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Townes Address.

The Silver Republicans of the Nation is Sent a Letter of Friendship by Counsel.

Chairman Charles A. Towne of the Silver Republican national committee, issued the following address to Silver Republicans recently:

To the Silver Republicans of the United States: The crisis long expected is at hand. The policy denounced when we proclaimed that a conspiracy had been formed to capture the Republican party in the interest of the gold standard is nearing its consummation. The Wolcott commission has confessedly failed in its negotiations for an international agreement for the establishment of bimetalism. That failure, foreseen by those who drafted the cunning financial plank of the St. Louis platform and foredoomed its adoption, is now used, as from the first it has been intended to be used, as the preliminary to the definite establishment of the gold standard in the United States. The conspirators know perfectly that a plain and honest pronouncement for the gold standard in that platform would mean its disastrous defeat at the polls. They issued the weak and inconsistent promise "to promote" an international agreement, if the purpose of holding the allegiance of millions of Republican voters who are bimetalists, while at the same time it was sought to bind them permanently to the gold standard through a firm and unambiguous declaration that, if the agreement could not be procured, the standard "must be preserved." The wretched farce has been played through the humiliating appeal to the gold powers of Europe that were graciously permitted to be relieved by them from a monetary servitude that is wrecking our producers and destroying our national independence has been spurned before the eyes of the world. The alternative so artfully provided in the St. Louis platform is now invoked. The supporters of the British money system now claim warrant for their whole nefarious program in the alleged endorsement of that declaration by the Republican voters of 1896.

Steps therefore are rapidly being taken to put the plan in operation. The president, by special message to congress, endorses the scheme of the Indianapolis convention of "sound money" advocates which was declared by them to rest on three fundamental and essential features: 1. The permanent establishment of the gold standard. 2. The retirement of the greenbacks and other government notes, and 3. The institution of a sound banking system with control

metallism and the consequent necessity for a comprehensive readjustment of our currency system on the gold basis. Finally the National Sound Money League, at its semi-annual meeting in New York puts the stamp of its infallibility on the same conclusion in the following language:

"The situation demands a definite, clean, unequivocal declaration that international bimetalism is a dream of the past. The United States must proclaim their acceptance of the 'world fact' and plant themselves finally on the single gold standard."

Silver Republicans of the country, the crisis demands your most energetic and consecrated efforts. In the glorious campaign of 1896, and again in the recent elections, you nobly proved your patriotism and vindicated your title to the grateful remembrance of succeeding generations. In this supreme juncture your duties are heavier and your opportunities greater than those of any other citizens of the republic. It is yours to hold together in a common fidelity the co-operative elements of reform; it is yours especially to persuade the deceived and betrayed Republicans that revolt against their betrayers is their highest duty. If the degradation of the country and the enslavement of its producers are to be averted; if to ourselves and our posterity the blessings of liberty are to be preserved, if the final industrial and social regeneration of the race is to remain a secure and reasonable hope, there must come enlightenment and enfranchisement to hundreds of thousands of those yet blinded by partisan prejudice and in bondage to parasitic custom. You, more readily than the members of either of the great allied forces, may open their eyes to the truth and arouse their patriotism to action. Let us be thankful that at length the battle is to be fought in the open; that one after another all subtleties have finally fallen; that at last we shall be able to challenge the gold standard and all its associated wrongs and abuses to meet us in the forum of the common sense, the justice and the patriotism of the American people. They cannot remain blind to the clear and now confessed designs of those who have trafficked in their confidence. They cannot continue deaf to the language of reason and the appeals of humanity. Citizenship will rise above partisanship. The rule of the people will come again; the people upon whom our institutions rest, for whom they were created and by whom they shall be preserved; the people in the broad and only true sense; the people as believed in, loved and trusted by Jefferson, by Lincoln, by Bryan and by all the great souls that have become nearest to the hearts of men and therefore must be in harmony with the infinite purpose of God.

CHARLES A. TOWNE.
Chairman National Committee of Silver Republicans.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

Up to this time the most marked feature of the Congressional recess in Washington has been the un concealed anxiety of the administration as to the probable action of certain Senators when Congress gets together again and the attempts made to cajole them with patronage and promises into doing as Mr. McKinley desires, or into doing nothing and keeping quiet. The two principal canes—the minor ones are too numerous to mention—of Mr. McKinley's anxiety are Finance and the treaty for the annexation of Hawaii. He wants the treasury speedily ratified and he wants the silver republicans to keep quiet and not attempt to carry out the intention announced by some of them of forcing Mr. McKinley's hand by compelling him to come out in the open and declare himself to be in sympathy with the outspoken efforts of Secretary Gage to secure legislation to strengthen the gold standard, or else to declare in favor of bimetalism, which he has all along let them to believe he favored. The Senators who have been put in the doubtful column on the annexation question and the silver republican Senators can have anything at Mr. McKinley's disposal in the way of patronage, if they will pledge themselves to do as he wants them. The effect of this cajolery of Senators can not be told to a certainty until the questions effected get up in the Senate. Soon after the debate on the annexation treaty opens it will be come apparent whether any of the doubtful Senators have become advocates of annexation, and the explanation that Senator Wolcott, who is regarded as the leader of the silver republicans, has promised to make his trip to Europe in behalf of international bimetalism, about the middle of January, will probably indicate the attitude of the silver republicans, at least one of them has told Mr. McKinley in very plain words that unless he muzzles Secretary Gage the silver republicans would openly repudiate the financial policy of the administration.

