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MEN WHO HAVE RECORDS.

The American people have always given ear and a receptive understanding to the teachings of public men with recorded deeds in behalf of the public weal. The devotion of their contemporaries to such men as Benton, Cass and Lincoln originally grew out of the efforts of those men in a broad and non-partisan way for their respective states, localities and homes. They were respected, beloved and followed not because of what they said but because of acts accomplished, public good achieved.

The man who has held public place in this form of government for a term of years, and has utterly failed to make a mark in favor of economy; has never impressed his individuality upon governmental methods, either legislative, executive, or judicial, so as to show that he has bettered them; has never originated or advanced a theory that has been tried and found usefully practical—is not the man whom the people should hearken unto and follow.

No public person who seeks—without any record of good accomplished for the state—to instruct “the plain people,” or any other sort of people, as to the “duties and destinies” of this republic should be accepted as a judicious, qualified adviser and guide.

These are perilous times and menacing environments for self-government. Patriotic men of experience, students of the history of the United States and adepts in knowledge of its constitution and laws ought to come to the front

and counsel the administration and the people.

Mal-administration, wasteful extravagance and unconcealed flagrant favoritism are the rule and there is a growing and general distrust of this form of government and its perpetuity in the hands of its present managers. Men who have honorable records, like Edmunds of Vermont, Olney of Massachusetts, John G. Carlisle of New York, Grover Cleveland and Carl Schurz—records which show benefits conferred by their acts upon their countrymen—are by experience and learning, patriotism and courage, capable of advising and worthy of being relied upon with unwavering confidence.

“Experience teaches us again and again that there is nothing men have less command over than their tongues;” and for this reason the counsel and advice of hysterical men who have no records except of talk and no experience except as speechmakers should be rejected by sensible citizens everywhere.

What have you accomplished for the plain people that you should assume to know their mind and be their counsel?

What law; what repeal of a law; what act, either legislative, judicial or executive, caused by your influence, can you point out as a warrant for the assumption that you are a safe leader of men?

These are practical questions that should form on the lips of all deliberate and conscientious citizens whenever and wherever calow statesmanship tenders theories, policies and advice. Give us men with good and sound records—men who have deeds to their credit—not words. Bad beef for the army is not worse than vealy statesmanship for the republic.

DEFORMERS NOT REFORMERS.

The organized discontent of the United States, made up of men who have, either by indolence, bad judgment or extravagance and intemperance, made failures in commercial, agricultural, manufacturing or professional pursuits, is led today, as it always has been, by malignant demagogues who seek political prominence and position. These declaimers against the established order of things, who denounce the federal courts, and descant with fervor upon the iniquity of the writ of injunction, call themselves reformers. They tumidly pose as the protectors of the plain people and exhort vehemently to arouse envy and malice, in the hearts of those who have nothing

in the way of property, real or personal, against all those more successful ones who may have earned and saved capital or property.

Such men—men who decry the right of industry and frugality to acquire and hold property are a menace to society. They propose chaos and call it reform. But they would reform nothing and deform everything. They are deformers, not reformers.

SPECIAL LEGISLATION.

All laws aimed at incorporated capital with the intent of making its earnings less than that of capital in individual hands are the very worst kind of special legislation.

All burdens unjustly and unwisely laid upon capital in banking institutions, manufactories, railroads, insurance companies and telegraph and telephone companies, are ultimately unloaded upon their patrons, the plain people, the general public.

The man who borrows money pays more for its use, the man who consumes the product or employs the service pays an increased price. Equality before the law for all capital is the true policy for Nebraska and all the other half-developed sections of the Northwest. Welcome intelligence and means to our vast and fertile areas of undeveloped and inexhaustible soil.

AN EVERLASTING BLIGHT.

The Chicago platform upon which Bryan and Sewall and Tom Watson ran for office in 1896 destroyed the democratic party. That platform is an everlasting blight upon the party that promulgated it, and upon the republic which it threatens.

When the democratic party from within itself repudiates that platform it will be possible to elect a democrat to the presidency. It is not possible to so elect under any other conditions. Merely ignoring the Chicago deliverance against sound money and against the lawful and righteous functions of the federal courts will not do. Real democrats, men who believe in popular government, will never support the fallacies and vagaries of that pronouncement so long as they retain breath and reason, nor will they vote for allegedly democratic nominees until after the Chicago manifesto of 1896 shall have been renounced as a heresy and denounced as a menace to good order.