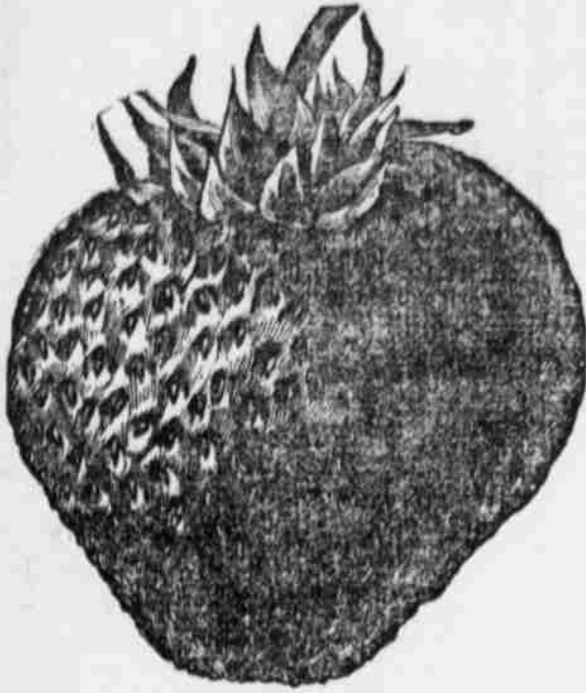


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resist their demands you will have the same people to fight on other questions. If you are willing to leave out every phase of the money question and give them branch banks, an asset currency and the Aldrich bill (a bill that will loan three hundred millions of money to the pet banks and give these banks enough profit to lay the foundation for an enormous corruption fund)—if you gave them all of these things you would not make peace with these men for, after you had surrendered everything, they would ask you to be easy with the trusts. No matter what you are willing to surrender you cannot make peace with these men. You will not find a single issue upon which you can fight the people's battle if you must first get the consent of the financiers to your platform.

As a rule those who are opposed to the reaffirmation of the Kansas City platform will not write a trust plank that will hurt a trust. The very men who tell you that they simply want to get rid of silver are the men who are planning to write an ambiguous, uncertain and meaningless platform, and then nominate a man whom they know to be in the control of the syndicates, and then they expect to collect a big campaign fund from the trusts. This is the policy that I am fighting. These men who say they are opposed to the Kansas City platform are not only against the people on every phase of the money question and trust question, but they are also against any real tariff reform. Some of them emasculated the Wilson tariff bill and made it a mockery and a by-word. Many of them voted for a high tariff presidential candidate in 1896.

Neither are they prepared to take the people's side on the labor question. We have in this country today a labor question. We have capital and labor arrayed against each other, and you will find that the people who do not want to reaffirm the Kansas City platform have something else that they want to get out of that platform. It is the plank providing for the arbitration of differences between capital and labor; they also want to get rid of the plank that condemns government by injunction. If there was one plank in that platform that lost me more votes than any other plank, it was the labor plank. Many have hidden behind the pretense that they were opposed to free silver who objected to that platform mainly because it breathed the spirit of brotherly love and demanded that the laborer and his children should be recognized as made in the image of God. Because we were not willing that the laboring man should be placed at the mercy of a United States court and denied the right of a trial by jury we incurred the enmity of the great corporations; and you will find that the men who want to take out of that platform all reference to the money question also want to take out all reference to the labor question. You will find more than that; you will find that the men who want to destroy that platform on the pretense that they are just opposed to 16 to 1 are also opposed to the indorsement of the Declaration of Independence and the doctrine of government by the consent of the governed. It was only a few days ago that I read in the Montgomery Advertiser, one of the reorganizers' papers, an interview that appeared in the Brooklyn Eagle, another reorganizers' paper, with the president of the Memphis Commercial Appeal, another reorganizers' paper, and thus this interview received the indorsement of three papers in different parts of the country that are exponents of the reorganizers' sentiments. What did the Commercial Appeal's president say? He said that the Kansas City platform must not be reaffirmed, and why? He pointed out the objections to the trust remedy of that platform, and then pointed out the objections to the plank

on imperialism; and he said that expansion was no longer an issue; that expansion was an accomplished fact, that to argue against what he called expansion was to argue against the commercial development of the south. You will find that as a rule the men who do not like that platform are so steeped and dyed in commercialism that they would sell the principles of American government for a few dollars' worth of merchandise. They put merchandise above manhood and womanhood, and I am hoping that the democrats of the south will join with the democrats of the north in declaring to the world that we raise something in this country more important than cotton or corn; that we raise men and women and that we will not make merchandise of their blood. Certainly the people who had a taste of carpet-bag government a generation ago will not be in favor of giving the Filipinos a taste of carpet-bag government now. A man who is willing to send a carpet-bag governor 7,000 miles across the ocean and hold him in office by an army sent equally far cannot consistently complain of carpet-bag government in the south. If we are going to condemn carpet-bag government we must condemn it not because we are the victims, but because of the principle involved, and I believe that it is time to challenge the republican party to defend the moral principle involved in this question. If they tell me that they are going abroad on a missionary crusade and are going to kill men for the love of God, I ask them to go back and read their Bibles again. They will find that the Author of our religion was not a warrior, but the Prince of Peace, and that at His coming the angels sang Peace on earth, good will to men. If they think that we can win a victory for Christianity by shot and shell let them go to the ruins of ancient Rome. As they stand by the walls that have for two thousand years defied the ravages of time their thoughts will run back to that time when Nero gathered the Christians from their humble homes and delivered them to wild beasts, and as they recall how helpless those people were, how helpless among the wild animals, made hungry by having their food kept from them for days for this purpose, how helpless and how hopeless those Christians were as they knelt and sang and prayed until life was gone, let them take courage. Let them remember that on their knees those Christians invoked a power more potent than the legions of Rome. Let them take courage when they remember that these defenseless Christians prayed to the God of love and offered no resistance to their tormentors; let them remember how these men by their silent suffering overcame those who tormented them and how the stately edifices of the Christian church were reared upon the ground reddened by martyrs' blood. Those who came to watch the sufferings of the Christians went away asking themselves, "What is it that makes these people willing to die for their religion?" The very heroism of the martyrs brought converts to their faith. And today we need more democratic heroism. If the democrats of the country would live for democracy and, if necessary, die for democracy, our party would soon win an overwhelming victory. We must challenge the republican party to meet these moral issues and if they tell you that we are going to add money to our treasury by the exports of the Philippine islands; if they tell you that we are going to increase our commerce, tell them that the shedding of human blood can never be justified as a means of extending trade. You can no more justify yourselves in shooting people to make them trade with you than a desperado can justify himself in going armed with a revolver into a store and demanding that the storekeeper trade with him. That

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