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Great Silver Debate.

—BETWEEN—
MR. W. H. HARVEY

—AND—
HON. EDWARD ROSEWATER

Stenographic Report
of the Debate at
Urbana, Ill., Aug.
15, 1896.

MR. HARVEY'S SECOND REJOINER.

Tries to Fortify the Statements as to the Effect of Free Coinage Which
His Opponent Attacked and Understood.

Mr. Harvey, answering Mr. Rosewater's second speech, said:
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: I am going to answer rapidly many of the objections that have been made to free coinage of silver in order that I may come to the more serious objections and that had not been raised and that I know are in your minds.

First, the gentleman says that I am mistaken as to Jefferson's reason for closing the mints. I hold in my hand a printed extract from the message of Jefferson to congress at that time, in which he says in substance as follows: "On account of the scarcity of change among the people and on the request of bankers and others to stop the exportation of such silver as may be coined into fractional money I direct that the mints cease the coinage of silver dollars and coin all silver that comes to the mints in fractional silver coin."

He says that silver bullion owners are to be benefited by the free coinage of silver and that it is a scheme in their behalf. The answer to that is this: When a nation decides what its money shall be it decides it for the benefit of civilization—for you and for me; and it makes no difference who may own the substance which the nation decides shall be for the benefit of civilization made into money. And no objection can be made to it, because it may in a measure benefit persons who own that substance. And I dismiss it with this observation: If the free coinage of silver is in the interests of the silver bullion owners, in whose interest is the free coinage of gold as we have it now, but the interests of the gold bullion owners? (Applause.) It is trifling and begging of the question stated to arouse the prejudice of the people against the silver bullion owners when the very same principle is now in our monetary system by the free coinage of gold, and is benefiting the gold bullion owners, if that is a fact. If that argument is true, then demote both of them. (Applause.)

Let us proceed fairly, ladies and gentlemen: This is a serious question. If falling prices or the present low prices continue it means the extinction of civilization in the United States. Your debts will deprive you of your homes. Business will be paralyzed. The wheels of commerce will stop. We will come to a standstill, with a moneyed aristocracy in this country owning our lands and our property. (A voice: "That's a plain case.") This is a serious question. The fall of prices at the time of the Roman republic by the lessening of the production of the gold and silver of the world caused the money lenders of Rome to come into the ownership of all the property of the farmers of the Roman republic and that republic fell; and in a people began to have financial system that did not end until there was an extinction of reading, writing and printing. This is a question of civilization. Political questions as a rule are questions of civilization.

He says money is not made by law. Money is made by law. The stamp on the coins does not add to the value of the bullion in them. But this is what it does: It adds to the demand for the bullion. When you open the mints to the free coinage of gold and silver, as they are now open to gold, you make a new use for silver that it didn't have before. When you make a new use for an unlimited demand when the supply is considered—you increase the value of it and give a fixed value to it. Gold today is money by law. It is the law that requires the redemption of all money in gold as our currency money is now. It is the law that makes gold the money of the world. It is the law that makes gold money, and it was law that made gold and silver both money when they were both primary money. Money is made by law. When we had neither gold nor silver, law made the greenbacks money and we did business with them. (Applause.) The money lenders of the world have in time enslaved the people and the question today is whether the intelligence of the people of the world is sufficient to grapple with this question and to analyze and settle it. It is not a question of your intelligence to do it, but outside of your vocation, which you must study and master, have you time left to master this question. They are backed by unlimited wealth and with speakers to misrepresent and to present false logic to the people.

He says it is a lack of confidence that has caused low prices and hard times. We should not have a financial system that agitation could disturb and destroy prices. (Applause.) It is a fallacy and reminds me of a duck that had left her nest and on coming back found that a fox had eaten up the eggs and left the shells only. And the fox said to the duck when she began to lament: "Sit on the shells and have perfect confidence, and the little ducks will be hatched. All that is necessary is confidence." (Laughter and applause.)

