

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

The following is the text of the platform adopted by the republicans at the national convention in Philadelphia, June 20th :

The republicans of the United States, through their chosen representatives, met in national convention, looking back upon an unsurpassed record of achievement and looking forward into a great field of duty and opportunity, and appealing to the judgment of their countrymen, make these declarations :

Expectation in which American people, turning from the democratic party, entrusted power four years ago to a republican chief magistrate and republican congress, has been met and satisfied. When people then assembled at polls after a term of democratic legislation and administration, business was dead, industry paralyzed and the national credit disastrously impaired. The country's capital was hidden away and its labor distressed and unemployed. Democrats had no other plan with which to improve the ruinous conditions which they had themselves produced than to coin silver at a ratio of 16 to 1. The republican party denouncing this plan as sure to produce conditions even worse than those from which relief was sought, promised to restore prosperity by means of two legislative measures—a protective tariff and a law making gold the standard of value. The people by great majorities issued to the republican party a commission to enact these laws. This commission has been executed and republican promise is redeemed. Prosperity more general and more abundant than we have ever known has followed these enactments. There is no longer controversy as to the value of any government obligations. Every American dollar is a gold dollar or its assured equivalent and American credit stands higher than that of any nation. Capital is fully employed and everywhere labor is profitably occupied. No single fact can more strikingly tell the story of what republican government means to the country than this: That while during the whole period of one hundred and seven years, from 1790 to 1897, there was an excess of exports over imports of only \$383,028,497; there has been in the short three years of the present republican administration an excess of exports over imports in the enormous sum of \$1,494,738,094, and while American people sustained by this republican legislation, have been achieving these splendid triumphs in their business and commerce, they have conducted and in victory concluded a war for liberty and human rights. No thought of national aggrandizement tarnished the high purpose with which American standards were unfurled. It was war unsought and patiently resisted; but when it came the American government was ready. Its fleets were cleared for action. Its

armies were in the field and quick the signal triumph of its forces on land and sea bore equal tribute to the courage of American soldiers and sailors and to the skill and foresight of republican statesmanship. To the ten millions of the human race there was given "a new birth of freedom" and to the American people a new and noble responsibility.

Endorse the Administration.

We endorse the administration of William McKinley. Its acts have been established in wisdom and in patriotism, and at home and abroad it has distinctly elevated and extended the influence of the American nation. Walking untried paths and facing unforeseen responsibilities, President McKinley has been in every situation a true American patriot and upright statesman, clear in vision, strong in judgment, firm in action, always inspiring and deserving the confidence of his countrymen. In asking the American people to endorse this republican record and to renew their commission to the republican party, we remind them of the fact that the menace to their prosperity has always resided in democratic principles, and no less in the general incapacity of the democratic party to conduct public affairs. Prime essential of business prosperity is public confidence in good sense of government and its ability to deal intelligently with each new problem of administration and legislation. That confidence the democratic party has never earned. It is hopelessly inadequate and the country's prosperity when democratic success at the polls is announced halts and ceases in mere anticipation of democratic blunders and failures.

Financial Plank.

We renew our allegiance to the principle of the gold standard and declare our confidence in the wisdom of legislation of the fifty-sixth congress by which the parity of all our money and the stability of our currency on a gold basis has been secured.

We recognize that interest rates are a potent factor in production and business activity and for the purpose of further equalizing and of further lowering the rates of interest we favor such monetary legislation as will enable the varied needs of season and of all sections to be properly met in order that trade may be evenly sustained, labor steadily employed and commerce enlarged. The volume of money in circulation was never so great per capita as it is today. We declare our steadfast opposition to free and unlimited coinage of silver. No measure to that end could be considered which was without the support of the leading commercial countries of the world. However firmly republican legislation may seem to have secured the country against the peril of base and discredited currency, the election of a democratic president could not fail to

impair the country's credit and to bring once more into question the intention of the American people to maintain upon the gold standard the parity of their money circulation.

Chicago Platform Intolerable.

The democratic party must be convinced that the American people will never tolerate the Chicago platform. We recognize the necessity and propriety of the honest coöperation of capital to meet new business conditions and especially to extend our rapidly increasing foreign trade, but we condemn all conspiracies and combinations intended to restrict business, to create monopolies, to limit production or to control prices, and favor such legislation as will effectually restrain and prevent all such abuses, protect and promote competition and secure the rights of producers, laborers and all who are engaged in industry and commerce. We renew our faith in the policy of protection to American labor. In that policy our industries have been established, diversified and maintained. By protecting the home market competition has been stimulated and production cheapened. Opportunity to inventive genius of our people has been secured, and wages in every department of labor maintained at high rates, higher now than ever before, always distinguishing our working people in their better conditions of life from those of any competing country. Enjoying the blessings of the American common schools, secure in the right of self-government, and protected in the occupancy of their own markets, their constantly increasing knowledge and skill have enabled them finally to enter the markets of the world. We favor an associated policy of reciprocity, so directed as to open our markets on favorable terms for what we do not ourselves produce, in return for free foreign markets. In further interest of American workmen, we favor effective restriction of immigration of cheap labor from foreign lands, extension of opportunities of education for working children, raising of the age limit for child labor, protection of free labor as against contract convict labor, and an effective system of labor insurance.

Ship Subsidy.

Our present dependence upon foreign shipping for nine-tenths of our foreign carrying is a great loss to the industry of this country. It is also a serious danger to our trade, for its sudden withdrawal in the event of European war would seriously cripple our expanding foreign commerce. The national defense and naval efficiency of this country, moreover, supply a compelling reason for legislation which will favor us to recover our former place among the trade-carrying fleets of the world.

Liberal Pensions.

The nation owes a debt of profound