

upon their feet free and independent to work out their own destiny.' Mr. Parker, however, says that the responsibility which brought the Philippines into our possession through the accident of war '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.' This is not the demand of the democratic platform for immediate freedom and independence of the Philippines, but it is the republican doctrine of progression toward a state of preparedness for independence. Thus again does Mr. Parker emasculate the St. Louis platform.

"One looks in vain through Mr. Parker's essay of acceptance for declarations of adherence to the positive and direct statements of the democratic platform respecting 'a reduction of the expenditures for the army and navy,' 'the maintenance of the Monroe doctrine in its full integrity,' 'the honest, just and impartial enforcement of civil service reform' and 'the extermination of polygamy within the jurisdiction of the United States.' The fact is, the speech of Mr. Parker, as far as it relates to the issues of the campaign, is an emasculating, trimming and vote bidding document from beginning to end. The entire effusion is characterized by the same spirit of cowardice which prompted the candidate to send his notable gold plank telegram under the stimulus of portrayals of defeat held up to him by several of the papers of this city on the day succeeding the morning of his nomination. The sending of the gold telegram was not the act of a courageous man; neither is his refusal to stand in a manly way by the positive declarations of his party's platform the act of a brave man. The evidence accumulates, that, while Judge Parker may have been a Mr. Hyde on the bench, he is a Doctor Jekyll in politics. This is not strange, since his speech of acceptance only exemplifies the old adage that the stream can not rise above its source. Trained, as Mr. Parker has been in the Hill school of shifty politics, it is utterly impossible for him to meet public issues squarely and courageously. Attaching to himself as he has as campaign managers political jugglers of the Taggart, Sheehan and McCarren type, he can not in his treatment of public questions possibly rise to a high level of statesmanship. If he were elected president, his administration would be mediocre, weak and vacillating, and would be characterized by disreputable intrigues, public stealings and the distribution of special privilege, benefits, as rewards for campaign contributions and political services.

"Democrats who, like myself, believe in the positive and progressive declarations of the St. Louis platform, will not cast their votes for a nominee who, in his first public utterance, as a candidate, nullifies the leading planks of the platform. Neither can they bring themselves to vote for Mr. Roosevelt, thereby endorsing republican doctrines and policies. Under these circumstances, the democrats to whom I refer, esteem it a privilege to support Mr. Watson, the candidate of the people's party, since he fearlessly, sincerely and logically advocates the principles of progressive democracy. These democrats will not only have the satisfaction of standing by their principles, but the indications are, will have the gratification of having cast their ballots for a candidate who will receive as many electoral votes east of the Rockies and north of Mason and Dixon's line as Mr. Parker.

New York Populist Democrats.

The fight in New York against Dave Hill, Belmont and Parker is a genuine fight based on principles and not a personal one at all. The men engaged in it have been democrats of the Kansas City platform kind. They have received the same abuse that populists of the west have had to endure. Until now they have had no way to register their protests against the slave drivers of Wall street and the devils own representative from up the state. Now they come to the people's party with rejoicing. They did what they could and made what protest they could by letter and otherwise acting as democrats, as will be seen by the following letter written to Dave Hill in 1902 by one of the chief promoters of the recent people's party meeting at Cooper Union. Mr. Mullen has now found, along with many thousand others a way to stand up and be counted, as protestants against both the republican and democratic end of Wall street. Populism is simply Jeffersonian democracy, and when Mr. Mullen speaks of "loyalty to democratic principles," he means those principles that populists have been fight-

ing for since the organization of the party. It will be seen that the movement which startled all the east in its first demonstration at Cooper Union, is not spasmodic, it is not the result of advertising or the work of a day or two of excitement, but is deep-seated and permanent. It has been the work of two or three years. Mr. Mullen's letter to Hill in 1902, was as follows:

"New York, Sept. 12.—Hon. D. B. Hill, Dear Sir: Appreciating the strenuous efforts you have made to reorganize the democracy of this state so that victory would reward the party this fall inspired me to send this communication defining the sentiment and attitude of the rank and file of democratic voters in no way allied with the so-called state machine, but whose chief aim is loyalty to democratic principles.

"To you as leader it may not be necessary to say that the platform adopted in the last national convention is the creed of true democrats until another national convention be held. As there is a cloud upon your loyalty to the platforms adopted at Chicago in 1896 and reiterated at Kansas City in 1900; to remove that cloud and reconcile yourself with the rank and file it will be absolutely necessary to reaffirm in the next state convention the Kansas City declaration. I have been laboring some time with the Knights of Labor to induce them to support only candidates whose loyalty to that platform has been established.

