

# THE LINCOLN DEMOCRAT.

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## "THE CRIME OF '73."

Secretary Carlisle Shows That the Silver Act was Openly Passed After the Fullest Discussion.

In view of the discussion which has been going on, relative to the passage of the act of 1873, a letter written recently by Secretary Carlisle is extremely interesting at this time. The charge that the act was surreptitiously passed is very completely met in this letter. The letter is as follows:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 4.  
Mr. John A. Grier, The Yale, Eaglewood, Ill.

Dear Sir: Your favor of September 10th was duly received, and I have caused a re-examination of the records of Congress concerning the passage of the act of 1873 to be made.

The bill was originally prepared in the treasury department and was submitted to congress by Secretary Boutwell, on the 25th of April, 1870. The bill as submitted repealed all laws authorizing the free coinage of silver and containing no provision for the coinage of a silver dollar piece of any kind or description, and the attention of Congress was called to this commission in the report which accompanied the bill.

On December 19, 1870, the bill was reported to the senate from the committee on finance with several amendments, but none proposing the coinage of any silver dollar piece. It passed the senate January 9, 1871 by a vote of 36 to 14. No one suggested any provision for the coinage of a silver dollar piece of any character or on any account. This bill went to the house and was reported from the committee by Mr. Kulley of Pennsylvania, but no action being taken upon it before March 3, 1871, it died, with the expiration of the forty first congress.

The bill was introduced by Mr. Kelly at the first session of the forty second congress and was reported by him to the house on March 9, 1871, still having no provision in it for the coinage of a silver dollar piece. After some discussion the bill was recommitted to the committee on coinage, from which it was reported back by Mr. Hooper, on February 9, 1872, with various amendments. Among these was one (section 16) authorizing the coinage of a silver dollar piece of the weight of 384 grains, just the weight of one dollar in the subsidiary coins provided for in the bill. In reporting the bill to the house on the 9th of April, 1872, Mr. Hooper said: "Section 16 re-enacts the provision of the existing laws defining the silver coins and their weights respectively, except in relation to the silver dollar, which is reduced in weight from 412 1/2 to 384 grains, thus making it a subsidiary coin in harmony with the silver coins of less denomination to secure its concurrent circulation with them."

He further stated that the silver dollar of 412 1/2 grains, by reason of its bullion value being greater than its normal value, had long since ceased to be a coin of circulation, and that the convenience of the manufacturers of silverware would be better subverted by supplying stamped bars of the same standard, thus avoiding the expense of coining it for that purpose. (Congressional Globe, p. 2896, vol. 102.)

This was the first silver dollar piece incorporated in the bill. That was to be a more subsidiary coin to be minted by the government, is evident not only from the positive assertion of Mr. Hooper but it was classified with the subsidiary fractional pieces, and section 8 of the bill expressly declared that "no deposit for coinage into silver coin shall be received."

The bill with this subsidiary dollar of 384 grains provided for passed the house May 27, 1872, and on May 29, 1872, was reported in the senate and referred to the com-

mittee on finance. Nothing more seems to have been done with it during that session, but on December 6, 1872, it was reported to the senate by Mr. Sherman, with amendments, and on January 7, 1873, additional amendments were also reported.

You will find the bill as it came to the senate with the amendments proposed and with memoranda of action taken upon it while before that body printed as part of Senator Stewart, made in the senate December 5, 1893, and reported in the Congressional Record, vol. 25, Part, page 25, 23d congress, first session.

It appears that among other amendments proposed at that time by the committee on finance there was one striking out the section providing for subsidiary coins, including the dollar of 384 grains, and substituting therefor a section providing for a trade dollar of 420 grains, a half dollar to weigh 124 grammes, and the quarter dollar and dime to weigh respectively one-half and one-fifth of the weight of the half dollar. In another place in the bill an amendment was proposed prescribing the details of the coinage of the trade dollar for depositors.

