecting debtors, have ordinarily characterized almost contemporaneously, this social movement. In the United States circumstances conspired to precipitate the contest against a contracting money system in 1896. The progressive disuse of silver as money by many nations from 1873 down, accompanied by a fall of general prices and an increase in the burden of debts, had widely stimulated the study of monetary science.

"The results of this study became apparent at about the same time that the plans of the influences behind the gold standard were culminating. It was well known, long before the campaign of 1896, that a determined effort would then be made to commit the republican and democratic parties as they had at standard by the declaration of their national conventions. In both organizations strenuous opposition to this reversal of party doctrine was speedily inaugurated. The world knows how sadly we failed in the republican party and how grandly we succeeded in the democratic party.

"The world also knows that a party trick in the republican platform, a simulated and faint hearted profession of friendliness to 'an international agreement,' deceived and was intended to deceive, hundreds and thousands of republican voters who were as they had always been, bimetallicists, and that the election of 1896 was not a verdict in favor of the gold standard; that neither the American people, nor any other people on earth, has ever yet voted to establish that standard.

THEY REMAIN TRUE.

"Now the principles of bimetallicism were true in 1896 and they remain true in 1900. Subsequent events have only verified this so far as the main contention is concerned. The demand for open mints was based on, first, the necessity of relief from the fall of average prices during a quarter of a century; and secondly, the importance of restoring the par of exchange between silver using and gold using countries. Our opponents contended that falling prices was a blessing and that we had money enough in 1896, the quantity being of no consequence if only the quality be 'good.' 'Quite consistently, therefore, they declared that the way to get a par of exchange with silver using countries was to use the gold standard. Our opponents viewed with apparent complacency the project of trying to make our then stock of gold immediately, for six times as many people as were already using it.

Today, as the result of occurrences which nobody foresaw in 1896, conditions are such that the gold standard is untenable and sustained increase in the world's output of gold; the practical cessation of war chest hoarding by the great powers, so far as the new gold is concerned; the decrease in the gold reserves of the large European banks, and as to the United States, a continuing and increasing drain of gold to the misfortunes of other nations; and the vast expenditures directly and indirectly caused by our foreign wars; all these things have greatly added to the quantity of money with which we are able to do business.

"Our politics have never witnessed so ridiculous a pretense. (Cheers.) They see how nearly imminent their great question constantly is and must be until it is settled and settled right, yet it is perfectly clear to me that it will not, if present conditions remain, claim anything like that relative prominence in the discussions of the campaign that it held in 1896. The reason, of course, was that it was the subject in which most men were chiefly interested; for after all it is the people who make the issues and assign them their relative rank.

"The phase of the money question most likely to be discussed exhaustively will be the currency. The world is yet, I fear, many years from a scientific money system. Until that comes I shall favor the free coinage of gold and silver, with a legal tender paper money issued by the government and so regulated in volume as to maintain as nearly as possible a stability of value represented by an average level of general prices. The present currency law, handing over to the banks of issue this sovereign government function, perpetuating the public debt, presenting a bonus of some \$85,000,000 to the bondholders, and founding in effect a gigantic money trust, will form the topic, in my opinion, of the chief part of our monetary discussions this year.

WAS A PROTEST.

"But, my friends, our coinage plank in 1896 was much more than a demand for open mints for silver as well as gold. It was a protest against the whole machinery of modern social oppression, a cry for the restoration of liberty and opportunity in this country, and for a new affirmation of the honored traditions and peculiar ideas of the American commonwealth. The tendencies toward permanent industrial conditions involving resultant political changes fatal to democratic society and government were first clearly discerned by any large body of our citizens as manifested in the operation of the money system. When they protested against that they protested against the whole program of plutocracy; for the same spirit animates it all, whether it aim at a money monopoly or a trust control of industry, or the establishment of militarism and empire. (Applause.)

SPRIT NOT ABATED.

"What some of our friends cannot understand is this, that the spirit of 1896 has not abated; that it was and remains a spirit of liberty; that it inspires today our opposition to more recent tyrannies precisely as in 1896 it moved six and a half millions of freemen in the most memorable contest since 1860. There is a community of soul among all friends of freedom, no matter when or where they live and strive.