He says the farmers can borrow money now. That there is plenty of money. Let me remind you, citizens of this country, that it is not borrowing money, or lending money, that makes prosperity. It is money seeking investment that makes prosperity. When the people have borrowed money until they have exhausted their collateral then comes paralysis and the end of the government of such a people. It is money seeking investment that makes business and not money for loan. Ladies and gentlemen, who belong to the Christian religion, Christ understood this subject and said that the men who act as leeches upon the blood of civilization and hoarded money to lend would destroy the prosperity of the people, and, if persisted in, ultimately destroy civilization.

He says insurance policy holders will suffer by reason of what he calls depreciated money. Let me say to the policy holders of life policies that if these hard times continue you will find it impossible to pay your premiums and will forfeit what you have paid. (Applause.)

He says that the pensioners want a money that they can buy so much with—their money that the money lenders have. Let me say to that gentleman that the honor and integrity of those men who took their lives in their hands and went forth to the salvation of this nation are in favor of the money that was pronounced honest by Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln. A money that has grown so dear that in order to pay your taxes and debts the property of you people will be confiscated is not an honest money and no pensioner is going to sustain it. It is the man who has a fixed income who clips coupons, that wants low prices (applause) and wants to be able to buy the earth with his enchanced dollar.

A QUESTION OF EXCHANGE.

This is a question of an exchange of property for money and money for property, and they have got you down where you have to give two quantities of property for one quantity of money—where one quantity of their money will get two quantities of your property, whereas before it only got one quantity. It is the exchange of money for property where the owners of money are benefited—not only the owners of money, but the owners of bonds, payable in money that will enslave your children, time out of mind, before it will be paid, with low prices.

He says silver has been coined since 1873, more than it ever was before. The answer to that is this: When you make silver token money, redeemable in gold, you might as well stamp leather, tin or pewter, as to stamp silver. It is useless expense to purchase silver in order to make token money redeemable in gold. Under the free coinage of both metals both stood on their own feet, both were money, neither redeemable in the other, and when you reverse that condition and make silver token money, it is useless expense, and it makes no difference how much of it you coin. The more you coin, if it passes beyond the proportion of redemption money in the country, the worse it is for it. It shakes confidence in the ability of the government to redeem it. Silver, as token money, redeemable in gold, is one thing, and silver standing on its own feet as primary money is another thing.

They say that the United States cannot go it alone. I want to know if you want to go it alone on gold any longer. (Applause.) The answer to it is this: When the United States says, as it did before, that 37½ grains of silver, coming to the mint, shall be coined into a dollar no man will take less than a dollar for that much silver, and that will fix the price of it in the United States, as it now fixes the price of gold under the law that 23-24 grains of gold, coming to the mint, shall be coined into a dollar.

The further answer is this, that the capacity of the United States to absorb money and to circulate it is sufficient to make the demand upon the silver of the world so great as to fix its price relatively with gold. And for you to understand how the demand is to affect it I remind you again of the limited quantity of silver in the world available for use as money on which that demand of the United States is to operate. And when you throw the mints of the United States open to silver as they are now open to gold, it means to all the world, "bring your silver here and coin it into money if you want to." If they undertake to flood us with silver, under free coinage, the government buys none, it goes back into the possession of the man who brings it and the foreigner who brings his silver here and has it coined into money receives it back into his own pocket and exchanges it for our products and takes them home with him. It is the only thing he can do with it, and the only temptation for him to bring it here. That he can exchange it as money for our products. We raise and produce enough every year in the United States from our fields and factories to take all the silver in the world available for use as money to pay for it. And such a nation can fix the price of silver the world over. (Applause.)

If they undertake to flood us with their silver and deprive themselves wholly of the use of it, we could give them in exchange for it in a single year property enough to take it all and the next year raise the same amount of property over again and say to them, "If you have any silver left, bring it on." (Applause.)

It is the demand of such a nation that can fix the price of silver. Mexico cannot do it, because Mexico has not the exportable wealth with which to do it. The United States can do it because it has that exportable wealth. For fifty years, beginning after the French wars, France and the Latin union, with less than one-half the population of the United States, fixed the commercial value of gold and silver at the ratio of 15½ to 1, their legal ratio, and it remained at that steadily, and that was what made the 3 per cent premium on our silver. What the Latin union can do—in the way of absorbing that silver block in the world by fixing a demand for it—the Latin union can do, the United States can do.