The official record of the proceedings as printed in the Globe does not specifically show that any vote upon the amendment striking out section 16 embracing the authority for the coinage of the silver dollar of 384 grains was taken while the amendments were being voted upon seriatim, but upon examining the original bill the word "agreed" appeared upon the amendment, written by the journal clerk of the senate, showing that such a vote was actually taken, and there is also a record of an amendment proposed by Mr. Sherman in open senate, to be adopted in place of the section struck out, showing clearly that consideration was given in the senate to the change in section 16 was announced in the senate previous to the bill being put upon its passage, conclusively proving that the amendment had been acted upon favorably, notwithstanding the clerical omission in the Globe to mention the fact. The bill passed the senate without opposition and in the conference the house concurred in the senate amendment of Section 16 and in this form the bill became a law.

The record shows that there was never at any stage of the bill any authority for the coinage of the silver dollar of 412 1/2 grains, and that the dollar proposed by Mr. Hooper was a subsidiary one on government account the same as the fractional silver pieces. Consequently the retention or omission of the 384 grain dollar was really a matter of little or no importance because it would have performed the same function precisely as the half dollar, quarter and dime being a legal tender to the amount of \$5 and no more. The amendment striking out the 384 grain dollar was in fact adopted in the senate and the conference committee to which the bill was sent did not change the bill as it passed the senate so far as authority for silver coinage was concerned, the house simply accepted the senate amendments. The dollar proposed, but finally rejected, was not the exact counterpart of the French 5-franc piece whatever may have been the purpose of the promoters of the scheme for its coinage. Its weight was slightly less than that of the French coinage was to be only on government account instead of depositors, as was the 420 grain or trade dollar.

This is a very succinct and accurate statement of the facts as they appear upon the record.

Very truly yours,  
(Signed) J. G. CARLISLE.

Subscribe for the DEMOCRAT.

## AN ADDRESS

From the Chairman of the People's Party State Executive Committee.

To the members of the People's Party and all other voters in North Carolina who are opposed to the single gold standard:

The National Executive Committee of the People's party, in its session in St. Louis on January 17th, passed a resolution inviting all who are opposed to the single gold standard and to the present conditions created by the bad legislation of the two old parties to join them on the 22d day of July, next, in a grand convention of patriots in St. Louis to nominate a candidate for President and Vice President, who would stand for the principles of true Democracy, as represented by Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson, and for the principles of true Republicanism, as represented by Abraham Lincoln—a ticket that would command the enthusiastic support of every patriot in America.

The conferences of the silver forces held in Washington on January 22d, the following week, accepted the invitation of the People's party committee, and still other forces are expected to accept the invitation and meet with us at St. Louis on the day named. This movement augurs well. It shows that patriotism and wisdom have both combined to deliver the people; it means that the voters of parties who are opposed to present conditions will have a chance to unite and nominate and vote for the same candidate for President in the coming campaign. It means more than this—it means that the people's candidate can be elected in spite of the money power and a hiring press and the politicians.

The line of battle has already been drawn. In the coming fight every voter must be on one side, or the other. He must line himself up with the gold combine, with trusts, monopolies, and British Tories, or he must line himself up with the people in support of the candidate who will be nominated at St. Louis on July 22d.

The Democratic wing of the gold party will nominate candidates who belong to the British gold trust and who stand for the same evils that now curse humanity. No Congress will ever be able to give the people relief and good government until an American patriot is put into the White House. The President's power of veto and his command of tremendous patronage will either be used for the people or against the people. Therefore, in the coming campaign no patriot can vote for a gold bug for President, or for any candidate for the Presidency who is not unconditionally and unequivocally and avowedly pledged to the free and unlimited coinage of silver and on a platform which pledges the candidate and binds the party to independent action on this question. He must not only be friendly to silver, but he must represent the people on this great and vital question. The people will not again be deceived by fair promises or equivocal platform declarations. The issue between the single gold standard and the free coinage of silver must be made too plain for doubt or misinterpretation. The people's danger is not in fighting an open enemy. The danger is in a doubtful candidate, with false promises on a straddling platform, who has been secretly pledged to the money trust.

