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OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIOLOGICAL
QUESTIONS.

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CROWN AND CROSS.

The state democratic convention of Ohio, said in a very firm and exquisitely audible tone of voice: "We will not again press down the crown of nomination upon the brow of Blab. We shall not again crucify common sense on a cross of silver, nor make, unto ourselves, sixteen chances of defeat and disgrace to one of honor and usefulness."

MILLIONS.

There are in the United States seven hundred and eighty millions of wooden railroad ties.

Each year renewals take one hundred and twelve millions more, and their cost is sixty millions of dollars annually.

In the next twenty years the railroads of this republic must have three thousand millions more of ties. Where will they get them? Why not utilize waste right-of-way for growing catalpa ties along all lines of railway in this country?

A PSEUDOLOGIST.

No American statesman has surpassed, and only very few have equalled the populist candidate for the presidency in 1896—who was nominated a second time by that party at Sioux Falls in 1900—in attractive, captivating, and forceful pseudology. It is only fair and frank to admit that in pseudological oratory Col. Bryan is peerless, and we make this admission, with permission to all populist papers to republish the same, if they desire to do justice to a transcendent pseudomantist.

RICH REFRIGERATION.

THE CONSERVATIVE ought to coolly reproduce a few canned prophecies from the cold, calm pages of that most glacial of all iced volumes, "The First Battle," for the purpose of serving the weather frappé. Nothing this side the North Pole is more chillingly frigid, cold, glacial than the on-ice forecasts as to silver, prosperity and calamity, made by the peerless one in 1896 and always attainable in "The First Battle."

PERSONAL.

The Daily Chicago Tribune of the 10th of July, 1901, contains a very correct portrait of Joy Morton, a very complimentary notice of his character and achievements as a man of business and some inconsequential errors as to his boyhood and youth at Arbor Lodge. Nevertheless, THE CONSERVATIVE is gratified to observe that in Chicago, the "young man Absalom," even when grown on a Nebraska farm, can, with industry, ability, truthfulness and honesty, get on and win out, populism and its prophet, to the contrary, notwithstanding.

A COMBINATION.

There is no capitalistic combine in the United States which makes so much out of so small an invested amount of money as the trust in pseudology at Lincoln, Nebraska. It is owned and operated by one man and pays enormously. It contains aerated stock, is pseudophonic, and irresistibly charming, when expounded and explained, as to its purity of unselfishness, its love of the plain people, and its hatred of the dollar-above-the-man, by that peerless pseudomantist, whom the Honorable Gumbo Billstone, of Missouri, with beautiful originality, delightfully describes as a young eagle screaming and soaring through the skies with the Stars and Stripes flaming from his stump-speaking beak.

APPLES.

The well-tilled orchards in Nebraska will give a far better yield, according to the observation and experience of THE CONSERVATIVE, in the year 1901 than those which are in grass. Out of four orchards at Arbor Lodge, the one which has been most cultivated will make the best

and the one that has been least worked the worst return.

The New York Evening Post of July 5th last says:

"Few people, probably, appreciate the importance of the apple crop in this country. In value it exceeds even the wheat crop. Last year, for instance, the apple crop was 215,000,000 barrels, or 538,000,000 bushels. At a base of \$2 per barrel, which is considered a conservative estimate, the crop netted \$430,000,000, or nearly one hundred and seven million dollars more than the value of the wheat. On a percentage basis the apple crop reaches nearly 50 per cent. more than the wheat. Our export of apples in the barrel exceeds four million barrels a year, and is increasing enormously. Our apples have a fixed value from Liverpool to St. Petersburg, and last year shippers to foreign ports experienced considerable difficulty in supplying the demands. This trade had grown for several years, but took an enormous bound after the Paris exposition, owing to the fine American display and the manner and energy in which American fruit-growers presented the merits of the American apple.

WHY NOT?

If an allegedly democratic convention could and did nominate a populist to the presidency, in 1896 and in 1900, why may not the same political agglomeration, under hypnotic control and direction of its former populist candidate, name Judge John M. Harlan of the United States supreme court, a republican, for the presidency in 1904?

He has been suggested for the nomination by the commoner sort of populists already and "the plain people" could soon come to regard him as more than peerless. Like many gold democrats, Judge Harlan voted for McKinley and has, in fact, been always a republican. But, if having run a populist twice for the presidency, the party now puts up a republican it may, by evolutionary processes, finally place a democrat at the head of its national ticket, during the next decade. Why not?

That great and good book, full of truthfulness and exuberant prophecies, "The First Battle", was not quoted at the recent democratic convention at Columbus, in the state of Ohio. Some of those democrats, called gold-bugs, of whom Bryan said: "They shall not come back," seemed to have crawled in under the canvas and created a disturbance.