"In this matter I have been successful as upon Wednesday evening a local assembly unanimously passed resolutions that if the platform would not be re-affirmed in the convention the K. of L. would nominate their own ticket.

"Newspapers state that you have announced that trusts would be the paramount issue. Well the pillaging and plundering depredations of trusts not alone upon the inhabitants of this state would warrant that trusts be the paramount issue; however it is less criminal to pillage and plunder citizens out of their earnings than to rob them of earnings and sovereignty.

"But reaffirm the national platform and then go ahead with your trust issue. His action will cement together the democracy and make possible victory.

"Since trusts will be the issue, naturally the candidate should have no connection with trusts. To name for governor a candidate affiliated with trusts would insure defeat be he the president, vice president, director or trust judge.

"The inconsistency of adopting trusts as chief issue and then naming as candidate a trust agent would be regarded by the rank and file who only seek good democratic government as proof that trusts own the state machine.

"The strongest, cleanest and most loyal democrat in the state and man who can unite the irreconcilable so that democratic victory will be possible is William Sulzer.

"My dear senator, these are the sentiments of the legions of democratic voters upon whom success will depend as you are well aware of the fact that the state machine of itself can not win.

Yours etc.,
"JAMES MULLEN.
"242 South-st., N. Y. City."

It may be needless to say that the trust judge referred to in the letter was the hero of Esopus.

No doubt you are aware of the fact that the trust democratic candidate for president became the greatest newspaper hero that ever lived through sending to the late national democratic convention after a platform had been adopted and he had been nominated, a telegram.

Wm. J. Bryan's Partisanship.

Editor Independent: The announcement by the Hon. Wm. J. Bryan of his intention to vote for the nominees of the late democratic convention for president and vice president, falls as a painful if not an aggravating disappointment upon thousands of his best and sincerest friends. I allude to the men of the populist party who but a few years before his nomination in 1896, had cast over 1,200,000 votes for Weaver and Field and which strength had since that time largely increased and was still growing. Yet at their convention at St. Louis, believing him to be an apostle of every essential principle advocated by the populist party, as he had so expressed himself, and believing him to be a leader of men of such force and effect as to almost suggest the idea of inspiration, decided to follow him with an unselfish devotion; a devotion sealed by the sacrifice of a party they loved for principles they held more dear.

More than a million voted for Wm. J. Bryan at each canvass he made and

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he must know, if his democratic followers had worked one-half as hard and faithfully as his populist friends did for him; or had they been a hundredth part less amenable to the corrupting influences of Mark Hanna's \$13,000,000 campaign fund, Wm. J. Bryan would have been our president today.

He has made the mistake of his life in casting his lot with men with whom there can be no affiliation. His idea of continuing his work for financial reform within the democratic party will amount to nothing. It is already plain the policy of the leaders of the party is to ignore his political existence. I have looked over several big democratic dailies in vain to see his name mentioned. They want none of him.

Wm. J. Bryan is the greatest man in our country today. Infinitely too great to be a henchman of the ghost of a party. The word party implies unanimity. An organization of factions, or of men of opposing purposes, is only a strategic movement and the result a conspiracy for extraneous ends. The paramount issue being the concretion of the organization, all other issues, however vital to the welfare of the country that conflict with the views or interest of a faction, will be suppressed as disturbing elements.

The accomplishment of a reform, or the changing of a system already in operation, can only be done by a party constituted for the purpose. And by the same rule when the mission is effected the party should disband.

Standing political parties are more dangerous to free institutions than standing armies.

Mr. Bryan's great mistake is not so much in supporting the ticket nominated, as in not bolting when it had become plain to him that the committee by "crooked indefensible methods," had been set up against any and every principle of reform he had stood for, and so ably and successfully advocated for so many years. Yes, he should have bolted. The gold men had set the example. The history of the lives and acts of such bolters as Martin Luther, Oliver Cromwell, Napoleon Bonaparte and George Washington would furnish the complement and truest history of the advance and growth of civil and religious liberty.

What can he do more than he has already done within the democratic party? Or what can he expect to accomplish different from what he did in 1896 when he carried everything in the convention?

Mr. Bryan is too great a man not to feel in his heart that there is no hope for relief from either of the old parties. They are each under the control of the money power, to the extent that if either should be forced to declare in favor of a policy that would conflict with its interests, as Bryan did in 1896 it can throw its weight in opposition and defeat the party.

If a bolting convention of the true democracy had been called to meet at Cincinnati, Ohio, I will venture to say it would have been the largest political gathering ever assembled in America. It, fact, a political party, like any other organic body on this

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