THE ISSUE FOR 1900.

THE FINANCIAL QUESTION MUST BE SETTLED.

History of the Various Stages of Development of the Agitation for Free Silver Coinage Leading to Its Probable Success in the Next Campaign.

Keep Silver to the Front.

Issues are born of conditions and are not made or unmade by political parties. Issues, when due, assert their right of way and test the fitness or unfitness of existing parties. The party will be triumphant that correctly interprets present conditions and responds to the demands of the time. The party that fails in its interpretation of the people's demands or seeks to evade them is certain to be overwhelmed in crushing defeat.

Only a small fraction of the Democratic leaders were sufficiently in touch with the masses of the people in 1893 to foresee the consequences to their party of the repeal of the Sherman law for the purchase and coinage of silver. But the action of the Democratic majority in the Fifty-third Congress called from the people a stinging rebuke in the elections of 1894, which gave overwhelming Republican majorities generally throughout the North and broke the solid South.

The Republican press of the country interpreted the success of their party in 1894 to mean the approval by the people of the action of the Republican minority in the Fifty-third Congress in sustaining the financial policy of Grover Cleveland. Hence the Republican majority in the Fifty-fifth Congress acted in perfect harmony with Cleveland on the money question, and the gold press, Republican and Democratic alike, proclaimed the silver issue dead and not likely to ever again disturb the politics of the country.

From all the information that could be gleaned from the commercial press of the country, no suspicion would be aroused that the then leaders of both parties were seeking to stifle the demands of the people such was the effrontery with which they asserted that silver was a dead issue and that no public man espousing this "lost cause" could command a respectable following. On this point there was no difference of opinion between Cleveland, Carlisle, Whitney, Hill, Vilas, Gray, Caffrey and Palmer on one side and Sherman, Reed, Morton, Harrison, Hoar, Dingley or Hanna upon the other.

The true situation at last became visible to the plain people of the country from whose labor the nation's wealth is created and its taxes paid, and mutterings of discontent and rebellion were heard at the country cross roads and at the village stores throughout the country.

In 1896 the superior organization and discipline of the Republican party, aided by the banks, monopolies and trusts of the country, secured the delegates from a large majority of the States to their national convention in the interest of gold monopoly, but well knowing that a candid avowal of their intent meant defeat, they pledged the party to work to secure an international agreement for the coinage of silver and the restoration of bimetallism. This subterfuge, however, was not sufficient to hold the party together, and under the lead of Teller, Dubois, Pettigrew, Cannon, Hartman and others the delegations from several States repudiated the action of the party and walked out of the convention.

Commencing in the early spring of 1896 a battle royal was being fought by the rank and file of the Democratic party to reclaim the party from the control of the gold combination. The power of the administration in control of the entire patronage of the Government was active everywhere in the fight. The contest was entered into heartily by the plain people everywhere, and was carried from primary to county convention, from county convention to State convention, and from State convention to the national convention, each convention in turn instructing its delegates. The result was the Chicago convention in which the plain people of the Democratic party repudiated their former leaders, and condemned the action of their own administration then in power.

The American people sympathized with and desired to aid the struggling patriots of Cuba in their efforts for liberty. If a popular vote had been taken on the question of granting them their rights as belligerents none will deny that the result would have been practically unanimous in favor of so doing. If this had been done there is no doubt in the minds of those best informed in regard to Cuban affairs, that the Cubans would, without the assistance of our Government, have driven the Spaniards from the island and won their independence.

[illegible] would have destroyed the assets of some five hundred millions of Spanish-Cuban bonds, and the bondholders' influence was more potent in Washington than that of the American people, so the United States Government refused to become neutral and together with to be an ally of Spain, spending millions of dollars to hunt down Americans who sought to aid the struggling Cubans. Recognition of the belligerent rights of the Cubans was denied by Cleveland and McKinley alike. After the inexplicable Maine had been blown up in the harbor of Havana and 266 of our seamen murdered, McKinley sent a message to Congress referring to the "business" and expressing the belief that Spain would make reparation. Congress promptly and with alacrity voted millions for the purpose of immediate preparation for war. Even after the blowing up of the Maine, distinguished American citizens who had visited Cuba reported to the American people the barbarities and cruelties that were practiced upon the non-combatants and women and children of Cuba, which called from the American people an indignation that knew no bounds. The administration still refused to discontinue its criminal alliance with Spain.