England in 1816 established what is called the Pease act. It required the Bank of England to pay £3 3 shillings and 17 pence for each ounce of gold presented at the Bank of England. That was what was called their free coinage law. From that day to this that act has fixed the price of gold the world over.

England has a commerce in the world, an importance in the trade of the world, and her manufacturers produced enough to make a demand that would fix the price on that limited product. And from that day to this that has been the price of gold the world over. Where is a man in patriotic America who will say that what England can do the United States cannot do. (Applause.)

ENGLAND CITED AS A PRECEDENT.

What England has done for gold in fixing its price the United States can do for silver. They say that we must have the consent of the monarchies of Europe before we can establish an independent financial system. Americans, that proposition is seriously made in the United States, in a country where in the life of our own citizens we have shown our independence of the balance of the world by having a money of our own during that time we did the most prosperous business with the balance of the world that we ever did before or since. There is no such thing as international money. And when the proposition is made that we cannot fix our own financial

system, and must get the consent of foreign nations before we can fix a financial system, then we are not yet free. If that is true, from Europe and we need a second declaration of independence. (Applause.) Ladies and gentlemen of Illinois, when you go to your homes think of it, that in the United States today we are considering the proposition that we are dependent on the permission of the legislative powers of Europe to fix the most important branch of our legislative service in the United States. Think of it, republicans who followed Lincoln, that in this year, 1896, in order to advocate the cause of McKinley you must advocate the cause of Queen Victoria. (Applause.) That you are letting a great nation eat us up, because we have established a dear dollar that absorbs your wheat, your cotton, your oats and corn at two or three times as much as it formerly did, with which to pay them interest on what they loaned us, is a trick and a scheme which the people of the United States have been drawn; a scheme equalled by no human game ever played by a citizen of a city upon a countryman. By insidiously lowering the price of the people's property and at the same time getting them in debt.

They say that the election of a free coinage president and congress will bring on a panic. The next day after that election, if a free coinage president and congress be elected, the danger will have passed. Silver will begin to rise and the rise of silver means the fall of gold. (Great applause.) Failing gold means that it will come out of its hoarding. It is appreciating money that is hoarded. It is falling money that rushes into investment and goes rapidly into circulation. When you put silver again into competition with gold as money, you have settled this question. It is silver and gold in competition with each other to supply the people with money that fixes and takes the enhanced value out of either metal which may seek to rise. Silver will begin to advance and other property will advance with it as it falls with it. It means the decline of gold and gold going into circulation. You will buy gold for less than you can buy it now. Gold is now at a premium of 100 per cent over the price of 1873, when silver was in competition with it in the markets of the world. And when silver is in competition with it again it will come down.

Suppose, now, you give to the farmer \$1 of gold, that is the 100 per cent premium, whereas you only gave one bushel before. Suppose it don't come down to a parity with silver, but stops at 25 per cent premium over silver, and you sell your bushel of wheat at \$1, and with that dollar you buy 75 cents in gold, whereas now you can't buy but 50 cents in gold. With free silver, then, if gold is at a premium, you will exchange your property for more gold than you exchange it for now. Then if you exchange it first for the silver, and with that silver you buy the gold, you are then getting silver to pay your gold debts. The honor is preserved, the debt is paid in gold. We will put silver into competition with gold and use it for all the purposes as money where we have not been tied up to you in gold contracts, and we will take that much strain off from gold, and that will bring gold down, and then if it is still at a premium we will buy the gold and take it to you.

They say that the election of a free silver president and congress will cause a run on the United States treasury for gold and it will be wiped out in a day, and that will make a panic.

If the great voice of the American people says that silver is to be restored to its time honored position and the next day Wall street bankers come to Washington with their greenbacks and other money and demand gold, I will tell you what ought to happen. The spirit of old Andrew Jackson ought to rise behind the counter of the treasury of the United States, and if the treasurer or assistant treasurer didn't say to the banker, "this is a republic, and the people of this great republic have spoken, and I want to call your attention to the fact that the greenbacks are present for gold all for coin and not for gold;" and if that assistant treasurer does not upon the edict of the people say that coin means gold or silver and shove silver out at the Wall street banker, the spirit of old Andrew Jackson ought to break the necks of both of them with a hickory stick. (Applause.)