The Navy department will reestablish the Marine guard at Pensacola, Fla., which was discontinued a few years ago, a detachment of U. S. Marines having left Washington Sunday for the Pensacola station.

It is practically certain that nearly all the democrats in both branches of Congress will vote for the bill providing for the publication of a complete list of those drawing pensions from the government and the amount they draw, which Commissioner Evans says he will have introduced when Congress resumes work. In fact, it is difficult to imagine any good reason why the vote in Congress should not be unanimous for such a bill. The

publication would serve several good purposes and could not possibly injure any honest and deserving pensioner. Some of the G. A. R. men are opposing the idea and are trying to work up sentiment against it.

Representative Rhea of Ky. whose seat is being contested by Dr. Hunter, the republican who thought he had a cinch on the Senatorial toga that was captured by Deboe, and who in that connection was charged with bribery and some other little things of that sort, isn't at all afraid of being unseated, notwithstanding the big republican majority in the House. The evidence in favor of Mr. Rhea was overwhelming before Dr. Hunter virtually acknowledged that his claim to the seat was not a valid one by accepting the position of Minister to Guatemala and Honduras. The contest has not been abandoned, but the hope of getting an allowance for lawyer's fees and other expenses is probably the only reason that it has not been.

The money pull with the present administration has once more been demonstrated. Although there were several men with the strongest sort of political endorsements after the office of U. S. Marshal of the District of Columbia, Mr. McKinley decided to give it to Mr. Aulick Palmer, who knows all about club and social life in Washington and Newport, but who has never even learned the a b c's in politics. It is an open secret that the appointment was given to Palmer, because the place was requested for him by Cornelius Vanderbilt, who was one of the largest individual contributors to Boss Hanna's sixteen million dollar campaign fund.

Representative Bailey, of Texas, is spending his Christmas with ex-Rep. Sibley, of Penn., and as both are close friends of Mr. Bryan there is believed to be more in it than a holiday recreation. Both gentlemen are prominent in democratic councils, and although Mr. Sibley is it present out of public life, it by no means follows that he will remain out. He has ability of a high order, and his devotion to democratic principles interpreted by the Chicago platform is unquestioned.

O. W. O. Hardman, when sheriff of Tyler county, W. Va., was at one time, almost prostrated with a cold. He used Chamberlain's cough remedy and was so much pleased with the quick relief and cure it afforded him that he gave the following unsolicited testimonial: "To all who may be interested, I wish to say, that I have used Chamberlain's cough remedy and find it invaluable for coughs and colds." For sale by M. B. Blackburn.

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A Judicial Joker.

Statesville Landmark.

Judge Sutton is presiding over Mecklenburg Criminal Court in Charlotte, and the first of last week there appeared in both the daily papers there an advertisement over his name stating that he had ordered the sheriff to hand him at the end of the week a list of the names of all tax-payers who had not paid their taxes for this year, in order that the solicitor might take such action as the law required. This action of Judge Sutton attracted a good deal of attention and the opinion was expressed that he was simply doing his duty in enforcing compliance with the act of the last Legislature which provides fine and imprisonment for the non-payment of taxes. But lo and behold! Last Saturday after a week had elapsed, Judge Sutton gave out that he never wrote the advertisement in question or ordered it inserted in the newspapers; that he did not instruct the grand jury with regard to the tax law, but that the whole business grew out of a jocular remark he made to the sheriff in open court about the payment of taxes. At last accounts they had saddled on the sheriff's clerk the responsibility of writing the tax ad. and signing Judge Sutton's name to it, but the clerk and the sheriff are yet to be heard from. In the meantime, however, Judge Ewart had said at McDowell court that no lawyer who had sense enough to come in out of the rain would put such a construction on the tax law as Judge Sutton was reported to have put on it; and it seems that Gov. Russell had also jumped on Judge Sutton for making himself conspicuous in the matter.

In view of these faces and Judge Sutton's belated and rather equivocal denial, there is something mysterious about the whole business. The judge claims that he asked the sheriff in open court, after the grand jury had been discharged, how he was getting on collecting taxes, and that the officer replied "rather poorly"; then his honor told him to make out at the end of the week a list of those who had failed to pay their taxes and present it to him, and he would see what he could do for him. This Judge Sutton now claims was intended for a joke. The Charlotte papers reported his remarks, evidently under the impression that he was in earnest about enforcing the tax law, and when the advertisement appeared in the papers over his name there was such a hustling in Mecklenburg to get up the money to pay taxes as has not been since the Mecklenburg Declaration was signed.

It is rather strange that Judge Sutton allowed the advertisement, unauthorized, as he says, to appear for a whole week without saying anything about it; he must have known of its being in the papers. And it was rather a bold thing for the sheriff's clerk to write the ad. and sign the judge's name to it without his authority. From outside appearances it is evident that Judge Sutton either intended to enforce the tax law or was bluffed out of it by Gov. Russell. Judge Ewart et al. or he allowed his "joking" remarks to be taken in earnest purposely to frighten the people into paying taxes. In either event he comes out of the business with no credit to himself.

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