Not until a large and influential number of Republican Congressmen, fearing the wrath of an outraged people, decided to protect their own political fortunes by breaking away from McKinley and Reed and joining with the Democrats, Populists and silver Republicans to give belligerent rights to the Cubans was the administration forced to accede to the demands of the American people for intervention in behalf of the suffering Cubans.

War was declared against Spain and Congress unanimously voted unlimited means to prosecute the same. The people of the country were patriots, one and all; party lines were unknown when the call to arms was sounded, and side by side, actuated by the highest motives of patriotism and love of liberty, marched Republicans, Democrats, and Populists to extend the blessings of liberty to mankind and drive Spanish misrule, cruelty and oppression from the western hemisphere.

The only Tories found on American soil in this supreme hour was the gold combination. Cold blooded, unpatriotic, it stands demanding the fulfillment of the pledges secured for the advancement of campaign funds in the election of 1896. Onerous taxes might be imposed upon the people, debt might be piled upon the nation's back, but incomes must not be taxed and the silver in the vaults of the treasury must not be coined. The Tory gold combination represents all that is selfish and unpatriotic, and is turning the necessities of the Government to account at this hour when the nobler impulses of our people are active, and they hesitate not to make sacrifices to extend the area of human freedom.

The Republican party was born in the name of human liberty. Oh, how fallen, when this same party to-day bases its hope to be continued in power to serve the most relentless, cruel and unfeeling taskmaster of all time, the gold combination, upon the presumption that the American people are blind to their truckling subserviency to the money power, and will make them the residuary legatees of the valor of American arms in the war for the freedom of Cuba which was forced upon an unwilling administration.

The war has not narrowed the vision of our people or dwarfed the desire for the fullest and freest opportunity for the development of our great resources. On the contrary, it has aroused a greater activity, both national and individual ambition, and infused into the people the spirit of a nobler independence and a broader self-reliance.

Therefore, the issue of 1900 is now at the disposal of politicians. The Republican party will meet with as much success in substituting a fiction for an issue in 1900 as Palmer and Buckner did in securing Democratic votes in 1896. The issue that is paramount to all others and cannot be displaced by any other until it is settled correctly, is the battle for financial and industrial independence. The Chicago platform was the Lexington in this grand struggle, and in 1900 the siege of Yorktown will follow.—Silver Knight-Watchman.

"Good" Money in the East.

If the scarcest and dearest money is the best money and the scarcer and the dearer it becomes the better it becomes, when money reaches its highest point of excellence the masses of the people must become slaves. Money is so scarce, dear and consequently "good" in India and China that 6 cents pays for a day's work on the average throughout those countries and skilled mechanics earn from $5 to $7 per month.

Dollars Are Appreciating.

The reason why $1,250,000,000 sought an investment in Government bonds bearing 5 per cent. interest is because the owners of the money know that although the rate of interest was low the dollars in which the bonds were to be paid would continue to grow larger and fatter under the gold standard. Property that is growing cheaper under gold contraction cannot compete in the markets against bonds payable in dollars that are appreciating in purchasing power.

A Mighty Big Difference.

Did you ever think that the only difference between bonds and greenbacks (practically) is that one draws interest and the other does not? Is it then strange that one of these should be chosen by those who would live without working as medium by which to accumulate to themselves the wealth others have created? Is it necessary for me to tell you which medium it is that the money sharks choose as their weapon? Don't you think it wise, then, for the common people to insist on the other? Or do you think Abe was a fool? You must take one position of the other. And just now you are holding on to the other.—Industrial Freedom.

Money Was "Better" Then.

In the fifteenth century gold would buy fifteen times as much of everything as it does to-day; therefore the money of that day was fifteen times as good as the money of to-day. White human beings sold as slaves at a low price in every market of the world at that time, abundantly testifying to the high value of the money.

What Government Ownership Does.

In Switzerland, even in the smallest villages, a telephone message can be sent to any place in the republic for 5 cents. Government operation of the telephone here would give as equally reasonable rate, or nearly so.—Farmers' Tribune.

Clean House at Home Next.

Now that the end of Spanish misrule and cruelty on the western hemisphere is in sight, the American people will turn their attention to the gold combination.

Who Gets the Profit?

The value of the entire property of the world is consumed in food once in five years, and yet the producers of food are not the millionaires.

How Is This?

If the Dingley bill made dollar wheat last year, what is wrong this year, when wheat is only 65 cents?