PREDICTS THE EFFECT OF FREE SILVER.

From that moment the bankers will go back to Wall street, when silver is shoved at them, and say that silver is just as good as gold. (Applause.) Because they will know that their money is going to be paid in that kind of metal and it is to their interest not to depreciate it. Just as they are now going behind the United States treasury and dumping their gold in in exchange for other money for fear that an issue of bonds pending this campaign might run you all crazy and cause you all to vote for Bryan. When it is to their interest to get behind the money of the American people they are going to get behind it, but so long as you let them run that currency of gold, human selfishness will cause them to corner it and pump the gold out of the United States treasury and back in again at a profit of \$10,000,000 semi-annually to them. (Applause.) And as you submit to this, republicans, democrats and populists of Champaign county, they will increase these bond issues until they secure all the gold and ship it to Europe to pay interest on the shuttle cock passing through the loom.

I want in the progress of this debate to refer to the effect of demonetization upon the farmer. I will say this: They say to you farmers you can sell your wheat for 50 cents, but you can buy as much calico or cotton goods and so on with it as you could with dollar wheat, and then they say to you, where are you hurt? Here is where you are hurt: You can't pay the taxes with your bushel of wheat that you could in 1873. It now requires two and three bushels of wheat to pay the same taxes that one bushel of wheat would have paid before silver was demonetized. Salaries have not been reduced. Fellow citizens, I feel that you are all interested in this question, for it involves the life of the republic. The breaking down of all republics has been accompanied by financial despotism and official ostracism. The hand of vanity has gone with the hand of greed. Capital and money lenders, prompted by selfishness, catered to by the vanity of office-seekers, until today men in this country and other countries, in all human probability a small percentage of them are still right good men, except in Chicago, where, I think, about 99 per cent of them have gone wrong, but for the sake of a constabulary or a seat in the legislature men in a political party will swallow any platform created by the patrons and trusts in a national convention, even if it compels him to swallow Queen Victoria, the Emperor William and all the potentates of Europe. (Applause.) And with that selfishness there comes official favoritism and with that comes the raising of salaries. Instead of the reduction of them. Whereas 17,000 bushels of wheat would have paid the president's salary of \$25,000 in 1873, it now takes 100,000 bushels of wheat to pay his salary of \$50,000. And his salary was raised from \$25,000 to \$50,000 by the same congress that demonetized silver. (Applause.) You can't pay your taxes, you can't pay your debts, you can't get on a Pullman car and ride for any less than you did in 1873. Of the thousand and one things controlled by corporations and trusts—and if this combine that is now managed on the one side by the head of the Steel trust and supported by \$200,000,000 contributed by the other trusts come into power by the election of November, all of the products of the country will pass under the control of trusts and the people will be helpless and paralyzed, and prices will be as the trusts dictate.

Now you farmers may buy cotton goods and calico, but you can't pay your taxes, you can't pay your debts, you can't buy any of those things used by trusts, and in the end, as in other republics, you will be the nether millstone.

You are the greatest men in the republic. The farmers of every republic are the mainstay and have the greatest intelligence, and I have confidence in them this year, that they cannot be deceived, and I expect in future generations, if we solve this question rightly, that when peace and prosperity comes in a higher state of civilization, that our posterity will look back without understanding the specious arguments that are made upon the other side, and wonder how the people of the world staked their whole financial system for the transportation of all their business upon a metal the cube of which was twenty-two feet long. (Applause.)

Exercise your reason. Let not political leaders lead you. They are controlled consciously or unconsciously by selfishness, more or less. It is you who have to suffer most, and resort to your reason. This is simply a question of exchange of property of the money dealer for your property, and his crop is enormous. His crop is, if I am right, more than the total assessed value of all the property of the United States. Admittedly by the gentleman, it is one-half that much.

MR. ROSEWATER CONCLUDES HIS ARGUMENT.

Exposes the Fallacies and Contradictions of the Demand for Unlimited Coinage at the Ratio of 16 to 1.

