

President Taft Replies to Mr. Bryan

not talk like a man on stilts, or one on dress parade. Not only was his welcome of the guest hearty, but the tribute he paid the president's purity of motive and purpose was such as only a really big man could have got out of himself, in the presence of his neighbors, for the man who had been preferred above him. The toast he offered, to be drank in water, had, some people may think, too much red blood in it to be drank in such cold and colorless liquid. But let that pass.

The president's response was equally happy. He showed a gentleman's fine tact in the delicacy of his avoidance of all reference to the struggle between the two men in which he was the victor. Rather, he dwelt upon the things in which they are at one, speaking particularly of arbitration. Not long ago we were almost fearing that they might soon be at one on a much more vital question, but since then the president has found the republican wigwag, at the very place he left it, and giving no evidence of having been lost. So far as arbitration goes, it is a good thing in giving two such good men as Taft and Bryan a chance to agree on something.

ADMIRAL SCHLEY AND THE FLAG

"The death of Admiral Schley," said a Lincoln man, "recalls an incident which occurred shortly after the Spanish-American war. The admiral came west to spend a few weeks and stopped off in Omaha. While in the metropolis he was the guest of the late General Manderson, and it was my pleasure to not only meet him, but also dine with him, and it was at the home of the general that the incident above referred to happened.

"The announcement that the hero of Santiago was to spend his time in Omaha at General Manderson's aroused some interest and on the first night of his visit he was greeted by a throng of curious but otherwise enthusiastic patriotic citizens. All wanted to see the officer, and the general opened his home to the people of Omaha. I was there as a personal guest of the host, and while my acquaintance with the admiral was only of short duration, I was much impressed with him. He was most democratic, and his one desire seemed to be to meet all of those who gathered to do him honor. With him it was not only a handshake and a hurried greeting, for he always took time to talk to his new acquaintances. When questioned about the battle in which he played the title role, he would smilingly answer that it was not he who should be congratulated, but the men behind the guns. To them, he said, belonged the victory.

"During the evening a young fellow rushed up to Admiral Schley, and, holding a silk American flag in his hand, asked him to write his signature upon it. The admiral with a smile turned to the boy and said: 'Young man, I hope that there never will come a time when there shall appear on this flag anything but the stars and stripes. I will readily give you my card, but I could never think of destroying the worth of this beautiful flag with my name.' Whereupon he handed the boy his card, amid an outburst of cheers from those in the room."—Lincoln (Neb.) Star.

A TEXAS PLATFORM

Hon. Daniel E. Garrett, candidate for congress from the state of Texas at large, has issued the following platform:

"The following are some of the things I shall advocate:

"The national democratic platform is the covenant of political faith that binds us all as nation-wide democrats; therefore, if I should be elected a member of congress, I will consider myself bound in all good conscience to support such legislation as shall be specifically demanded by the national democracy in convention assembled.

"Taxation in the form of a tariff, assessed upon the daily necessities of life, which the people are compelled to buy, is a mode of taxation in my opinion that is nothing short of tyranny. It is now, and has always been, contrary to the fundamental principle of taxation, that taxes shall be levied upon that which the taxpayer produces or owns, and not that which he is compelled to buy. But as this system has been long in vogue, and perhaps will not be abolished for some time to come (although I believe our country has outlived this mode of taxation), yet if we are to continue this method of raising revenue, to defray the expenses of the government, then I am heartily in favor of the democratic idea of a tariff for revenue only, and that no more revenue should be collected from the people than is absolutely necessary to defray the expenses of the government economi-

Following is a United Press dispatch: Pocatello, Idaho, Oct. 6.—Almost in tears with earnestness, President Taft today delivered what many regarded as his reply to the attack on the supreme court in the current issue of William J. Bryan's paper. Although the name of Bryan was not mentioned, the belief of those who heard the president's impassioned defense of the supreme court as at present constituted was that it was called forth by The Commoner editorial attacking the supreme justices appointed by Taft.

Seldom since he was elected president has Mr. Taft shown as much vigor and earnestness as displayed in his address. With his big body swinging to the motion of his right hand as he emphasized each point, he denounced certain "demagogues and publicists." He pounded the fragile table before him with vigor as he challenged the critics of the supreme court to produce a trust case which should be condemned and which would not be condemned under the supreme court's construction of the Sherman law.

The president declared his love for "courts which stand to their duty" in a most impassioned manner.

