

lican platform and the attitude of my party toward that question are not in harmony with my ideas, and while the attitude of the democratic party may suit me better on that point, there is little else in the platform of the latter party to which I can subscribe. Especially am I opposed to free silver at 16 to 1. No more dangerous political heresy has ever been promulgated in recent years, and the Westliche Post will look upon it as an imperative duty to fight it until it is squelched.

"Expansion is comparatively an academic question; free silver is practical. The results that will follow the one will be ultimate; the bearing of the other is direct. The common people will look upon the first named as a question for the casuists; they will view the other as having a direct influence on their daily lives and that being in such nearness of effect to them, it is of greater importance than a matter that involves principles and theories more or less abstract. Therefore, while I cannot agree with the policy of my party on expansion, I certainly can in no wise accept free silver, and to the vital and essential principles that underlie the democracy I can give a less ready assent. There are therefore, many reasons why this paper should not give support to the democratic party and but one to which it can give assent.

"As to the declarations of the two platforms on the South African war, I understand that it is necessary for the republican party to take a conservative position, it being the administration party. As far as this government is concerned it can not actively interfere in that contest, and the only thing that can be done by it or any party is to give the Boers moral support. The administration acted with great promptitude in transmitting to the Boers the funds of which I had charge, and it should be remembered that it was President McKinley who offered the good offices of this government in settling the quarrel.

"The Germans are above all else opposed to a 50 cent dollar, and while they may hold the same ideas on expansion as I do, they will see the importance of protecting the laborer through the maintenance of a sound financial system above everything else.

"Bryan and his party have made special efforts to catch the labor vote, but they will not succeed. The democratic party has become in some respects socialistic in its tendency, but it will not succeed, notwithstanding, in catching that part of the people who openly hold to socialistic theories. The socialists cast only about 200,000 votes in this country, which is a small amount, but they are likely to exert an influence wholly disproportionate to their numerical strength. The party is composed largely of men who think and discuss the problems of labor, and they there-

fore exert a marked influence in moulding the sentiment of laboring people. The socialists believe that of all things proposed, that which will most injuriously affect labor is the 50-cent dollar, and they will therefore consistently oppose Mr. Bryan and his 50-cent dollar.

"You may say that the Westliche Post will continue to support McKinley and the republican party, though it has not changed its views as to expansion, and I believe the majority of the German-American voters of the United States will do likewise."

A SCRAP FROM 1866. THE CONSERVATIVE prints from the original which has been preserved in the hands of its editor since February 6, 1866, the following proposal as to statehood. It is in the handwriting of the speaker of the house, Hon. James G. Megeath. The proposition was rejected. The constitution and officers under it were voted for on the same ticket. The constitution was declared adopted by a majority of 135. Butler, the pro-state republican, was declared governor over Morton, anti-state democrat, by 145.

A Proposition.

"If the democratic members of the house of representatives who are in favor of state, will agree to divide the question of the adoption of the state constitution from the election of officers under it and make two elections, we, the majority of the democratic members of this body, agree to go for a suspension of the rules of the house upon the passage of the state measure and if by making this division there is any loss of votes to the measure from the republican side of the house, we do solemnly promise to make up that loss by changing our votes to 'for submitting' the constitution, and we make this proposition in good faith for the preservation of our party unity and upon the honor of gentlemen.

JAMES G. MEGEATH, A. TUXBURY,
M. S. CAMPBELL, JAS. A. GILMORE,
C. O'CONNOR, FREDERICK DREXEL,
T. H. ROBERTSON, R. H. WILBUR,
JOHN JAY HART, G. C. BARNUM,
V. P. LEFLER, JAMES THORN,
LEWIS E. JONES, J. W. PADDOCK,
J. D. RAMSEY.

We, the members of the council, will abide by the above in full faith to the same course in the council.

B. E. B. KENNEDY, GEORGE FAULKNER,
C. BLANCHARD, ISAAC ALBERTSON."

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

A New York reviewer says of the situation:

"The steady continuance of large trade balances is something phenomenal, and could not have been anticipated even two years ago. Nevertheless, it is one

more manifestation of the wonderful development of the United States.

"Steam, electricity and machinery have so perfected our means of communication and production that we are in a preëminent position for competing in the world's markets.

"More and more we manufacture, first for ourselves and then for others, the products we have been accustomed to buy from abroad; our exports of manufactures having already become an important factor in the total shipments and largely accounting for the present favorable trade balance.

"As this feature of our development—the export of manufactured products—is likely to continue, it seems reasonable to expect that we shall be able to maintain our new position as a creditor nation for some time to come, if not indefinitely.

"Europe certainly cannot decrease her purchases of American food products to any considerable extent; and there being little prospect of our again importing many of the articles we have displaced, we seem to have entered a period of continued favorable trade balances."

NO STING.

Since the Honorable Gilbert Monell Hitchcock has calmly announced his candidature for the United States senate, the Hon. William Jennings Bryan cannot, when he renews his efforts to return William Vincent Allen—formerly a republican, formerly an alleged democrat, and now a miscegenetic product of confusion, fusion and populism—plead ignorance of the high ambitions of the former employer of his peerless pen. Thus "the sting of ingratitude" cannot again penetrate, with cruel venom, the delicate epidermis of G. M. H. except with the "stinger" having malice, pre-pense aforethought to make "the 'stingee' smart, burn and blister. And if Gilbert Monell Hitchcock succeeds and achieves the United States senate and leaves the Williams both, the William Jennings, and the William Vincent, in private life, there will be an antique, petrified stinger of the octopus of ingratitude forever on exhibition at the World-Herald museum. It will be framed in the subscriptions of 1896 for stock in that invaluable journal of finance, economics and consistently inconsistent politics.

PANIC.

Bryan promises absolutely to change our foreign policy. He is likewise under a thousand hotter, heavier, older promises to change our financial system.

Those who prefer a panic to prosperity and the Aguinaldoites to Americans should vote for Bryan. Only those should so vote.