

# The Conservative.

VOL. III.

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB., THURSDAY, SEPT. 20, 1900.

NO. 11.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

OFFICES: OVERLAND THEATRE BLOCK.

J. STERLING MORTON, EDITOR.

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIOLOGICAL QUESTIONS.

CIRCULATION THIS WEEK 8,000 COPIES.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

One dollar and a half per year, in advance, postpaid, to any part of the United States or Canada. Remittances made payable to The Morton Printing Company.

Address, THE CONSERVATIVE, Nebraska City, Neb.

Advertising Rates made known upon application.

Entered at the postoffice at Nebraska City Neb., as Second Class matter, July 29th, 1898.

THE REPUBLIC OF ALTGELD.

Mr. Bourke Cockran of New York, in one of his speeches in support of the gold standard, in 1896, said:

"The American people will never consent to substitute the republic of Washington, of Jefferson, of Jackson for the republic of an Altgeld, a Tillman or a Bryan."

The republic of an Altgeld, a Tillman or a Bryan is just as objectionable as it was when denounced by Cockran. If this triumvirate was dangerous then it is dangerous now. The American people should be unwilling in 1900 to make the substitution suggested by Mr. Cockran in 1896.

THOSE.

In his letter accepting the republican nomination for the presidency, Major McKinley makes a very pertinent allusion to the Bailey-Bryan style of war makers which THE CONSERVATIVE quotes without wishing to be impertinent to the sixteen to one Bryanarchists who talked for war and never walked to war. It reads:

"There are those who, two years ago, were rushing us on to war with Spain, who are unwilling now to accept its clear consequences, as there are those among us who advocated the ratification of the treaty of peace, but now protest against its complications."

It is a treat to read of those great and good statesmen who entreated the senate to ratify the treaty with Spain, and are now retreating with bedraggled banners before the consequences of their own importunities, mistakes and blunders.

**BRYAN'S WARNING.** On September 16, 1896, at Knoxville, Tennessee, Mr. Bryan gave this solemn warning to gold standard democrats:

"If there is any one who believes the Gold Standard is a good thing, or that it must be maintained, I warn him not to cast his vote for me because I promise him it will not be maintained in this country longer than I am able to get rid of it."

**SILVER SENATORS.** If Bryan is elected the financial fabric will depend upon five republican senators. If the endorsement then of five senators can be secured for silver legislation, the destruction of the gold standard will have been accomplished. Mr. Cleveland, it is known, obtained the support of enough silver senators to pass an anti-silver measure. Cannot Bryan obtain the support of enough gold senators to pass a free coinage of silver law?

**A CHALLENGE TO BRYAN.**

If when the democratic national convention met, Mr. Bryan honestly believed imperialism to be the paramount question, by making his candidature conditional upon the reiteration of the financial plank of 1896, he was guilty of a lack of patriotism in thus placing a "mere economic question" above the "safety of the republic." Or if, prior to the convention, he honestly believed this economic question to be above all others in importance, but has since undergone a change of heart and is now honest in the belief that we must this year decide irrevocably between a republic and an empire, he then owes the American people an unqualified declaration of his change of opinion. He owes to the voters of this country the positive assurance that he will not construe his election as a vindication of 16 to 1, but will regard it as a rebuke to the foreign policy of the present administration.

In his speech of acceptance Mr. Bryan censured those who still insist that this economic question

**Repudiate Silver.** is the vital one in the campaign, and accused them of a lack of patriotism in discussing such a question when the "structure of our government is in peril." Mr. Bryan ought not to do that which he censures others

for doing. He has a chance to prove the integrity of his purpose and the sincerity of his declarations. If Mr. Bryan wants the people to vote for him because the republic will go to pieces if he is not elected, let him do only that which he requests gold standard advocates to do, refrain from advocating an economic question, and assure the American people that they may save their republic by voting for him without imperiling their financial system. Will Mr. Bryan do this? Will he repudiate the financial plank of his platform? If he does not, may he not be justly charged with placing the establishment of 16 to 1 above the maintenance of the republic? Or if not this, may we not rightly question his sincerity in proclaiming that the issue this year is between a republic and an empire? May we not reasonably suspect him of using the scare of "imperialism" as a cloak to conceal the purpose most cherished by him, to place the country upon a silver basis? It is up to Mr. Bryan.

**SCHURZ AND GAGE.** Mr. Carl Schurz, in his reply to Secretary Gage unwittingly made a fatal admission when he said that the republicans at the next session of congress must securely fasten the gold standard upon the country. It is an acknowledgment that the menace of Bryanarchy to the gold standard is a real positive fact. It is an admission that Bryan would be a safe president only by making it impossible for him to do harm. Upon the same principle Mr. Schurz, if he were a banker, would lock his safe and place a highwayman in charge of the bank. The funds of the bank would no doubt be secure so long as the lock of the safe remained unmolested or the safe intact. Mr. Schurz would not be taking into account the probability of his new confilant breaking the lock or blowing up the safe. Suppose the republicans do lock up the gold standard at the next session of congress, is there any assurance that Bryan will not break the lock? As THE CONSERVATIVE pointed out last week, if Bryan is elected there is a strong probability of a free silver senate in 1901. The gold standard could then be repealed and a free coinage law passed. Then what would Mr. Schurz do? THE CONSERVATIVE believes the best policy would be to keep the "highwayman" out of the bank.