Mr. Rosewater then closed his side of the debate as follows: (He was greeted with great applause.)

It was not my desire, and is not my intention to discuss the candidacy of William McKinley in connection with this debate, but when any man drags in the name of Abraham Lincoln to bolster up this scheme, I say: Palsied be the tongue that would tarnish his reputation with any proposition that is conceived in dishonesty, and has for its object repudiation and dishonor.

Harvey: I did not use Lincoln's name in any manner, only—
Rosewater: You said Lincoln would do this same thing.

Rosewater: I have heard on two occasions the name of Abraham Lincoln brought into this debate. It was my good fortune to come in contact, in an humble capacity, with Abraham Lincoln in the War department, and I won't allow any man to impute dishonest motives to him on any occasion.

(Harvey advanced on the platform, and a general disturbance ensued for a few minutes.)
Rosewater: Whatever Abraham Lincoln might have said or done in the present campaign nobody could tell at this day, and nobody has a right to connect his name with it. I am in position, however, to read to you what the son of Abraham Lincoln thinks about the proposition to open the mints of the United States to free silver. Let me read to you part of a letter which relates to this subject. "I was brought up to trust the fundamental good sense and honesty of the American people, and I cannot believe that such a transparently jobbing and dishonest scheme as this will meet their approval. It is on one hand a job to give to mine owners a fictitious price for their product, to which they have no more right than the producer of any other mineral; and on the other hand it is dishonest because it is an attempt to force a settlement of public debt, and many private debts, with hardly more than one-half of the silver agreed to wish to force our government to repudiate its plain obligations, or to disavow their own. Rare strength of numbers could not mitigate the offense to universal morality nor avert the inevitable consequent disaster. Its commission would set us back in progress and prosperity, and put us in a sinkhole from which we could not emerge in a generation, and then the only way, by a reversal of our course, at a frightful cost to those on whom we are going off the stage, leave the burden."

This letter bears the signature of Robert T. Lincoln, and dated Chicago, May 31, 1896.

I want to challenge the correctness of my friend's last definition of bimetalism. Every bimetalist, of reputation, in Europe controverts his position, and all of them concur in saying that "without the aid of any other nation we cannot maintain the metals at a parity at 16 to 1."

Here is what Mr. Herbert Spencer says:
"From the time when they tried to fix the value of money down to our day, when they just abandoned the attempt to fix the price of corn, statesmen have been undertaking all kinds of things and have been constantly falling into the same old different results from those intended. Nevertheless, such innumerable faith have men had in the efficacy of their schemes, that although they see this, and although they are daily hearing of the failures of public departments, yet government needs but to announce another plausible project, and men straightway hurrah and throw up their caps, in full expectation of getting all that is promised."

Dr. Otto Arentz, member of the Parliament of Germany, who has been laboring

for the last twenty years for bimetalism, declares in the June number of the North American Review that unlimited coinage by the United States, acting without concurrence of any other nation, would result disastrously to the cause of bimetalism, because it would put the United States on a silver basis the same as Mexico. This view is also held by Prof. Francis A. Walker and other scientists recognized authority who have thoroughly studied the subject. It is purely a political scheme designed for political ends and not for the promotion of the public welfare. (Applause.)

Mr. Harvey asserts that gold was given a fixed value in 1816, when England adopted the gold standard, and has retained that value ever since. Is this true, what is my friend talking about? If gold has not changed in value, what has become of the 200-cent dollar? (Applause.) If this theory is correct, and I cheerfully concede that it is, gold is where it has been all the time, and the talk about the 200-cent dollar is all buncombe. One theory has been confirmed by experience. You cannot fix the value of any commodity by law, whether used as a money medium or not. Its value is fixed by general use, and the use of any commodity is increased by cheapening its price. When you raise the price of any commodity you decrease its use. Why is it silver spools are to be found in the households of thousands of common people? It is because they are cheaper now than formerly. Mr. Harvey does not want to recognize the effect of aluminum on the price of silver. Aluminum is only 25 cents a pound. He don't want to admit that silver has depreciated because the conditions of production have changed. He don't concede that silver production has been cheapened by chemical process and mechanical ingenuity, which enable mine owners to lay down silver at the mint at half the former cost, and some mines have turned out silver at as low as 13 cents an ounce.

