

IN BRYAN'S
BEHALF.

Julius Sterling
Morton's CON-
SERVATIVE con-

tains these remarkably conservative assertions:

"One gold democrat recently writing to another gold democrat declared that Colonel Bryan, even when he first sought office in Nebraska, unblushingly proclaimed that: 'It is the money in the office and not the honor that attracts me.'"

"If this be true of Colonel Bryan it is not at variance with his subsequent career, for the colonel looks well after the financial crops in his numerous political fields. However, neither Colonel Bryan himself, nor any well-advised friend of his, will deny that he asserted at the very beginning of his quest for office that money in office and not honor in office was the object which he sought."

Observe with what candor Mr. Morton first puts the charge in the conditional form and then assumes it as established. These are the familiar processes of the old tariff reformer and the new anti-imperialist. We don't believe there is a man in the country besides Mr. Morton and the other gold democrat whom he quotes, who is capable of swallowing this preposterous and malicious yarn. It needs but the slightest knowledge of Mr. Bryan's characteristics and career to be convinced that ambition, the honorable desire of political honor, is his master passion. He believes that the attainment of that ambition would enable him to benefit the country, and however much we must differ with him as to this, we have no sympathy with the wretched spirit that can see only the basest motives in a political opponent.

Mr. Bryan knew well before he entered into political life that he who makes such a career his main object must turn his back upon the great prizes of professional life. The law must be "no casual mistress, but a wife." A steady devotion to politics leaves too little time for more than an incidental pursuit of outside business.

Mr. Bryan could have made money if money had been his chief aim. He could make plenty of it now if that were his chief aim. But his heart is in politics. To sway the minds of millions of his countrymen and to direct or constantly seek to direct the policies of his country—this is his chief ambition as a public man. However incapable we may think him of the power to which he aspires, however much, even, of the theatrical and artificial there may be in his temperament, we don't believe it contains one jot of baseness. Neither does anybody else except the Hon. Julius Sterling Morton and his anonymous gold democrat.—New York Sun.

The Daily Sun recently published the foregoing. THE CONSERVATIVE was

conservative in its statement as to Mr. Bryan's averment that he wanted an office for the money rather than the honor it would bring. Is THE CONSERVATIVE forced to prove its assertion?

THE MACHINE-MADE LEADER.

A striking example of the machine-made leader and machine politics is Wm. McKinley. The antipode of this was Grover Cleveland. Were the people of the United States as free and independent as they profess to be they would have succeeded Mr. Cleveland by a free and independent man like Thomas B. Reed. Reed and Cleveland are leaders. The people look up to them as men of will and character; not they to the people for guidance. They are captains who guide the ship of state. The compass is the constitution. They did not look to the crew for guidance as does McKinley.

Machine politics presents many phases equally interesting and instructive. In McKinleyism the machine much resembles that modern instrument of warfare, the disappearing or invisible cannon. The real workers of the machine are not visible. The machine-made leader acts as a sort of spy to overlook the country and report to the unseen engineers. He is directed but does not direct. He studies the opinions of others, having none of his own. He is a reflector and not a generator. The machine-made leader is dangerous because the machine is a usurper and corrupter of individual sovereignty. Sovereignty means the ability to self-maintenance. McKinleyism stands for slavery and subjection on the part of the machine-made leader and the machine-corrupted people. Both are death to a free and independent manhood. In the case of the machine-made leader the machine runs the man and not the man the machine. No condition could be more contemptible. Is that Americanism? It certainly is not "the spirit of '76." The machine-made leader is the scape-goat of the machine. The machine of the republican party much resembles the notorious "flying Dutchman." It is hidden in the mists of its own corruption. The machine is the hereditary monarchy of American political life. It assumes "divine rights." The people are its subservient slaves. No matter if the engineers are changed the machine dieth not. The machine-made leader may die or be deposed but long lives the machine. The machine-made leader resembles a weak monarch ruled by an unseen cabal. McKinley resembles a plastic model moulded by machine methods. There is nothing imperial in the machine-made leader. The machine is not imperialistic, having none of the grandeur of an emperor. The machine is a usurper of the divinity that crowns the king by natural selection. The people do not elect the machine any more than they select the

machine-made leader. The machine is a usurper. It robs the people of the constitutional right to the selection of their leaders. The machine dictates, not the people. The clanking of its chains are in every state, city, village and hamlet.

Constitutional freedom is dead. The machine excommunicates the independent citizen. It denies manhood's right to free selection. Americans have largely forfeited their "birth-right." The machine-made leader is the voice of the machine and not of God. The machine knows naught of "the image;" or, if it does, entirely ignores it. It is a juggernaut crushing the divine in man, his independence, under its ponderous wheels. Manly citizenship has become next to a dead letter. We have been told that the constitution is also a "dead letter;" that the "spirit of '76" is of "no account" and "the declaration null and void." True Americanism, which says no war but in self-defense, is contemptibly thrown overboard. The ship of state is floundering in the seas of lawless anarchy. A band of piratical engineers threaten to scuttle it. It has no captain who commands, no captain to navigate it by the constitutional compass. There is mutiny on board. The piratical engineers have robbed the treasury and throttled the crew in an unconstitutional war. Their death's head and cross bones have usurped the place of the stars of the freedom. The bars alone remain as the emblem of an enslaved people. The machine-made leader calls the people to slaughter and death on the battlefield when no danger threatens them. The constitution is dragged in the dust of corruption. The time has come to declare anew an independent declaration of freedom from the machine. Down with the boss. The country needs to "rally round the flag" once more. The people must select their own leaders. Political life has become antagonistic to the law of the survival of the fittest in government. Modern civilization has become a nursery for the unfit because the people have become unfit for self-government. According to the American standard the engineers and the boss, the corrupt and corruptible are the fittest. Only an incorruptible people and incorruptible leaders are fit to survive. The machine-made leader is a weak leader. Weakness is always unfit. The machine is strong because the people are unfit. Indifference is a most dangerous form of unfitness. A strong and fit people do not need to be governed. Only the weak and unfit require control. Government is to do the will of the people, but when the people have no will government degenerates into usurpation and tyranny. Anarchy is its legitimate child.

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