A Mother's Kisses.

A recent traveler to Spain, writing in Blackwood's Magazine, describes a touching scene witnessed at the departure of a regiment for Cuba. All day long there had been heard the measured tread of soldiers, marching through the streets; all day long gaily bedecked boats had been passing to and from the vessel that was to take them to Havana.

The twilight had begun to deepen when the correspondent saw "a startling and pretty sight"—the impetuous action of a portly, good-looking and well-dressed lady, who noticed a young soldier walking dejectedly alone down the pier in his traveling gray, with a knapsack strapped over his shoulders.

All the rest of the men had friends, their novias, mothers, relatives and made the usual gallant effort to look elated and full of hope. This lad had no one, and it might be divined that he was carrying a desolate heart overseas.

The handsome woman burst from her group of friends, took the boy's hand, and said, "My son has already gone to Cuba. He is in the regiment of Andalusia, and sailed two months ago. You may meet him, Pepe G.; take this kiss to him." She leaned and kissed his cheek.

An English boy would have shown awkwardness, but these graceful Southerners are never at a loss for a pretty gesture and a prettier word.

The boy flushed with pleasure, and still holding the lady's hand, said, with quite a natural gallantry, without smirk or silly smile, "And may I not take one for myself as well, senora?"

The lady reddened, laughed a little nervously, and bent and kissed him again, to the frantic applause of soldiers and civilians, while the boy walked on braced and happy.

A SIGN OF THE TIMES.

As the war progresses men of the Hanna ilk dwindle to their natural size. Nobody hears of Hanna now.—National Democrat.

FOR THE MID-SEASON.

WHEN IT'S NEITHER SUMMER NOR FALL.

Curious Combinations Resorted to to Show that Your Gown Is New for September—Skirts of the Clinging Variety Are Coming In.

The Styles in New York.

New York correspondence:

ORE care is being put into gowns for the mid-season between summer and the cool days of fall than went into the summer wardrobe. Curious combinations are resorted to to prove that your gown is new for September, and yet that you are able to go in for a cool gown that late in the season. An example was a white serge gown—it is shown above—trimmed with milliner's folds of white pique dotted with light blue. A front of white lawn was fulled into the bodice, which was set on a fitted white pique yoke. The result was distinctly suitable for the sultry days of September, and the fact that the chief material was serge was a guarantee that the gown was not planned for summer.

An early dress is first of the three dresses in the next picture, and was for street wear, though its skirt was made house length. It was in one of the soft, smooth silks that are reminiscent of surahs, though called by all sorts of new names. The color was the lovely burnt brown that has a flash of orange. A narrow stitching of scarlet added to the fall scheme of color, and the pretty bodice turned back at one side to show a finish of ivory lace. The whole costume was extremely pretty and distinctly fall-like, though copyists who haven't a lot of money will choose a smooth cloth instead of silk, because the cloth will be useful for street wear in the city and late in the fall. Yet if you want it understood that you can have dresses for all occasions, it is as well to select the silk. The hat topping this rig was a new fall type, one of those Marie Stuart shapes that are invariably becoming and feminine. Though radically new, its trimming of up-to-date wings above the historic Stuart curves of the hat seemed all right. It was of straw in dark red, the wings black, a rosette of white lawn right in front marking the hat for early fall.

SKIRTS FOR DIFFERENT USES, BUT OF THE SAME LENGTH.

Another sample of the swirling drapery that is being welcomed is put opposite in this picture to the one just described. Such skirts give good promise of soon being "all the go." But a more striking feature of this costume was its waist, a type of garment made for fall from very open grenadine barred with bands of velvet or satin in any fashionable shade so long as it is bright. This one was in black grenadine, barred with scarlet velvet, loops of which edged front, basque, epaulettes and wrists. Such waists are dashingly picturesque, and are just the thing for a rather striking type of young woman. They are worn with any cloth skirt, the one sketched being made cloth trimed with blue fields.

THE LATEST BLOUSE.

