

having both the disposition and the courage to enforce existing law. While this is my view of the scope of the common law, if it should be made to appear that it is a mistaken one, then I favor such further legislation within constitutional limitations as will give the people a just and full measure of protection.

"It is difficult to understand how any citizen of the United States, much less a descendant of revolutionary stock, can tolerate the thought of permanently denying the right of self-government to the Filipinos. Can we hope to instill into the minds of our descendants reverence and devotion for a government by the people, while denying ultimately that right to the inhabitants of distant countries, whose territory we have acquired either by purchase or by force? Can we say to the Filipinos, 'Your lives, your liberty and your property may be taken from you without due process of law for all times,' and expect we will long glory in that feature of magna charta which has become incorporated, in substance and effect, into the constitution of every state, as well as into the fourteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States?"

"Can we hope for the respect of the civilized world, while proudly guaranteeing to every citizen of the United States that no law shall be made or enforced which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States or deny to any person the equal protection of the laws, and at the same time not only deny similar rights to the inhabitants of the Philippines, but take away from them the right of trial by jury and place their lives and the disposition of their property in the keeping of those whom we send to them to be their governors? We shall certainly rue it as a nation if we make any such attempt. Viewing the question even from the standpoint of national selfishness, there is no prospect that the \$20,000,000 expended in the purchase of the islands and the \$650,000,000 said to have been since disbursed will ever come back to us. The accident of war brought the Philippines into our possession, and we are not at liberty to disregard the responsibility which thus came to us, but that responsibility will be best subserved by preparing the islanders as rapidly as possible for self-government and giving them the assurances that it will come as soon as they are reasonably prepared for it.

"There need be no fear that the assertion so often made of late, that we have now become a world power, will then be without support. Ours is a world power, and as such it must be maintained, but I deny that it is at all recently that the United States has attained that eminence. Our country became a world power over a century ago, when, having thrown off foreign domination, the people established a free government, the source of whose authority sprang, and was continuously to proceed, from the will of the people themselves. It grew as a world power as its sturdy citizens, to whose natural increase were added immigration from the old world, seeking to obtain here the liberty and prosperity denied them in their own countries, spread over the face of the land, reduced the prairies and forests to cultivation, built cities, constructed highways and railroads, till now a nation which at the formation of the government numbered only 3,000,000 million in population, has become 80,000,000, and from ocean to ocean and the lakes to the gulf, the country is the abode of a free and prosperous people, advanced in the highest degree in the learning of arts and arts of civilization. It is the liberty, the advancement and the prosperity of its citizens, not any career of conquest, that make the country a world power. This condi-

tion we owe to the bounty of providence, unfolded in the great natural resources of the country, to the wisdom of our fathers manifested in the form of government established by them, to the energy, industry, moral character and law-abiding spirits of the people themselves.

"We are not a military people, bent on conquest, or engaged in extending our domains in foreign lands or desirous of securing natural advantages, however great, by force; but a people loving peace, not only for ourselves, but for all the nations of the earth.

"The display of great military armaments may please the eye, and, for the moment, excite the pride of the citizen, but it can not bring to the country the brains, brawn and muscle of a single immigrant, nor induce the investment here of a dollar of capital. Of course such armament as may be necessary for the security of the country and the protection of the rights of its citizens, at home or abroad, must be maintained. Any other course would be not only false economy, but pusillanimous. I protest, however, against the feeling, now far too prevalent, that by reason of the commanding position we have assumed in the world, we must take part in the disputes and broils of foreign countries; and that because we have grown great we should intervene in every important question that arises in other parts of the world. I also protest against the erection of any such military establishment as would be required to maintain the country in that attitude. We should confine our international activities solely to matters in which the rights of the country or of our citizens are directly involved. That is not a situation of isolation, but of independence.

