

to railroad corporations without any return whatever. Secondly, by giving special monopolies to private individuals in the shape of franchises. Thirdly, by exempting the rich from taxation and putting the whole burden of taxation upon labor. The gift of franchises made the enormous fortune of the Vanderbilts as it has of some thousands of others. With these franchises in their control they have been able to grant special privileges to others by which other and vaster fortunes have been accumulated. The contract of the railroads with the Rockefellers by which a rebate was given to them of 40 cents a barrel not only on the oil they, the Rockefellers themselves, shipped, but the same amount upon all the oil shipped by other firms, made the Rockefeller fortune.

The banking fortunes have been built up by conferring upon a certain privileged class the special privilege of issuing money. Other fortunes have been accumulated by the tariff, such as that of Carnegie. So it will be seen that the great concentration of wealth, the giving to some more than they can use and the keeping of others in a state of want and distress has been effected, not by overproduction, but by the giving of public property to a few and the granting of special privileges to others.

If these lands, besides hundreds of millions in money, in the shape of bonds voted by counties and municipalities, had not been given to the few who own the railroads, if Carnegie and thousands of others had not been allowed to charge more than a reasonable profit by means of tariff laws, if railroads had not been allowed to give rebates to the favored, if the government had kept control of the volume of money and maintained staple prices, these immense fortunes could not have been gathered together, or, in other words, wealth would have been more evenly distributed. There would not now be hundreds of thousands only able to maintain a bare existence, while a few thousands have greater wealth than the world has ever before known.

The difference between populism and socialism is plainly outlined. Populism would open the opportunities of the earth to all and grant special privileges to none. It would increase production, rather than decrease it, but it would insist that all should have the same privileges that taxation should be borne by wealth and not placed on consumption, and that speculation should be forever eliminated by preserving staple prices.

PARTIES AND HONOR

The purpose of a political party is to associate together those persons in one organization whose ideas of government agree. It signifies opposition to organizations advocating other and opposing principles. In the complex affairs growing out of modern civilization it is impossible that all the members of one party should agree on every proposition that presents itself, or that a few members of one party may not favor some things that the whole mass of the other part advocates. On the question of imperialism there were quite a large number of leading republicans who took the democratic view of the question and on the other hand there were some democrats who favored imperialism, yet in both cases, most of these men remained with their party and voted the party ticket. On the question of the war with Spain, both parties were a unit advocating the same policy, the democrats in fact taking the initiative. Upon the question of a war of conquest upon the Filipinos, the democrats as a party opposed, and the republicans made it a party measure, yet a few republicans while opposing a war of conquest in every way possible, remained in the party and voted the party ticket. The leader of these was Senator Hoar. Some others left the party because of that issue and voted the democratic ticket, among them

Senator Wellington and ex-Governor Boutwell of Massachusetts.

After reading Senator Hoar's speeches upon this subject, any man of sound judgment would say that he went to the very extreme that honor would allow in retaining his membership in the republican party, but that his long association with the leaders of that party and his prejudices against the democratic party formed by a life time of opposition to it, would excuse him for the course he adopted and still allow that he remained within the lines of honor.

All this is entirely different from the position of such men as David B. Hill, Grover Cleveland and Arthur P. Gorman. The question at issue was submitted to the decision of the party at large, first in the primaries, then in the state conventions of every state and finally in the national convention. In all of these contests the party decided that Hill, Cleveland and Gorman did not represent the doctrine of the democratic party and the true doctrine of the party was formally and officially announced. The question so decided was declared to be fundamental and vital. That this was the actual belief of the voters of the party was proven by the fact that six million voters cast their ballots for it in two hotly contested presidential elections. Cleveland, Hill, Gorman and their few followers upon this vital and fundamental question, held exactly the same views that the opposing party advocated, and nine-tenths of them voted the republican ticket, while all of them did all within their power to beat their own ticket.

If these men had been men of honor, they would have done exactly what Senators Teller and DuBois did. These republican senators believed the democratic party to be right on this vital and fundamental question and they publicly announced the severance of their relations with their own party and openly supported the democratic candidate. Not so with Hill, Gorman and Cleveland. They still claimed to be democrats which involved the duty to support the democratic ticket with all their influence and with their votes. Instead of that they did all that was within their power to defeat the ticket and thus placed themselves beyond the pale of honor. They acted the sneak and the traitor. If they believed that the republicans were right and that the question was fundamental they should have left the democratic party and openly advocated the election of the republican candidate. The course pursued by Senators Teller and DuBois was honorable and they have maintained the respect of all mankind.


The course of Hill, Gorman and Cleveland has been a disgrace to the age in which we live. No man of honor in his heart can have any respect for them. They have betrayed their friends, they have done everything that outside of politics render men disreputable. Of the three, Arthur P. Gorman is the worst. He has committed all the disreputable acts of which Hill and Cleveland are guilty, and more. The democratic party made a campaign on the question of tariff reform Arthur P. Gorman supported the party and gave his adherence to the platform adopted before the election. A fairly good tariff reform measure was passed by the house and when it came into the senate, Arthur P. Gorman tacked onto it 900 amendments, making it the highest protective measure ever adopted up to that time. So Arthur P. Gorman is not only a republican on financial policies, but upon the tariff also. Yet he claims to be a democrat!

The Independent makes these remarks to assure the public generally that if the democratic party does not take measures to expel from its ranks such indescribable scoundrels and traitors as these men and their followers are, that the 2,000,000 allies who fought so courageously by their side in the two last presidential elections will have nothing more to do

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with them. They know that if they did, that it would be useless. These allies will gallantly support the principles of the Kansas City platform, or they are part of their own principles, but they will not waste time and money in co-operation with men who will admit to their ranks and councils those who will always go over to the enemy in the hour of need, and who are in heart a loyal part of the enemy's force.

NOT FAR FROM SAVAGERY

The worst charge ever brought against savages was that some of these tribes abandoned their sick and aged and left them to die when they needed help. How much worse is that than some things which are done by the authorities of our great cities. The other day in Chicago a father went from hospital to dispensary, carrying in his arms his two-year-old daughter, who was suffering from diphtheria, and meeting always with a refusal when he sought to have the child taken in and cared for. His next refuge was a police station, whence he was directed to the office of the commissioner of health, but before he arrived there the little girl was dead.

It would seem that a person who is so unfortunate as to contract a contagious disease in the city of Chicago must die on the streets, forsaken by all men, just as it is charged that the most inhuman savages do.

There is more philanthropic hypocrisy in this world than is pleasant to contemplate. If a diphtheria patient should die under the treatment of Dr. Dowie or a Christian scientist in Chicago, the dailies would rave and tear their hair, but they will turn a sick child from all their hospital doors and let it die in the streets and it creates no sensation at all. Any community, no matter how rich it is or how many churches and universities it maintains, which turns its sick and helpless out on the streets to die is not far removed from savagery.

The only really positive recommendation in the president's message was that the duty on hard coal should be removed, but the leaders in congress immediately pointed out that such a thing was impossible, for if a bill was introduced to remove that duty it would be subject to amendment and bring the whole tariff question up, which was a thing that could not be thought of.

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