As the middle one of these three models indicates, an effort is being made to confine the petticoat skirt to house wear. A little while ago we were careful to differentiate the house gown from the street dress, but since we are to wear long skirts on the street this is now a more difficult matter. Few skirts are made actually open in front, though many have a front panel of contrasting material and color, and the trimming suggests that the rest of the skirt is free from this inside panel. In more cases a plain panel is outlined by the trimming. It should be remembered that horizontal trimmings seem to add height and to emphasize the figure's best curves when properly adjusted at the back of the skirt, while if these same horizontal lines cross the front they seem to cut the figure. The suggestion of a plain front allows the use of horizontal frills or bands across the back and to the sides. This gown was of yellow green—a regular "art color"—very soft cashmere, a favorite material for house gowns, and was made with finishings of black chiffon closely frilled. The combination was especially suited to a clear blonde, free from sallowness. The blouse front still prevails, and the equally popular yoke is made pointed, like the dicky to a sailor blouse, in many new gowns.

TO MAKE WOMEN SLENDER.

Women are so accustomed to the blouse, and some are a bit tired of it, that modifications mark the new ones. One of these variations is presented in the next sketch. It was a bodice that followed the lines of the figure, a rever being added that instead of turning back stood out. Often there are two of these outstanding revers, a fall of lace appearing between them from the collar. The resulting effect in profile is a good deal like the blouse outline that we all like, yet the figure is more satisfactorily followed. This model was light weight brown cloth in close smooth fabric, though it might be an open weave if desired. With it was a long skirt to match, the trimming being milliner's folds of the cloth. These again may be replaced by folds of silk or by tucks having the effect of milliner's folds. The rever should be handsomely covered with braiding or embroidery and is usually faced with silk inside and out.

Sure as the world women will very soon be making themselves tall and slender, and, wearing everything clinging. The bias skirt with a train will be the wear before we know it, and we will wonder however we could have made frights of ourselves in befrilled and flaring skirts and big sleeves. The gown of to-day's concluding picture stands for the new rulings in these respects, and by its deep yoke, its sleeves almost following the exact curve of the shoulder, its clinging long skirt and, above all, its flat trimmings, strikes one as distinctly attractive. In giving its materials it should be understood that they are by no means the exclusive mediums of conveying the new standards; all fabrics and flat trimmings will soon get in line. In this case the goods was green broadcloth, the all-over trimming being white and gilt braid, bands of the same in smaller pattern appearing on skirt and bodice. Straight bands of light-green and white braid came below the other bands and also covered yoke and sleeves. Being a newcomer this dress was highly wrought, but less elaborate costumes along the same lines will soon be plentiful.

Copyright, 1899.

A bushel (heaping) contains 1¼ struck bushels.

MR. DOOLEY.

Miles' "Moonlight Excursion."

"Dear, oh, dear," said Mr. Dooley, "I'd give five dollars if I was down with Gin'ral Miles' gran' picnic an' moonlight excursion in Porther Ricky. 'Tis no comfort in bein' a cow'rd whin ye think iv thim br-rave la-ads facin' death be suffication in boksys an' dyin' iv waltzin' with th' pretty girls iv Porther Ricky.

"I dinnaw whether Gin'ral Miles picked out th' job or whether 'twas picked out f'r him. But annyhow, whin he got to Sandago de Cubia an' looked ar-round him, he says to his frind Gin'ral Shafter: 'Gin'ral,' says he, 'ye have done well so far,' he says. 'Tis not f'r me to take th' loris frim th' steamin' brow iv a thrue hero,' he says. 'I lave ye here,' he says, 'f'r to complete th' victhry ye have so nobly begun,' he says. 'F'r you,' he says, 'th' wallop in th' eye fr'm th' newspaper rayporther, th' r-round robbing an' th' sunsthroke,' he says, 'f'r me th' hardship iv th' battle field, th' late dinner, th' theayter party an' th' sickenin' polky,' he says. 'Gather,' he says, 'th' fruits iv ye'er bravery,' he says. 'Rayturn,' he says, 'to ye'er native land an' rayceive anny gratichood th' sicrety iv war can spare fr'm his own fam'ly,' he says. 'F'r me,' he says, 'there is no way but f'r to tur-rn me back upon this festive scene,' he says, 'an' go where jooty calls me,' he says. 'Ordherly,' he says, 'put a bottle on th' ice an' see that me goold pants that I wear with th' pale-blue vest with th' di'mon buttons is irned out,' he says. An' with a haggard face he walked aboord th' excursion steamer an' wint away.