"Now I challenge," he shouted, "and have challenged one of these publicists to mention one case that any reasonable man would say ought to be condemned under the law, which

cally administered. That all articles, classed as daily necessities of life, be as far as possible placed upon the free list. That in levying all tariff the element of protection incidental and otherwise should be given no consideration whatever.

"I shall favor an income tax.

"I shall favor an amendment to the constitution providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people.

"I most heartily agree with the national democratic platform of 1908, that 'a private monopoly is indefensible and intolerable.' Therefore, I think when the supreme court of the United States in its opinion in the famous Standard Oil case undertook to read into the Sherman anti-trust law the word 'unreasonable,' that it virtually destroyed said act, and raised the flood-gates, and opened the doors to an era of trust building and monopolistic combinations, that will be unparalleled in the history of this, or any other country; therefore, if elected to congress, in order to overcome this decision, I shall vote for an amendment to the 'Sherman anti-trust act' which shall specifically state that all restraint of trade is unreasonable.

"I believe in the autonomy of the states, and am unalterably opposed to the federal government interfering with the states in the making and execution of their constitutions and laws.

"A public office is a public trust. The officers elected by the people are the servants of the people and not their masters. The government should at all times be kept as close to the people as possible. They have built it, they support it. Therefore, I favor the initiative, referendum and recall. I expect to make an active campaign of the state and discuss before the people the above questions, and perhaps others."

WATCH IT GROW

Mr. Bryan has given instructions that every new subscriber shall receive The Commoner for a period of two years (which will carry it beyond the presidential election of 1912) for the sum of one dollar. Every Commoner reader is asked to secure at least one new subscriber. Many will be able to secure more than one. Everyone, however, may render some aid in this work.

The following named readers have sent in new subscribers: Thos. Davis, Minn.; E. W. Morris, W. Va.; J. W. Walker, Kan.; Pat Nelson, Mo.; H. F. Ensign, Ida.; Wm. J. Stratton, Mich.; L. H. Denison, Neb.; W. F. Randolph, Cal.; Peter Smith, O.; S. D. Crunley, Wash.; J. D. Williams, Wash.; M. B. Quesenberry, Va.; B. A. Hickman, Neb.; H. L. Humphrey, Ind.; F. R. Porter, Mo.; D. B. Kinsey, Ia.; David Wallace, Ind.; Geo. W. Kerr, Cal.; Arthur Merrill, Ill.; C. M. Coff, W. Va.; Jno. Weldon, Ia.; Alfred Dicus, Colo.; Walter Tillinghast, N. C.; J. W. Melan, O.; J. T. Scott, Pa.; Geo. W. Tye, Ky.; C. C. Wilburn, Ida.; M. M. Cooper, S. D.; L. J. Palmer, N. C.; Jno. Morgan, Mo.; S. F. Hammer, Ia.; J. L. Campbell, Okla.; Col. W. H.

would not be condemned under the rule of construction laid down by the supreme court.

"I have delivered that challenge in many parts of the country and I have received no answer. Oh, columns and columns intended to be a reply, but no suggestion of a case. It is time to come down to facts. Now let them give a specific instance, instead of attacking the greatest court on earth and charging it with deliberately emasculating a statute that was enacted by congress to remedy a great evil. I am waiting yet to hear.

"Now that court gives me pleasure. I am not on that court, but I was once a judge and I love judges and I love courts that attend to their duty. They are my ideals of all on earth that typifies what they shall meet afterwards in heaven under a just God. And when a court is doing its duty, when it is trying to reach the law as it should be, to have it condemned and attacked and its motives questioned for mere political purposes, without any sound reason for attacking, goes to my heart and I resent it with deep indignation.

"What distinguishes this country from any other is that the supreme court we have at Washington has stood often between us and errors that might have been committed and that would have been greatly injurious to this country. And to turn upon that court and question its motives, is to me, to lay the axe at the root of the tree of our civilization."