Now, it is the duty of patriots in every State, the patriots of all parties in every State, to line up against the common enemy, against both gold parties, as outlined above. Let those in North Carolina who are opposed to the gold combine lose no time in getting together and lining up for the greatest struggle we have ever had for American liberty and prosper-

ity. The People's party in North Carolina endorses and stands ready to take the same patriotic action that has been taken, between the reform forces in this question, that is, we are ready to co-operate with individuals or any party that will turn its back upon the gold combine and make a common fight for an American system of finance and for American principles in all governmental affairs.

In the last campaign in North Carolina we co-operate with the Republican party to secure an honest election law and home rule in county government affairs. That was co-operation or principle for great and vital issues, and a large portion of the people endorses the fight that was made for the principles of good State government. If it had not been a co-operation in principle for a great issue the people would not have endorsed it at the polls.

But, we have now before us a Presidential campaign and the great over-shadowing issues that present themselves for solution are national ones, and among these the greatest and by all odds the most momentous to our future liberty and prosperity is the financial question.

We have proposed to co-operate again on principle, that is, we have proposed to co-operate, making the resolution passed by the Silver Convention at Raleigh on September 25th last the basis of co-operation.

A large majority of the voters of North Carolina are opposed to the single gold standard. A large majority of the voters of North Carolina endorse the resolution passed by that Silver Convention, and we invite all those who favor these great principles, who are opposed to the single gold standard and who are for the money of the Constitution, to co-operate with us to give the 11 electoral votes of North Carolina to a candidate who is an American patriot and who will fight to the bitter death the infamous British gold conspiracy.

The people are tired of gold bugs, they are more tired of straddle bugs, they are still more tired, if possible, of humbugs and hypocrites. They want to see the issue drawn squarely between the people and the common enemy. In the coming campaign the people will have an opportunity to vote for an electoral ticket that is sound upon its great question. They will have an opportunity to vote for a silver ticket and for Congressmen and for a whole ticket that is equally sound and reliable from top to bottom. The fight will be drawn square in the nation from ocean to ocean. The fight will be drawn square in North Carolina from the mountains to the sea. Let every patriot prepare for the struggle, in which our homes, our freedom, our liberty and prosperity are all at stake.

MARION BUTLER,  
Chm'n People's Party St Ex. Com.

The Army of the United States.

In his annual report for the year ending June 30, 1894, Hon. W. T. Harris gives the total number of pupils in all grades of public and private schools at 15,539,298. Of these 13,616,708 pupils are in the primary and grammar grades in public and 1,300,155 in private schools. In secondary schools 802,000 pupils are in public and 178,852 in private schools. Public universities and colleges have 20,274 pupils, and private institutions 69,089. Public normal schools number 87,899 pupils and private schools, 27,996. Public institutions of law, medicine, and theology registered 5,616 students, and private schools, 42,229. New York leads the states with 1,124,998 pupils, and Pennsylvania follows closely with 1,032,099.—N. Y. School Journal.

A coal trust has been formed. The organization has limited the output and raised the price 85 cents per ton.

## An Interesting Law Case.

We clip the following article from the New York School Journal of recent date. The article will, no doubt, remind the older readers of this paper of by gone days. Read what trouble a few lice can make.

The state superintendent and the attorney-general of Minnesota have been engaged over a weighty subject. It appears that in a certain school in a certain town not far north of this city, specimens of pediculus humanus capitis appeared on the head of some of the children. The teacher informed the parent that the parasites must be expelled from school, as all the children were menaced by the enemy. The irate parent denied the charge, and suggested that the teacher's vision must have been impaired by looking upon "the wine when it is read." The teacher carried the trouble to the school board, who took council together, and decided that they must investigate. Having no precedent in the annals of the school and being in doubt how to conduct a case of this kind, they appealed to the state superintendent of public instruction, who called in Attorney-General Childs, who after due consideration which became so grave a matter sent his opinion, part of which we print:

"While not disposed to captiousness, it is proper to suggest that the matter should, with due regard to the proprieties of official conduct, have been referred either to the public examiner, the state entomologist or the state agricultural society, which will no doubt refer it to the member from Austin, who is, I believe, chairman of the committee on live stock.