Mr. Harvey says that the day after Bryan's election—if such a thing could be possible—gold would go down to go down. He means, of course, gold, as measured by silver, would go down; or, rather, that silver would begin to go up. But silver would not go up to an old standard of gold, therefore would still be at a premium over silver. If that was not so, then all his heartfelt appeals on behalf of the debtor class would be wasted, since there would be no advantage to the debtor if silver went up to its old price. When there is even 2 per cent difference between gold and silver gold goes out of circulation, and we are then on a silver basis, with our volume of money shrunk by fully one-half. But my friend does not pretend to be a financier. Let him ask the financial heads of the world, and let them say what they think of the scheme. They would tell him that gold could not fall to a parity with silver by fiat of any government. Mexican mine owners have all the advantage of unlimited and free coinage, but they haul their silver bullion to Omaha and ship it in bars to England. They say Mexico is a little country and we are big. It is patriotic to say America against the world! I am one of those who would like to stand up for America against the world, but I would not stand in front of a locomotive when it is in full motion if it could help it. I would not jump off the bridge at Niagara if I was sane. I know my friend is holding back his lurid picture of the crime of 1873 for his last speech, so I will throw a little daylight on the crime in advance. I make bold to assert that the whole story of the crime is a fiction concocted for political ends and purposes.

THE SO-CALLED "CRIME OF 1873."

Mr. Harvey knows that the director of the mint in his official report in 1861, twelve years before the passage of the coinage act of 1873, recommended that the gold dollar should be the only standard of value, and that all the other silver coins, including the dollar of 384 grains, should be subsidiary. He knows or he ought to know that the recommendation then made by the director of the mint was again repeated in the official reports of the Treasury department in 1866 and in 1870, seven and three years respectively before the passage of the act of 1873. He knows that the secretary of the treasury called special attention to the coinage act then pending in congress in his report for 1870. He knows that seven different officials and ex-officials of the treasury gave their views to congress in reference to the omission of the silver dollar from the coinage. And right here I have the document itself. It is the official report of the secretary of the treasury containing all the correspondence with experts, each giving his views regarding the proposed change in the coinage laws. And this report also contains a copy of the original bill as drawn up by Deputy Comptroller John W. Knox. Mind you, this original bill and all these documents are dated 1870, three years before the act was passed, and the section relating to the gold dollar becoming the unit of value is in this bill exactly as it was finally passed. He knows as well as any man knows that the act which afterward became the coinage act of 1873 was printed thirteen times, with amendments which were made from time to time by order of congress. He knows that the bill was finally printed January 21, 1873, four days after the last discussion took place in the senate. He knows that these thirteen bills contained a clause making the gold dollar the only unit of value.

Mr. Harvey knows that from 1870 to 1873, while the bill was pending in congress, neither Senator Stewart nor any one of the other five Pacific coast senators, nor any one of the representatives from the silver states ever proposed an amendment to insert a silver dollar of 412½ grains, or even inquired if that dollar was contained in those various bills. He knows that the trade dollar of 420 grains was substituted for the silver dollar of 384 grains, to be legal tender for \$5, upon the request of Cashier Ralston of the Bank of California, and in accordance with a resolution of the California legislature, which was passed on January 10, 1873. Senator Stewart and all the other senators representing the silver states then in congress voted for the bill making the gold dollar the only standard of value. He knows that those senators and representatives of the silver states more than once voted for the bill which limited the legal tender quality of silver to \$5. He knows that the silver legislation contained in the coinage act of 1873 was intended to increase the use of silver for coinage purposes. He knows that the effect of that act was to coin \$83,000,000 of silver in less than six years, \$34,000,000 of which was trade dollars and \$49,000,000 of which was fractional parts of a dollar, while silver was pretended to be demonetized. The San Francisco dollar, which previously had coined very little silver, coined 26,500,000 of these trade dollars and several millions were coined at Carson, Nevada. All this was done to help the bonanza mine owners.