Conrad, O.; G. C. Thomas, Nev.; M. F. Hegge, N. D.; W. C. Rinehart, N. J.; Alfred Hampton, Tex.; J. T. McCracken, Ala.; H. S. Ackerman, Pa.; F. G. Harris, O.; J. W. Sanderson, Kan.; Fosten Brudeseeth, N. D.; C. A. Flanagan, O.; Geo. W. Pence, Ind.; T. E. Moore, Ky.; C. B. Fox, Ky.; Jno. W. Fulton, Ia.; R. Benson, Tenn.; J. W. Barnes, W. Va.; J. V. Parkson, Ill.; B. T. Horman, Mo.; Chas. F. Hood, Ark.; H. L. De Hart, Mo.; C. C. Wiemer, Ia.; E. L. Croft, Ia.; M. M. McBride, Neb.; J. Q. A. Frazier, Neb.; W. J. Camron, Ill.; F. P. Privett, Okla.; Jno. J. Carson, S. C.; J. A. Corkill, Kan.; Geo. T. Phipps, Pa.; J. C. Martinie, Cal.; C. S. Hewitt, Va.; Joe Williams, O.; W. H. Hooks, Ky.; Richard Oatey, Mont.; Jerome Lewright, Cal.; J. H. Parkman, Ark.; Geo. Knoll, Ind.; S. Macken, Sr., Wash.; I. N. Howard, Vt.; Dr. B. T. Radcliff, Ind.; Jno. Myers, Ill.; Isaac Calhoun, Wash.; J. H. Bloom, N. D.; Geo. N. Myers, Mich.; W. D. Dame, Ill.; O. Lonergan, Okla.; Rev. E. Manges, Ida.; J. T. Kinneady, Wash.; J. T. Cotter, Wis.; E. N. Prentice, Ind.; J. M. Day, Miss.; F. E. Hickman, Ill.; J. S. McMaster, Pa.; A. Michael, Ind.; C. M. Stevens, Minn.; W. C. Brown, O.; G. O. Haws, Utah.; Jos. Ford, Kan.; Lee Dudgeon, Cal.; Henry Kemp, Mo.; J. M. Blanks, Va.; Jno. W. Carlson, Mo.; J. D. Motley, Mo.; J. R. Artherholt, Pa.; C. G. Gutebsohn, O.; Nelson Patterson, O.; Fred Blaker, Kan.; Jas. H. Cogshall, Mich.; Wm. Ledbetter, N. C.; H. S. Ayer, Pa.; M. Aley, Kan.; S. O. Lewis, Sr., Ill.; W. H. Stevenson, Ia.; Sam. M. Conner, Ky.; W. R. Hamilton, O.; Dan Murphy, Ida.; J. Jeffers, Minn.; J. P. Graham, Mo.; C. Phillips, W. Va.; O. R. Bachelder, N. H.; S. Shreffler, O.; J. R. Holt, Ark.; Wm. Hoy, Kan.; E. W. Morris, W. Va.; W. W. Brannin, Wash.; T. Miller, Mont.; D. G. Dolloff, N. H.; Wayne P. Ferguson, W. Va.; Simeon Pool, S. D.; R. C. Boggs, Okla.; J. W. Snyder, Pa.; A. R. Wright, Ia.; B. W. Keim, O.; J. E. Lindsey, Wash.; W. W. Tilton, Ill.; J. M. Jordan, Kan.; Stephen Peltier, Ill.; H. L. Dehart, Mo.; S. R. Chappell, Ind.; C. Weisenbach, Ill.; Wm. L. Hardesto, Fla.; J. T. Nichols, Kan.; Jacob A. Harris, W. Va.; J. M. Clugh, Okla.; D. C. Lee, Okla.; N. W. Kalemeyn, Kan.; J. A. Baldwin, Ind.; E. K. Green, Cal.; Thos. McDermott, Ill.; Vaughn Stiles, Ia. These have sent in subscriptions in numbers as follows: All Trappen, Mich., 7; G. C. Chandler, Mo., 5; J. M. Wells, Cal., 5; J. K. P. Barron, Va., 6; W. H. Kidder, N. Y., 5; J. P. Fassett, N. Y., 5; T. H. Maples, Ida., 8; Wm. M. Baker, O., 7; J. L. Heinz, Ill., 8; J. M. Artman, Kan., 6; W. C. Kilgore, Okla., 5; Carl F. Rowitz, La., 5; A. J. Anders, Ia., 5; R. D. Kinsall, Okla., 5; B. J. Buckley, O., 5; W. E. Blakeman, Mo., 5; E. J. Porter, Neb., 10; W. C. Smith, Ill., 6; Rev. Edw. Kozlowski, Mich., 6; H. C. Xrabill, Ind., 6; Wm. J. Thompson, Ill., 9; Geo. Knowles, Mich., 5; C. H. Howe, Ia., 5; W. S. Morris, Colo., 6; Louis R. Sweetland, W. Va., 12; N. S. Bonner, Tex., 5; J. B. Brown, Neb., 6; Stephen P. Jump, Md., 7; Wm. M. Pogue, Md., 8; Jno. Womble, Mont., 5.