

# The Conservative.

VOL. III.

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB., THURSDAY, NOV. 1, 1900.

NO. 17.

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 9,575 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 20th, 1898.

**"IF I CAN PREVENT THE MAINTENANCE OF THE GOLD STANDARD, YOU CAN RELY ON MY DOING IT."**

"They say that I am begging for votes. Not at all. I never asked a man to vote for me. In fact, I have told some people to vote against me. That is more than most candidates do. I have said that if there was anybody who believed in the maintenance of the gold standard until foreign nations came to us and graciously permitted us to abandon it, I said that if anybody should believe that the gold standard was absolutely essential to the welfare of this country he ought to not vote for me at all. I do not want any man to vote for me and then object to my doing what I expect to do if you elect me, and if I can prevent the maintenance of the gold standard you can rely on my doing it the very first possible opportunity given me."

WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN.  
Philadelphia, Sept. 23, 1896.

"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."—Hon. William Jennings Bryan, Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 16, 1896.

**THE ISSUE.** The voters of this country will, on Tuesday, next, determine who shall guide the destiny of this republic for the next four years; whether it shall be William McKinley or William Jennings Bryan. As in the campaign four years ago so now a great political party threatens to impair the nation's currency and thus undermine and destroy the national credit. The credit of a nation is nothing more than the confidence of its own citizens and the commercial nations of the world in its financial sol-

idity and integrity. The commercial advantage to our government of the maintenance of the nation's credit upon the firm and secure foundation of the gold standard is illustrated by a comparison of the bonds of the United States with those of Mexico. United States bonds formerly drawing 3 and 4½ per cent have been refunded at 2 per cent and are today quoted at 104½, or 4½ cents above par. Mexican bonds upon the silver basis draw 5 per cent and are quoted at 42 or 58 cents below par. Not only has the credit of the national government been strengthened by maintaining the gold standard but the benign influence of a sound currency has been felt in every department of commercial and industrial life and has given us four of the most prosperous years known in our nation's history. It is a prosperity that reaches alike the man on the farm and in the factory; that has started anew the wheels of industry and has made glad the hearts of honest toilers everywhere, bringing gloom and disappointment to none save false prophets of calamity.

The only question confronting the voter is this: Does he want a change?

Does he want to  
Bryan. Mexicanize the

United States? Does he want to destroy that which is the foundation, the solid rock upon which rests the whole fabric of our nation's prosperity? Does he want to supplant prosperity with poverty? Does he want industry to give place to idleness? If so a vote for Bryan and fusion will indicate this preference. The William Jennings Bryan of 1900 is the William Jennings Bryan of 1896, who was thus characterized by Carl Schurz, in his famous speech at Central Music hall, September 5, 1896:

"Mr. Bryan has a taste for Scriptural illustration. He will remember how Christ was taken up on a high mountain and promised all the glories in the world if he would fall down and worship the devil. He will also remember what Christ answered. So the tempter now takes the American people up the mountain and says, 'I will take from you half of your debts, if you will worship me.' But then brave old Uncle Sam rises up in all his dignity, manly pride and honest wrath, and speaks in thunder tones: 'Get thee behind me, Satan. For it is written that thou shalt worship the God of Truth, Honor and

Righteousness, and Him alone shalt thou serve.'"

Today Bryan stands for the same vagary in finance for which he stood when

Unchanged. so bitterly arraigned by Schurz. He

has not made a single retraction of anything he advocated then. Instead of a retraction he has made an emphatic reiteration. In his speech at the Tammany meeting, October 27, he said:

"The democratic party is applying familiar principles to new conditions, the republican party is removing the ancient landmarks. In advocating bi-metalism we advocate a financial system whose usefulness is attested by thousands of years of history as well as by our own national experience and by the past platforms of the republican party and all other parties. In advocating the greenback we are advocating a money first issued by the republican party, approved by the supreme court and never condemned in a republican platform. In advocating an income tax we advocate a system which received the sanction of Abraham Lincoln and which is now practiced by the leading nations of Europe. In opposing government by injunction we are simply defending the jury system which has been described as the bulwark of English freedom, and it is as important here as in Europe."

In 1896 the intelligence, honesty and patriotism of the American people re-

volted against  
Crokerism. Bryanism because

it meant a dishonest currency, a corrupt and dependent judiciary, increased commercial depression and industrial paralysis. Bryanism today is precisely what it was then. The case against it is even stronger. Today, in view of present prosperity, it stands convicted of all that was alleged against it in 1896. Shall we accept now what our conscience forbade then? Shall we endorse the certificate of good character given Mr. Bryan by his friend, Richard Croker? Will the voters of this country place the stamp of approval upon this open alliance between financial lunacy and civic lewdness? If Bryanism alone was dangerous and a menace to the peace and security of the republic, is not the peril all the more intensified when with the ignorance, incompetency and hypocrisy of Bryanism are linked the viciousness, dishonor and reeking corruption of Crokerism? Can it be that "Great is Tammany and Croker is its prophet,"