

letter to assist in restoring to power that party whose principles and past history guarantee a safe, wise, economical and constitutional administration of the government.

"I find it, therefore, a great pleasure, standing here upon the borderland of the two Virginias, to receive and accept the commission you bear and to send greetings through you to the democracy of the entire country. Is it not significant of a closer and truer brotherhood among us that for the first time since the civil war a candidate on the national ticket has been taken from that section of our common country that lies south of Mason and Dixon's line—a happy recognition of the obliteration of all sectional differences which led to and followed that unhappy struggle?

"As an introductory to the few remarks I shall make I desire to say that I heartily indorse the platform upon which I have been nominated and, with the convention and its nominee for president, regard the present monetary standard of value as irrevocably established.

"In the campaign preceding the last election much stress was laid by republican speakers upon the prosperous condition of the country and forebodings were heard of the ill results, especially to the laboring man, which would follow any change in the political complexion of the government.

"It is true that the times then were good, but it is no less a fact that, while there has been no change in the party in power, many of the evils prophesied have come under republican rule. Four years ago factories, mills, mines and furnaces were in active operation, unable to supply the demand, but now many are closed and those that are open are being operated with reduced force on short hours. Then wages were high, labor was scarce and there was work for all.

"Now work is scarce, many wage earners unemployed and wages reduced. The apprehension which now prevails in business circles and the present unsatisfactory industrial conditions of the country seem to demand a political change.

"In the language of our platform, 'the rights of labor are certainly no less vested, no less sacred and no less inalienable than the rights of capital.' The time is opportune to emphasize the truth of this utterance. The most sacred right of property is the right to possess and own one's self and the labor of one's own hands—capital itself being but stored-up labor. For years I worked in the ranks as a wage earner and I know what it is to earn my living in the sweat of my brow. I have always believed—and my convictions came from the hard school of experience—that, measured by the character of work he does and the cost of living, a man is entitled to a full compensation for his services. My experience as a wage

Cured to Stay Cured.

Mrs. S. T. Roberts, Clinton, La., sent a postal card request for a trial bottle of Drake's Palmetto Wine to Drake Formula Company, Drake Block, Chicago, Ill., and received it promptly by return mail without expense to her. Mrs. Roberts writes that the trial bottle of this wonderful Palmetto Medicine proved quite sufficient to completely cure her. She says: "One trial bottle of Drake's Palmetto Wine has cured me after months of intense suffering. My trouble was inflammation of Bladder and serious condition of Urinary organs. Drake's Palmetto Wine gave me quick and entire relief and I have had no trouble since using the one trial bottle."

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earner and my association with labor have alike taught me the value of democratic principles, for in them the humblest has the strongest security for individual right and the highest stimulus to that independence of spirit and love of self-help which produce the finest private characters and form the base of the best possible government.

"The receipts of the government for the year ending June 30, 1902, the first fiscal year of the present administration, showed a surplus over expenditures of \$91,000,000, but for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904, instead of a surplus, there was a deficit of \$41,000,000. From July 1, 1904, to Aug. 10, or for about a month and a third of the present fiscal year, the expenditures of the government have exceeded the receipts by \$21,715,000. There could be no stronger evidence of the extravagance into which the republican party has fallen and no more potent argument in behalf of a change to the party whose tenets have always embraced prudence and economy in administering the people's affairs.

"Our republican friends are prone to refer to the great commercial growth of the country under their rule and yet the census reports show that from 1850 to 1860, under democratic rule and the Walker tariff, the percentage of increase was greater in population, wealth, manufactures and railroad mileage, the factors which affect most largely the prosperity of the country, than any decade since.

"The cost of government has largely increased under republican rule. The expenditures per capita for the last years respectively of the administrations given, taken from the reports of the secretary of the treasury, were as follows:

"In 1860, under Buchanan, \$2.01.

"In 1893, under Harrison, \$5.77

"In 1897, under Cleveland, \$5.10.

"In 1901, under McKinley, \$6.56.

"In 1904, under Roosevelt, \$7.10.

"The republicans now claim great consistency in their attitude upon the currency question and the president in his recent speech of acceptance said that they know what they mean when they speak of a stable currency, 'the same thing from year to year,' and yet in the platforms of their party in 1884, 1888 and 1892 they favored the double standard of value. In the platform of 1888 they said 'the republican party is in favor of the use of both gold and silver as money and condemns the policy of the democratic administration in its efforts to demonitize silver.'