When my friends come to tell you the story of the conspiracy and the crime of 1873 you will also hear the names of dead men who cannot talk for themselves cited as witnesses to prove the pretended conspiracy. They make Schuyler Colfax act as messenger from Abraham Lincoln to the people of Colorado and Nevada and the mining states, and this is really the only thing the silverites have to bring in the name of Lincoln. When Colfax was about to start across the continent at the close of the war Lincoln is represented as saying to him that he desired him to bear this message: "I hope that the western states will prosper and grow; that the miners will be developed and that the precious metals mined in the Rocky mountains and Pacific coast states will help us to pay the national debt." Nothing about paying the debt with 50-cent dollars. And then they turn right in to impeach the character of their own witnesses and denounce Schuyler Colfax as one of the tools of the conspirators who helped to smuggle the gold standard coinage bill through the senate. As vice president of the United States Colfax presided over the senate, but he had no control of legislation. He was simply a figurehead. He was not an autocrat, like the speaker of the house, who can make or unmake laws. In spite of this, the name of Colfax has been smirched by champions of free coinage, because they must paint the congress of 1873 as black as possible. They represent that congress as the credit moblier congress when in fact the Credit Moblier scandal attached to the congress of 1867. The congress of 1873 investigated Credit Moblier and exposed the frauds perpetrated by it.

It is commonly charged that the act of 1873 was sneaked through after being defeated, and Senator Allison's name is brought into prominence as the man who had charged that was the case.

The debate as reported by the Congressional Globe proceeds as follows:
"Here Mr. Sargent interrupted: It was amended in the senate and went to a committee of conference; if that is 'doctored,' and the committee of conference was constituted by the two houses, I should like to know if the words 'doctored' applies to our legislation here, where there has been three or four days' debate?"

To this Mr. Allison replied:
"I said I used the word in no offensive sense. It was changed after discussion and the dollar of 420 grains (i. e., the trade dollar) was substituted for it."

What was that dollar? The 375-grain dollar subsidiary coin that could not be made a legal tender.

So that the very passages used to prove that the act of 1873 was surreptitiously passed, when looked up and their context is given, disclose evidence that the bill received full discussion. Even Senator Allison pointed this out.

All references to Mr. Blaine's part in the crime are equally deceptive and unwarranted. In former debates Mr. Harvey served up a garbled quotation from the Congressional Globe of February 15, 1873. He said: "The bill was read, every section and every line of it at the clerk's desk aloud." He declared that Mr. Kelley, Mr. Potter and Mr. Hooper called attention to the omission of the silver dollar of 412½ grains. He referred to the Congressional Globe and to the daily newspapers of the time to prove that the bill was read at length. Moreover he stated that Mr. Neely of Illinois on the day that the bill passed announced to the house that he had carefully examined every section and every line of the bill. Finally Mr. Blaine closed: "So that all that has been made out of that, all that has been made out of any stealthy effort to pass that bill, has no foundation whatever."

Then in the Congressional Record, page 1,063, Forty-fifth congress, second session, volume 7, part 2, Mr. Blaine says: "I think the senator from Indiana, Voorhees, will agree with me that it has been very widely stated and has been the hinge on which the accusation has hung that that bill was never read in the house; that was passed stealthily and furtively; now I maintain that I have utterly disproved that charge."

Garfield DENIES ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.
If anything further is needed to disprove that there was a conspiracy, I have it here. "Works of James Abram Garfield, volume II, page 213:
"On the 13th of December, 1876, a bill to utilize the products of gold and silver mines, and for other purposes, introduced by Mr. Bland of Missouri at the previous session of the Forty-fourth congress, was pending."