"The government of the United States was organized solely for the people of the United States. While it was contemplated that this country should become a refuge for the oppressed of every land, who might be fit to discharge the duties of our citizenship, and while we have always sympathized with the people of every nation in their struggles for self-government, the government was not created for a career of political or civilizing evangelization in foreign countries, or among alien races by intervention in their affairs. The most efficient work we can do in uplifting the people of other countries is by the presentation of a happy, prosperous self-governing nation as an ideal to be emulated, a model to be followed. The general occupation of our citizens in the arts of peace, or the absence of large military armaments, tends to impair neither patriotism nor physical courage, and for the truth of this I refer the young men of today to the history of the civil war. For fifty years, with the exception of the war with Mexico, this country had been at peace, with a standing army most of the time of less than 10,000 men. He who thinks that the nation had grown effeminate during that period should read the casualty rolls of the armies on either side at Shiloh, Antietam, Fredericksburg and Gettysburg, at Stone River and Chickamauga. I would be the last man to pluck a single laurel from the crown of any one of the military heroes to whom this country owes so much, but I insist that their most heroic deeds proceeded infinitely more from devotion to the country than from martial spirit.

"As I have already proceeded at too great length, other questions suggested in the platform must await my letter of acceptance.

"Mr. Chairman: In most graceful speech you have reminded me of the great responsibility, as well as the

great honor of the nomination bestowed upon me by the convention you represent this day. Be assured that both are appreciated—so keenly appreciated that I am humbled in their presence.

"I accept, gentlemen of the committee, the nomination and if the action of the convention shall be indorsed by an election by the people, I will, God helping me, give to the discharge of the duties of that exalted office the best service of which I am capable and at the end of the term retire to private life. I shall not be a candidate for, nor shall I accept a renomination. Several reasons might be advanced for this position, but the controlling one with me is that I am fully persuaded that no incumbent of that office should ever be placed in a situation of possible temptation to consider what the effect of action taken by him in an administrative matter of great importance might have upon his political fortunes. Questions of momentous consequence to all of the people have been in the past and will be in the future presented to the president for determination, and approaching this consideration, as well as in weighing the facts and the arguments bearing upon them, he should be unembarrassed by any possible thought of the influence his decision may have upon anything whatever that may affect him personally. I make this statement, not in criticism of any of our presidents from Washington down who have either held the office for two terms or sought to succeed themselves; for strong arguments could be advanced in support of the re-election of a president. It is simply my judgment that the interests of this country are now so vast and the questions presented are frequently of such overpowering magnitude to the people that it is indispensable to the maintenance of a befitting attitude before the people, not only that the chief magistrate should be independent, but that that independence should be known of all men."

Mr. Bryan's New Platform

Big newspaper guns have been turned on William Jennings Bryan, because of his new platform. He has nailed his colors to the mast, and will advocate, regardless of the result of the national election:

State ownership and operation of railroads.

Government ownership and operation of telegraphs.

Popular election of federal judges and United States senators.

Local nomination of postmasters.

His enemies, and he has them in clusters, say that the platform is stark, staring, howling madness, and not even worth discussing.

But are any of the issues he has touched on well regulated, from the people's standpoint, today?

There is being built up, by mergers and gentlemen's agreements, a railroad trust in this country that will eventually, if not checked, outdo any combination of capital and power hitherto dreamed of. It is dangerous in its possibilities and in its immoral propensities.

Why shouldn't the government transmit communications by wire as well as by mail? It has shown its ability to perform the latter service with less error and greater dispatch than a private company could hope to equal.

The misuse of power by federal judges has given growth to a popular hatred for that particular branch of authority. The fact can not be dodged. Perhaps the plain people are wrong, but they hate well.

The election of United States senators has become a synonym for boodle, and seats in the "Millionaires' Club," at Washington, are purchased

as surely as the sun shines.

It is an advanced platform, but to call it "howling madness" is to stamp every new ism as dementia. Municipal ownership has been called folly, and some of the best minds in the country were and are convinced that high protection is highway robbery, and so it goes all along the line of things untried.

Mr. Bryan serves his country by forcing the people to think. He doesn't ring the bell every time, but with millions of brains in action there must certainly come light that will lead this good and fairly prosperous land into paths that will bring those who are down up, without pulling those who are up down.

America needs more prosperity for all, a wiser and more honest division of things that are good.—Cincinnati Post.

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