"I'd hate to tell ye iv th' thriles iv th' expedition, Hinnissy. Whin th' picnic got as far as Punch, on th' southern coast iv Porther Ricky, Gin'ral Miles gazes out an' says he: 'This looks like a good place to hang th' hammicks, an' have lunch,' says he. 'For-ward, brave men,' says he, 'where ye see me di'mon's sparkle,' says he. 'For-ward an' plant th' crokay ar-ches iv our beloved counthry,' he says. An' in they wint like inthrepid warryors that they ar-re. On th' beach they was met be a diligation fr'm th' town of Punch con-sistin' iv th' mayor, th' common council, th' polis an' fire departments, th' Girrand Ar-rmy iv the Raypublic, an' prominent citizens in carredges. Gin'ral Miles makin' a hasty tielet, advanced unflinchingly to meet thim. 'Gintlemen,' says he, 'what can I do f'r ye?' he says. 'We come,' says th' chairman iv th' comity, 'f'r to offer ye,' he says, 'th' r-run iv th' town,' he says. 'We have held out,' he says, 'as long as we cud,' he says. 'But,' he says, 'they'se a limit to human endurance,' he says. 'We can withstand ye no longer,' he says. 'We surrinder. Take us prisoners an' rayceive us into ye'er gloryous an' well-fed raypublic,' he says. 'Br-rave men,' says Gin'ral Miles, 'I congratulate ye,' he says, 'on th' heeroism iv ye'er defense,' he says. 'Ye stuck manf'lly to ye'er colors, whativer they ar-re,' he says. 'I on'y wondher that ye waited f'r me to come befure surrindhrin',' he says. 'I welcome ye into th' union,' he says. 'I don't know how th' union'll feel about it, but that's no business iv mine,' he says. 'Ye will get ye'er wur-rkin' cards fr'm th' walkin' diligate,' he says, 'an' ye'll be entitled,' he says, 'to pay ye'er share iv th' taxes an' to live awhile an' die whin ye get r-ready,' he says, 'jus' th' same as if ye was bor-rn at home,' he says. 'I don't know th' names iv ye, but I'll call ye all Casey f'r short,' he says. 'Put ye'er boksys in th' hammick,' he says, 'an' rayturn to Punch,' he says, 'an' freeze somethin' f'r me,' he says, 'f'r me thrawt is parched with th' labors iv th' day,' he says. Th' r-rest iv th' avenin' was spint in dancin', music, an' boat r-ridin', an' an inj'yable time was had.

"Th' nex' day th' army moved on Punch an' Gin'ral Miles mar-rched into th' ill-fated city, preceded be flower girls sthrewin' r-roses an' geranyums befure him. In th' afthernoon they was a lawn tinnis party an' at night th' gin'ral attinded a banket at th' Gran' Palace hotel. At midnight he was serenaded be th' Raymimber th' Maine Banjo an' Mandolin Club. Th' entire popylace attinded, with pork chops in their buttonholes to show their pathreetism. Th' nex' day, afther breakfastin' with Mayor Casey, he set out on his weary march over th' r-rough, flower-strewn paths f'r San Joon. He was in gr-reat puri fr'm a witherin' fire iv bokays, an' he met an' overpowered some iv th' mos' savage orators in Porther Ricky, but he pitched his tents an' ice-cream freezers near th' innimy's wall, an' grajully silenced thim with proclamations."

"They'll kill him with kindness if he don't look out," said Mr. Hennessy.

"I dinnaw about that," said Mr. Dooley, "but I know this, that there's th' makin' iv gr-reat statesmen in Porther Ricky. A proud people that can switch as quick as thim la-ads have nawthin' to larn in th' way iv what Hogan calls th' signs iv governmint, even fr'm the Supreme Court."—Chicago Journal.

Daily Occupation.

It is not unusual to banish from this portion of life any idea or hope of peace. That is kept for the evening, when labor is over, and the comforts of home and rest take its place; or it is reserved for the evening of life, when exertion ceases and energy droops; or it is relegated to some time in the future, when sufficient means have been secured to make work appear unnecessary. It stands for the realization in some way of ease, comfort, leisure, luxury, opportunity. On the other hand, toil, effort, hardship, struggle, are all put in opposition to it.

Thus men will often live lives of labor and sacrifice, hoping by this means to obtain peace and tranquillity when the toil is over. But, to unite the two, to enjoy peace in toil, tranquillity in effort, seldom occurs to them. Yet no peace worth having exists without power, and power must have its outlet in activity.

One of Balzac's Sayings.

Balzac says a girl who is stupid, ugly, poor and good possesses the four cardinal points of misery.

There are forty varieties of the tobacco plant.