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**AN EXTRA SESSION OF CONGRESS.** The imperative need of an extra session of congress to be convened immediately after the 4th of March, 1899, is realized by the genuine friends of the gold standard everywhere in the United States. In a letter addressed to the editor of THE CONSERVATIVE on December 14, 1898, Congressman Charles N. Fowler of New Jersey remarks:

"We must make a strong and persistent effort, if we hope to secure an extra session for the special purpose of currency reform. We can only hope for legislation, which may be justly called reform, it seems to me, at a session convened especially for that purpose; for then the public mind will be concentrated upon this question, and can be made to more readily and clearly see the strength of the position taken by those who have carefully studied the subject, and fully appreciate the importance of an unequivocal gold standard, the retirement of the demand obligations of the government and a system of credit currency responsive to the demands of trade."

There is no more earnest and consistent advocate of an honest currency for the citizens of this great republic than Mr. Fowler. And he has the courage of his convictions—a rare thing, relatively, among modern law-makers.

**PLEASED.** THE CONSERVATIVE congratulates itself upon the evident satisfaction which the friends of Hon. George Fred Williams evince relative to the tribute paid to the logical and oratorical force

of that distinguished disciple of the money fallacies, in a recent issue.

The fact that THE CONSERVATIVE omitted to relate how frightened all the gold bugs were, whenever Mr. Williams let loose his logic or opened his oratory seems, however, to have disappointed some newspapers of the sixteen-to-one variety. Therefore it is hereby admitted, agreed and confessed that no advocate of the gold standard in Nebraska dared debate with Mr. Williams. His strength and luminousness startled and scared everybody who differed from his monetary views. This probably came from the general knowledge that Mr. Williams was a sort of Saul of Tarsus goldite and that he set out for Chicago with a pocket full of rocks and persecutions to be inflicted upon the silver men, and that when he reached the convention of 1896 he saw a great light with a ready-made halo marked "vice presidency" in the clouds and so he was converted and became an apostle Paul of Silver. Thus it was easy for him to frighten the weak and the ignorant.

#### TO REFORM THE CURRENCY.

Representative Fowler Favors Calling an Extra Session.

Concerning the desirability of an extra session, Representative Fowler of New Jersey of the committee on banking and currency says:

"At the end of two squarely fought contests over the single gold standard and a sound currency, the republican party finds that it will be in power in every legislative branch of the government after the 4th of March, 1899. Under these circumstances, what is wisdom? What is duty? Clearly it would be unwise for the committee on banking and currency to take up, during the present session, for consideration, discussion and determination in the house any single proposition affecting our government finances or looking to currency reform. It would be worse than foolish to attempt to secure any proper legislation in the senate as now constituted.

"The whole subject should be made the occasion for calling an extra session of the Fifty-sixth congress, immediately after the 4th of March, for the exclusive purpose of dealing with this most important matter. The most intelligent public thought on the question demands an extra session; the people expect it, and the failure of the president to call it would result in bitter disappointment, for all must realize that such failure on

his part involves the pledges of the republican party, involves the financial tranquillity and commercial prosperity of the country, and, indeed, might involve our national honor itself.

"I firmly believe that the president spoke in the utmost good faith, in New York last winter, when he said that words would no longer do, but that we must have action. Certainly an extra session should be called. Indeed, it must be called, if the president and the republican party hope to escape the just retribution of an outraged public sentiment because faith with the people had been broken."—Washington Star.

#### DEVELOPMENT INSTEAD OF EXPANSION AND ANNEXATION.

The American people need no islands to occupy their attention, divert their energies from home development and involve them in the perplexities and dangers of a colonial policy. The vigor and endeavor of Americans may find ample and remunerative employment in the development of some of the uninvestigated and hidden resources of some of even the original thirteen states. Expansion of territory is not needed. Development of domains already ours is needed. As an illustration of the truth of this proposition let us look into the great state of Georgia which belonged to the original thirteen.

In northern Georgia, as any scientific tourist may demonstrate, are millions upon millions of gold sleeping in the mountains. These gigantic deposits have slumbered there for eons. Their beds have been known to Americans for more than a century. Ores assaying seventeen to thirty dollars a ton in fine gold have been mined, sampled and tested in northern Georgia. And in addition to the precious metals the mountains of Georgia carry, in their rocky pockets, silver, copper and iron. The wilderness of northern Georgia invites civilization, industry, enterprise to enter upon its development and promises as a reward the most stupendous possibilities in outputs of gold, iron and lumber. This empire state of the South is an Elysium almost unknown to those outside of its own boundaries. In its northern counties, besides mineral wealth, are capabilities of agriculture and horticulture untold. Here and there are enough of farms and orchards to prove the strong fertility of the soil. Even in the midst of the mountains may be found patches of cultivated land which in power of