In discussing this measure, General Garfield said:
"It is impossible within the brief space we have even to go carefully through the history of the legislation which has brought us where we are. That legislation has been denounced as a legislative trick, as a delusion, as something intended to cheat the American people. I will not even on this occasion go so far as the gentleman who advocated, if he did not introduce the original bill, but let me read from the Congressional Globe of April 9, 1877, the reason given by him for its passage. I read the language of my friend from Pennsylvania, Mr. Kelley, who now sits near me. 'I wish to ask the gentleman who has just spoken, Mr. Potter, if he knows of any government in the world which makes its subsidiary coinage of full value. The silver coin of England is 10 per cent below the value of gold coin, and acting under the advice of the experts of this country and of England and France, Japan has made her silver coinage within the last year 12 per cent below the value of gold coin, and for this reason it is impossible to retain the double standard. The values of gold and silver continually fluctuate. You cannot determine this year what will be the relative value of gold and silver next year. They were 15 to 1 a short time ago. They are 16 to 1 now. Hence all experience has shown that you must have one standard coin which shall be a legal tender for all measures, and then you may promote your domestic convenience by having a subsidiary coinage of silver which shall circulate in all parts of your country as legal tender for a limited amount, and be redeemable at its face value by your government."

"But, sir, I again call the attention of this house to the fact that the gentleman who

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WASHED AWAY BY A FLOOD

John Knight and an Unknown Mexican Are Known to Have Been Drowned.

NEW MEXICO MINING CAMP DESTROYED

Solid Wall of Water Eight Feet High Rushes Down the Mountains, Carrying Death and Destruction Before It.

DENVER, Aug. 20.—A special to the Times from Mogollon, N. M., says a terrible cloudburst struck that place about 4 p. m. yesterday, leaving death and destruction behind it. John Knight, a miner, who resided at Georgetown, was drowned in his cabin. Several others are reported missing, but so far only two bodies, those of Knight and an unknown Mexican, have been recovered. These were found in a field about six miles below. About 100 families have been rendered homeless and thirty houses washed away. Property of the Colonial Mining company of Boston, Mass., has suffered to a large extent, the assay office, mill house, powder house and blacksmith shop being washed away. It is feared the mine is filled with mud and water.

The manager and assayer had a narrow escape, being assisted to the bank by means of ropes. The Deep River Mining company of Kansas City lost its main office and assay office. A deep canyon between high mountains, the flood attained a height of over eight feet in the street and lasted over thirty minutes. Had its continuance been ten minutes longer the whole town would have been swept away. Some debris had collected in the street, forming a solid wall just as the flood began to recede. Hardly a business house in the town escaped damage.

The wagon road leading up the mountain to the town, which was built a few years ago at immense cost, and which is the only outlet for freight, has been entirely ruined, and all goods brought into the camp will have to be brought in on pack animals.

The storm was general to this section of the territory. A cloudburst from Graham state that at about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon a cloudburst on the mountain side caused a flood at the Confidence mine, a property belonging to the Mogollon Mining company of Denver, Colo., situated about three miles from there. The flood carried away the shop and supplies of the mine.

Nine horses that were at the ore chutes leading over for the mill were washed over the steep precipice and killed. The men working at the tunnel barely escaped with their lives.

It is feared that great damage is done on the other side of the Mogollon district. Nothing definite can be learned on account of telephone communication being broken.

It is feared the loss of life around Mogollon will be much greater than first reports make it. There were at least twenty persons, mostly miners, who were killed on the track of the great wall of water. They occupied for the most part adobe dwellings. These have been swept away and their occupants cannot be heard from. Some of these may have been warned in time to get out of the way, but it is certain that a number have perished.

The loss to the mining companies will amount to thousands of dollars. Expensive machinery had lately been put in the mines, and much of this is a total wreck.

POLITICS IN THEIR LEISURE TIME.

Government Officials Aiding Bryan's National Committee.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20.—Department clerks are agitating the question of their rights to assist after office hours the campaign committees of the several political parties. The democratic congressional committee, it is said, is short of funds and a large share of its work in the way of distributing literature and performing other duties, who serve without pay, and most of whom are employed in the government departments. It is estimated that by this means the committee has been saving \$125 per day. Some question has arisen as to whether or not this service did not constitute an offensive partisanship and constitute a cause for removal, under the civil service act. A number of the chief department officials have been interviewed on the subject and nearly all of them express the opinion that the matter is one concerning which the clerks may do as they please and that they have no right to prescribe what the clerks shall make of their time after office hours. The chief of the official clerks, who inquired of them, that personally they had no objections, but that there was a possibility some one might make trouble for them by their action in their political zeal. Chairman Faulkner of the democratic congressional committee and the committee and that it proposed to protect them in that right.