

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

# Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

in this free and enlightened country. The Chicago mass meeting had all the temper of terrorism and revolt that characterized the Commune, but it lacked the intelligence of the Commune and it cannot be that this nation, founded in the great principle of republicanism, is to be dominated by the spirit of secession and demolition which if successful, would have its logical end in monarchical despotism. All the lessons of the last one hundred and twenty-five years are not to be disregarded and the country passed over to belated Robespierres who would crucify this republic on the cross of anarchy. The hot wind that blew from Chicago the other day has had a blighting effect, but deep-rooted in the sober consciousness of the American people there is a strong, rugged, valiant, love of country, respect for law and order that cannot be destroyed by any wind or wave of outlawry, however torrid or turbulent and as this abnormal current spends its force, and it has already begun to lose its first vitality, there will arise a deep and ardent patriotism such as has not been seen in this country since '61, and the reflex movement of common sense, sobriety and loyalty will work such havoc with Mr. Bryan and his platform that the incident of his canvass will be remembered as a spectacle a dozen times more absurd than Ben Butler's tub race for the presidency. We venture the prediction that the reflex movement will have assumed such magnitude in one month's time that Mr. Bryan will be an object of universal ridicule.

Some people imagine that the issue involved in Mr. Bryan's candidacy is the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of sixteen to one, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation on earth. Free silver as an issue is of itself disturbing, but had Mr. Bryan gone to the country on this issue alone, there would have been a disposition to accord him respectful consideration and hear patiently his side of the question. Mr. Bryan would have been accepted as a serious candidate, and he would have received all of the courtesy due a normal aspirant and candidate for the high office of president of the United States. But free silver has been lost sight of in the pot-pourri of aggravated populism in which our townsman is submerged. When Altgeld and Tillman and their frantic followers took possession of the Chicago convention free silver became only a small piece in the patchwork of lunacy that was waved aloft. Those persons who shall vote for free silver will, by their ballots, attack the constitution and assail the integrity of the national government.

The State Journal says: "We honor him (Bryan) for the number of old seeds he has plowed under as well as for the enemies he has made in the busted democratic party."

This is a sample of the Journal's editorial animosity. The republican party in the campaign of patriotism asks the assistance of all honest democrats, and it has the assurance that democracy will turn in and help save the country from the cranks, and here the Journal says it honors Bryan for his victory over such men as Hill, Whitney, Vilas, Harrity and Russell. These are the "old seeds" that we expect to aid us in downing Mr. Bryan. The Journal adds that it likes Mr. Bryan for the enemies he has made. This is an excellent way to secure democratic assistance in squelching anarchy.

THE EDITOR.

## The Young Man Bryan

The other day in the law offices of Talbot, Allen & Bryan, on the third floor of the McMurtry block, the senior member of the firm chatted in an interesting manner about his conspicuous partner.

"Will Bryan and I were class mates in the Union law college in Chicago. We entered the college the same day, in 1881, and we left it together. We usually occupied adjoining seats, and during two years we were the closest of chums. I first met him the year before in Galesburg at an oratorical contest. He represented Illinois college in the contest and took second prize. I don't remember his subject now, but he made a deep impression. Even then he had a considerable reputation as a public speaker. He had, while attending college, stumped the state of Illinois for W. M. Springer, with whom Bryan was always on the most intimate and friendly terms. Congressman Springer, you know, got Bryan a place on the ways and means committee. Even then he was well known as a ready, witty talker, and he was much in demand. His utterances were usually carefully prepared in advance, and were always polished and graceful. While we were attending the law college he delivered an address on Abraham Lincoln that was generally commented on."

"Did you then regard him as cut out for a public man?"

"I did not. I knew he was a bright fellow, who would get on in the world, but I never thought of him as destined for a great career. As a matter of fact we were both poor boys, struggling to make our way, and neither one of us thought much of the future then. It kept us busy taking care of the present. We were both utterly without means and had to work our way through college. I worked in one law office and Will in another—Lyman Trumbull's by the way—for \$5 per week. We paid all our expenses out of that. In those days we lunched pretty regularly on a nickel's worth of crackers and apples."

"What happened when you left the college?"

"We were graduated in June, 1883. Will went to Jacksonville to engage in the practice of law, and I came to Lincoln immediately. I didn't see him again till 1887, when he came west on some legal business. He stayed in Lincoln with me over Sunday. I was away a part of the day, and so did not see much of him, but before saying good-bye I suggested that he come out to Lincoln and go into partnership with me. I told him I would guarantee him a living, and that was about all he was getting in Jacksonville. I told him he was just the kind of a man to come out west and grow up with the country. He didn't have very much to say, but shortly after he reached home he wrote and wanted to know if I was in earnest when I made him the offer of a partnership. I replied that I was, and in a few weeks he came out again and remained thirty days. At the end of that time he returned to Jacksonville, closed up his business there, and came back with his family prepared to stay. Soon afterward he purchased a lot on D street for \$500 or \$600. His father-in-law, Mr. Baird, sent him the money to build a house, \$2,700 I think. He settled down to the practice of law, but he devoted some attention to politics almost from the first, and within

a year and a half from the time of his arrival in Lincoln was nominated by the democrats for congress."

"All the time he was in the law college Will gave a great deal of consideration and study to questions of government. He read up thoroughly on constitutional law, and was early impressed with the idea that the people were being unduly burdened by monopolies. He maintained even then that the menace of the country was the encroachment of wealth on the rights of the common people, and he thought there was serious trouble ahead for the country. He was a strong democrat, and he came honestly by his democracy, for his father, Silas Bryan, was one of the staunchest democrats in Illinois, and, by the way, his father was a character. He was a politician, but at the same time he was known as a religious enthusiast. He was a great man to pray. He would pray at any time or in any place. You never could tell when Silas Bryan was going to break out into prayer. He served in the legislature, and he invariably dropped to his knees and offered up a silent prayer before he addressed the chair, and often during the proceeding he would get down on his knees for a few moments of spiritual converse with the Almighty. Then he was made circuit judge, and he continued his praying. When he came into the court room he would pray, and often while the attorneys were making arguments he would slide down behind the bench and seek spiritual refreshment. Will Bryan is quite as religious as his father, only he is less demonstrative. He and his wife have been active members of the First Presbyterian church ever since they came to Lincoln. Will has never, to my knowledge, uttered one word of profanity, nor used tobacco nor intoxicants in any form."

"I can recall one debate in which he participated in his college days. The subject was the duty of a representative in the legislature or congress, whether he should be guided by his own views or by those of his constituents. He maintained that the representative ought to be careful to get on the right side and then educate his constituents up to his opinion."

"Bryan is an upright, conscientious Christian man. I have never known a finer character. I am positive that he went into politics with no selfish motives. He is thoroughly convinced that the country is beset with conditions that call for the highest patriotism, the noblest endeavor, and he regards it his duty to help right what he says are the wrongs of the people. I could give you many instances of his disinterestedness. Two years ago a gentleman from New York sat in Bryan's office there trying to get him to make a contract to deliver fifty lectures at \$100 a lecture. Bryan was poor then, as he is poor now, and I urged him to accept the offer, but he would hardly listen to the man. He didn't sign the contract. When he was in congress he was offered \$10,000 a year to become the counsel of a large corporation, but he told the officers he would not act as their attorney for the entire profits of the concern. He has been repeatedly urged to make his home in democratic states, with the assurance that he would be elected to the United States senate and kept there the rest of his life, but he said he preferred to remain in Lincoln, and he will continue to keep his residence in this city."

W. M. S.

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