"I deem it unnecessary to state the focus in quo, as this department cannot take cognizance of sections or individuals in determining personal rights under the laws of the commonwealth.

"The real question, therefore, would seem to be: Is a youth whose flaxen locks are inhabited with that species of live stock known to the scientific world as pediculus humanus capitis, to be regarded in the light of legal precedents and common law principles, inimical to the cause of education? I am prompted to disagree in order to inquire what had been the effect upon the distinguished men who shine in the history of our country, if the affirmative view had obtained with boards of education and school directors during that period? Would the people of Minnesota, for instance, now be enjoying the profundity of your wisdom and wealth of your learning, if such a view dominated the educational policy of the people of your native state fifty years ago?

"In treating such a question, our mental vision must not be obscured by the prejudices of a single school district. The question must be viewed in the light of the past, with due regard to the welfare of the unborn generations of the future. The habits of the animal in question are so well known as to require no explanation at this time. Its movements are open and above board, and it is as marked in its characteristics as any other personal property within the possession of the average American citizen. Its migrations are deliberate and actuated by the same laws which have determined ethical movements throughout the world's history. The mere fact that it passes in its peregrinations from caput to caput does not characterize it as either infectious or contagious. In this regard it is clearly distinguishable from the invivorous approaches of the microbe. Its eradication, as you are aware, is as easily effected by mechanical as medicinal remedie. Among the bright pictures hung upon the walls of memory, none is more conspicuous than that of a resolute mother, armed with a fine-tooth

## When Work Fits Woman.

Edward W. Bok, in February Ladies' Home Journal, considers editorially "When Work Fits Woman," a text under which he enters emphatic and vigorous protest against the mad rush of women to seek employment in mercantile and manufacturing establishments. The article is evidently inspired by the recent public utterances of one of the largest employers of women in Pennsylvania, who, in raising his voice against this evil, asserts "that more wrong has been done to thousands of girls who have gone into our commercial houses than the world dreams of," and urges young women who are seeking positions, to engage as domestics where they are safe from danger, where their surroundings would be elevated and congenial, and in a field which greatly needs them. Mr. Bok emphasizes these utterances and goes further, saying: "The fact cannot be disputed that no single factor in modern life is doing so much to degenerate our young womanhood as this mad race on the part of girls, impelled by necessity or not, to go into the business world. These may sound like strong words to the ears of some, but to those who are really cognizant of the immensity of the evil results that are being wrought, they will simply fit the case and not go beyond it."

altogether too many of our commercial and industrial establishments, stores and factories, the man who hands is given the power to employ and control girls are to be met from a moral standpoint, to herd swine. And yet thousands of our young women are allowed to go from their homes to work under the influence of these men and in the atmosphere vitiated by them. And why? Simply because it is considered more respectable to be employed in an office, store or factory than to be engaged in domestic service. The very word 'servant' has a taint about it that the majority of young women dislike, and from which they flee. But what else are they in business establishments than servants, pure and simple? There can be no difference but an imaginary one. That is all. Far less leniency is shown in our business houses to women employees than is shown, as a rule, in our homes to domestic help—infinity less."

Mr. Bok further argues that if the mistress would seek to elevate domestic work, to treat servants with greater consideration, and to have the daughters of the family show some active interest and participated in household work, better, more intelligent and more reliable women would be attracted to the kitchens of our homes, and the destructive rush of young girls to work in stores, counting-houses and factories, would be largely checked, and a modern evil to a great extent curtailed.

Assistant Attorney-General Edgerton, whose opinion was also asked, said that he agreed with the conclusions reached, but not with the reasoning on which it is based.

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