

ON THE STREET CORNERS.

A correspondent, who is evidently an average Bryanite, writes me as follows:

"If the claims of the gold-standard people are correct that a silver dollar must actually have 100 cents' worth of metal in it to make it a gold dollar, why is a paper dollar good money? Is the paper of which it is made worth 100 cents? As a matter of fact, is it not simply because the government has agreed to consider it \$1? And would not a 16 to 1 dollar be as good as a paper or a gold dollar provided the government would agree to so consider it?"

If I did not know that this is the logic of thousands of good Bryanites I should pass it over as altogether too childish to merit the space for a reply. The difference between coin money and paper money, as recognized by the entire world, is that coin needs no redemption to make it good; whereas, without redemption, paper money is utterly worthless. Payment in coin is actual payment, whereas paper money is simply evidence of a deferred payment. Whenever a paper dollar is passed from one person to another it is done with the full knowledge that the thing passed is purely vicarious and without value in itself, but is accepted in lieu of actual value on the strength of somebody's promise to, sooner or later, replace it with coin. The promise is the only valuable thing about it. A coin dollar, on the other hand, passes from hand to hand, upon its own merits, as a thing of actual value and without a moment's thought of what will eventually become of it. If therefore, a coin is not what it is represented as being, it is a fraud and a counterfeit. It hasn't ever so much as a doubtful promise to fall back upon, having been put afloat as an actuality and not as a hypothesis.

Politics makes strange bed-fellows. In principle and origin no two propositions could be more directly antagonistic than free silver and free trade, and yet the populists and Bryanites compound them with a most astonishing disregard of incompatibility. That no good commercial results can come from artificial interference with the natural forces of trade is the cardinal theory of free trade, and has been heretofore laid down as an axiom by the democratic party. Democratic philosophy has always made much of the point that legislation could create neither trade, wealth, nor prosperity—that any meddling with the natural laws of supply and demand was obstructive and, in the long run, ruinous. Once a gentleman whose voice is now loud in the councils of the 16 to 1 crowd, illustrated to me the absurdity of protection by the epigram, "Would you empty a pond by laying your drain up hill?" In other words; would I violate the common laws of nature and expect good results? And yet these are the men who today would have me believe that the utter violation of all the natural laws of finance, by arbitrary legislation, will bring prosperity to the country. The reconciliation of the irreconcilable is a beautiful problem.—Town Topics.

SOUND ARGUMENT.

Miss A.—I see that one of the sensational preachers said, last Sunday, that if you compare an old maid and a married woman the maid will be found superior in every respect to the wife.

Mrs. B.—He's a goose! Why, if it weren't for the married women there would be no old maids, my dears!—The Debater.

"They say that Bryan is a lover of base ball."

"No wonder; the Baltimores and New

Yorks played a 16 to 1 game the other day."

EITHER WOULD DO.

Conductor—Your ticket, please.

Passenger—I'm travelling on my face.

Conductor—All right, I'll punch that.

—The Scrapper.

She—Are you a married man?

He—No; I wouldn't be here if I was.

"Where would you be?"

"At the club?"—The Truth Teller.

The Husband—A lady on a street car thanked me for giving her my seat.

The Wife—That's what you get for being good-looking.—The Flatterer.

Brown—You have the advantage of me.

Jones—How so?

Brown—You know me.

Jones—That's no advantage.

Rebecca—I fear mein fader vill not gonsendt. You know he is worth a million.

Isaac—Oh! if dot feller Bryan vos only elegted!

Rebecca—Vot good vould dot do?

Isaac—Den your fader vould be worth only half a million.

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