"I congratulate your committee and the constituency it represents in the selection by the delegates to the national convention of the nominee for the presidency. He is a man of courage, yet prudent; of high ideals, yet without pretense; of the most wholesome respect for the constitution and the majesty of the laws under it and a sacred regard for their limitations; of the keenest sense of justice, which would rebel against compounding a wrong to an individual or to a nation; positive in conviction, yet of few words; strong in mental and moral attributes and yet withal modest; possessed of a sturdy constitution and magnificent manhood and yet temperate in his actions and dignified in his demeanor.

"It is not the orator or man of letters but the man of reserve force, of sound judgment, of conservative method and steadiness of purpose, whom the people have called to the office of the presidency, notably in the contests between Jefferson and Burr, Jackson and Clay, Lincoln and Douglas, Grant and Greeley, Cleveland and Blaine.

"Dire predictions were made by our political opponents of what would happen at the St. Louis convention, but

they misjudged the temper of the party and the people. While there had been differences in preceding campaigns, at St. Louis they were all harmonized and a common ground was found upon which all could stand and do battle for democratic principles. A platform was adopted by a unanimous vote, embracing the issues of the day and presenting to the people a declaration of principles which in the language of the times is sane, safe and sound.

"With a candidate whose personality appeals to the good sense and sound judgment of the American people, a platform whose principles are for the greatest good to the greatest number and a reunited party earnest for the restoration of good and economical government we should succeed and the principles of democracy again triumph.

"I beg my countrymen as they value their liberty to guard with great care the sacred right of local self-government and to watch with a jealous eye the tendency of the times to centralize power in the hands of the few.

"Mr. Chairman, it is an added pleasure to receive this notification at your hands. You have been conservative and courageous as leader of our party in the house of representatives, a position which few men have filled with the signal ability that you have displayed.

"It will be my pleasure and duty at a time not far hence to accept more formally in writing the nomination which you have tendered in such graceful and complimentary terms and to give my views upon some of the important questions now commanding the attention of the country."

Ingalls on Cleveland.

A reader of The Commoner sends in the late Senator Ingall's estimate of Cleveland. It was printed at the time of Mr. Cleveland's retirement from the presidency, March 4, 1897. It is reproduced at this time to show how differently the republicans treat Mr. Cleveland now that they are trying to make him a candidate again from what they did when he was president. If Mr. Cleveland was nominated (an impossibility) the republicans would attack him just as Ingalls did, and the democrats would find it impossible to defend him. The article appeared in the New York Journal in 1897:

"Washington, March 3.—The last day of Grover Cleveland! Had the American people no other cause for universal joy, this alone would suffice. He went into power with much opposition. He goes out with none. The nation shares the relief with which he professes to anticipate liberation from the cares and burdens of state. If he has a hearty, cordial, sincere friend, advocate and champion in either house of congress, such a one lurks privily in ambush and make no announcement.

"Intrusted with plenary power by the people in 1893, the failure of his administration in every department stands confessed. His policy at home has been destructive, and abroad humiliating and ignominious. The degraded coalition by which he was elected made no promises that he has not violated, and gave no pledges that he has not betrayed. His tariff reform has afforded neither revenue for the treasury, protection for capital, nor wages for labor. His financial measures have restored neither confidence nor prosperity. Upon the pretext of replenishing the gold reserve, the national debt has been increased and bonds sold to favored syndicates

to meet deficiencies in the ordinary expenses of the government. His diplomacy has been apologetic and vacillating to the verge of dishonor, saved only from infamy by its grotesque and diverting imbecility.

"The Hawaiian episode would be incredible in the prospectus of a comic opera. There has been no day in the past four years that has not witnessed some new triumph in Clevelandism—some bank closed; some railroad in the hands of a receiver; some merchant broken; some furnace extinguished; some maimed and disabled veteran stigmatized and branded with dishonor, driven to the asylum or the grave. Boasting of his robust and incorruptible integrity, he retires with a vast fortune, accumulated during the most disastrous period of his country's history, in which millions have been reduced from affluence to want, and from poverty to beggary.

"History will record its incredulity that such an imposter could so long escape detection. He is the central figure of one epoch to which no lover of his country will ever revert without the blush of indignant shame at the destruction of its resources and the degradation of its dignity and honor; a period that has no parallel, except in the time of Walpole, described by Macaulay as 'the era of dwarfish talents and gigantic vices; the paradise of cold hearts and narrow minds; the golden age of the coward, the bigot and the slave.' He bequeaths to his successor falling revenues, disordered finances, prostrated industries and social discontent, which has already obliterated political frontiers and will compel the readjustment of parties to meet the conditions of the revolution upon which we have entered.

"JOHN J. INGALLS."

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