"The true champion of American loyalty to American principles today, can-

concerned about restoring the par of exchange.

HAZARD OF FLUCTUATION.

"Until that is done commerce with silver using nations is burdened with the hazard of a constant fluctuation in exchange. (Applause.) We also, as our foreign trade expands, will be compelled to give more attention to this feature of the coinage problem. The situation in China will constantly emphasize this consideration. Either a relatively stable par of exchange between gold and silver must be secured or all the world must go to one standard.

"Here is the danger, even with our increased gold product. The official class in India. When this was proposed last year, the greatest financiers and bankers of London declared that to get sufficient gold to put behind the money system of India would require such a strain on existing stocks as to threaten the very solvency of the Bank of England, hence of course, the money fabric of Europe and the world.

"India has as yet gathered not much if any beyond 5,000,000 of pounds sterling, not even a fifth of the smallest estimate of her requirements. The estimates of her best authorities; yet the effect of even this action has been gravely disquieting and every great bank in Europe has for many months been obliged to have recourse to manipulation of the discount rate in order to protect its stock of gold. What will happen when the drain is magnified to the full demand of the 300 million people of India, and then of the half billion of frugal and industrious men who are just waking up about the yellow sea, and then of the other growing millions on the globe still to be subdued by commerce?

"Our good, easy friends who write so contented, in some of the big journals, about the coinage question being 'settled for all time,' do not, I venture to think, quite fully realize the world breadth of that question. Suppose, for example, that you and I balance our trade should reverse itself, and the demands of India continuing, gold exports should set in, as indeed they may do any day, for I noticed shipments of \$400,000 some days ago and the exchange rate has been hovering near the specie point for a considerable time, and get this strange, with an inflated and redundant bad money currency; how long would it take to make the coinage question a very interesting bone—bear in mind that India has had a so-called favorable balance of trade for 5,000 years.

"Throughout historic time I think it may be said she has exported gold beyond her imports and has always absorbed specie, and until now the balance has been set in silver. Mr. Goschen's silver commission in 1876 showed that between 1848 and 1876 the rest of the world had sent India about \$511,000,000 (\$2,500,000,000), or more than the gold mined and reexported in California and Australia. Meantime the population is growing, railroads are extending, and under normal conditions it is only fair to assume that India must soon resume her world-old habit of metallic absorption.

"The day after, be it remembered, will names must be sent there in gold. Will some gold standard editor or statesman inform me what would happen if, during the next twenty-five years, India should call for \$2,500,000,000 of gold on an average of \$100,000,000 a year? (Cheers.)

"By, fellow citizens, what we can thus see how nearly imminent their great question constantly is and must be until it is settled and settled right, yet it is perfectly clear to me that it will not, if present conditions remain, claim anything like that relative prominence in the discussions of the campaign that it held in 1896. The reason, of course, was that it was the subject in which most men were chiefly interested; for after all it is the people who make the issues and assign them their relative rank.

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"But, my friends, our coinage plank in 1896 was much more than a demand for open mints for silver as well as gold. It was a protest against the whole machinery of modern social oppression, a cry for the restoration of liberty and opportunity in this country, and for a new affirmation of the honored traditions and peculiar ideas of the American commonwealth. The tendencies toward permanent industrial conditions involving resultant political changes fatal to democratic society and government were first clearly discerned by any large body of our citizens as manifested in the operation of the money system. When they protested against that they protested against the whole program of plutocracy; for the same spirit animates it all, whether it aim at a money monopoly or a trust control of industry, or the establishment of militarism and empire. (Applause.)

SPRIT NOT ABATED.

"What some of our friends cannot understand is this, that the spirit of 1896 has not abated; that it was and remains a spirit of liberty; that it inspires today our opposition to more recent tyrannies precisely as in 1896 it moved six and a half millions of freemen in the most memorable contest since 1860. There is a community of soul among all friends of freedom, no matter when or where they live and strive.

"The true champion of American loyalty to American principles today, can-