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WISDOM OF DOING RIGHT.

(Continued from Page 13.)

prices. If a trust ever reduces the price of an article it controls, all the trust papers tell it over and over and roll it "as a sweet morsel under the tongue." If you could get ten trusts out of 200 to reduce the price of their products, the papers would be full of what the ten trusts had done and have nothing to say about what the other 190 trusts were doing. When they got through the list of ten they would commence and go over it again. I once had a great deal of faith in Lincoln's saying that you can fool all of the people part of the time and part of the people all of the time, but that you cannot fool all of the people all of the time. That is what he said and I got encouragement from it until some person suggested that it is not necessary to fool all the people all of the time; that you can fool some of them the first year, some the second and some the third year and that by the fourth year you can go back and fool the first ones over again. So it is with the trust defenders. After they have talked about one trust, and then about another trust, and then about the third trust, they can go back and begin again. They tell you that production on a large scale is going to make production cheaper. If we were going to answer from the low plane of dollars and cents we might suggest that, when the head of the concern is so far from the men who toil that the authority must pass through several heads of departments, there will be so much leakage at each joint that it will cease to be an economic advantage to produce on that scale. But let us say, rather, that no amount of economy that a private monopoly can bring, even if it brings it to the people and not to the men who own the stock—that no amount of economy can compensate for the evil done by a private monopoly. Suppose you tell me that I can live cheaper with 1,000 people in a hotel, will that make me sell my home and take my family to a hotel? No; I tell you that I would not give up the blessings of home life for all the economy hotel life could promise. I believe in the family; I believe in its sacred associations and I would not be willing to barter the home life of this nation for any economy that might be shown to result from any other kind of living; and so no economy that a private monopoly can promise will compensate for the destruction of individual independence, of the citizen's right to think as he pleases, to act as he pleases and to be his own master.

We cannot long have a government of the people, by the people and for the people when we have the great mass of the people merely the agents and employes of a few men at the top. We cannot long maintain a republican form of government when the masses have nothing to look to but continuous toil and dependence, while those at the head of the monopolies transmit untold wealth from generation to generation. I object, therefore, to the trusts because there can be no good private monopolies and no matter how benevolent some trust magnates may be, I believe it is not safe to establish an industrial despotism that leaves the American people at the mercy of trust magnates, however kindly disposed the trust magnates may be. If we are going to fight this battle we must challenge the republican party to meet the moral issues involved, and if I can suggest, without being called a dictator, I will add that if we are going to destroy the trusts we must handle them without gloves and charge them with the same violation of moral law that we charge against the highwayman who stops you at night and demands your money or your life. The man at the head of a coal trust who, when the people are shivering by a

fireless hearth, attempts to extort from them under threat of withholding from them the fuel that they need, is demanding the money or life of his victims. The men who control the food of the country, the food that people must have when they are hungry, the men who extort from the people because they have the power to do, demand money or life from the victims of the monopoly. It is time for the democrats to challenge the republican party on the moral issues involved. Instead of crawling on the ground and trying to get campaign funds from these men whom we ought to fight, let us see to it that the democratic party refuses to receive a single dollar of trust blood-money with which to carry on its campaign.

There are some who say that the money question is dead and that we ought to drop it. Well, I have heard that so often that it does not bother me like it used to. You know a person can become so accustomed to even sad things that they cease to worry. They say that soldiers in the midst of carnage become so accustomed to the sight of bloodshed that those who at first would have been shocked at the sight of such suffering at last become hardened to it.

In 1892 my opponent for congress said we would never hear of the money question after the election, but it was up again in 1894 and they buried it again—and nearly buried the democratic party with it, and yet the party was in the control of these same reorganizers who promise to lead us to victory now when they lead us to overwhelming defeat before their sins were fully discovered. In 1895, in 1896, in 1897, in 1898, in 1899, in 1900, in 1901, in 1902, and in 1903 they said that they buried it, but the funeral is still in progress. I have sometimes thought that if the men who say the money question is dead really believed it they would not watch the corpse so carefully as they do.

Let me show you that the money question is not dead. I will give you proof of it that ought to satisfy any reasonable man. Ask a reorganizer—one who says that the money question is dead—ask him to name ten candidates for the presidency who are in his opinion eligible and then look over the list and you will find some high tariff men, some low tariff men, some imperialists and some opposing it, some on one side and some on the other side of other questions, but they will all be gold men and will look to Wall street for their inspiration. Isn't it strange, if the money question is really dead, that they make it a test when they come to select a candidate for the presidency? Not only that, but let me give you another fact. They say that you must not mention it in your platform; that it is dead. If they really believed it dead they would not care whether you mentioned it in the platform or not. We want to know what a man thinks about those things in dealing with which his action will have some force and yet these men who say that the money question is dead are the men who would vote the republican ticket and risk the rule of the trusts and the turning of our republic into an empire because they fear an issue that they said is dead. Is that reasonable? No; and as long as there is enough life in the money question to frighten the reorganizers there is enough to give hope to the friends of bimetalism. Let me give you an explanation of it. It is not because the question of silver is as important as it was eight years ago. If anybody says this is a change of opinion, let me ask him to read the Kansas City platform adopted nearly four years ago and he will find that in that platform it was expressly declared that the money question was not the paramount issue, and we have not insisted for the last four years that it was the

(Continued on Page 17.)



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