

THE SILVER PARTY

Chairman J. J. Mott Issues an Address.

FRIENDS OF FREE COINAGE
He Urges Independent Action
in Politics.

DURING THE COMING CAMPAIGN

An Especial Appeal to North Carolinians
Not to Submit to Further Strad-
dles in the Old Party
Platforms.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 17.—Mr. J. J. Mott, chairman of the National
Committee of the Silver party, has issued
the following address:

To the People:

"As chairman of the National committee
composed by the silver conference
lately assembled in Washington
City to organize the silver forces in
these United States in the battle which
is to take place for the possession of
the government this year, it is
thought proper that I should make
some statement to the people in
reference to it.

"As the necessity of money as a
medium of exchange became revealed
to the minds of men the two metals
finally accepted as most suitable for
money were silver and gold. This was
natural, because they were the two
most precious metals adapted to the
purpose, and were sufficiently limited
in quantity.

"As mining has developed the fact
that these two metals existed in the
earth in almost certain proportions,
a natural ratio of value was ad-
justed. This ratio has continued as
found by man under the natural order as
he found it. It was accepted by mankind
as a part of the ground plan upon
which the world was to move, and ap-
proved by philosophy and common
sense of all ages.

"From this condition of regular or-
der and contentment, contributing to
the gradual elevation of all classes of
society, the extension of civilization,
and the general betterment of the
human race, this country and the world
has been ruthlessly torn.

"It has been done by the rejection of
one of the precious metals, in the in-
terests of greed, and by this act the
money changers have been enthroned,
and the narrowing of the scope of
monometallism begun. As monetization
has been narrowed, money has be-
come scarcer in proportion, and as
money became scarcer prices fell in
proportion, and falling prices have
been the bane of this world. It was
predicted after the demonetization of
silver that great suffering would fol-
low. This suffering is already here.

"From a contraction of the currency we
are now in the throes of one of these
desperate stages of human experience
—a period of heartache, anker, and
sleepless nights as the foundation of
prices has crumbled. Obligations
rendering us poor, and the contraction
of a price in ready money have
crumbled into dirt as the foundation
of the price has crumbled. The coun-
try is confronted by a grave emer-
gency. Further theorizing is futile.

"The agitation of the money ques-
tion must be settled by peaceful methods
that will give practical results.

OLD PARTIES NOT TO BE TRUSTED.

"Long, patient, and dispassionate re-
flection has convinced me that an in-
dependent American financial system
is absolutely necessary for the resto-
ration of national property, and the
establishment of commercial equilib-
rium in this country that will give the
common people—the agricultural and
laboring classes—an equal show with
capital and concentrated wealth. How
can it be effected? It is not to be done
through either the Republican or Demo-
cratic party as now constituted? No.
Both organizations are under the
blighting influence of the Eastern
money power. The record of every
national convention of both parties
for years is plain proof of this fact.
The legislation of both parties in Con-
gress is proof that it is impossible as
a party question.

"What then is to be done? As patri-
ots, as Americans who are for
America against the world, what is
our first and our last duty? Shall we
allow ourselves to be the playthings
of party platform declarations?
Shall we longer submit to the
academic discussion of what bi-metallism
means? Shall it be another cam-
paign of straddling and equivocation?
Or shall the issue be squarely on the
free coinage of silver and gold, and a
President elected who represents the
people on that great question?

"The first step—the essential step
preliminary to the correction of the
present abuses—the re-establishment
of national prosperity and the main-
tenance of our national credit, is the
election of a President whose Andrew
Jackson courage and inflexible integ-
rity will defy the influence that pros-
trates Presidents and Cabinets, and
removes the administration of the govern-
ment from a subject of humiliation and
reproach.

A PRESIDENT PLEDGED TO SILVER
should be in character and intention
as may be the standard bearer of the
Republican or Democratic party in
the coming campaign, it will hardly
be possible for them to rise above the
influence that surrounds them, or the
environments that must surround
him in the event of his election.

The hope of the people, I am convinced,
is the election of a President pledged,
unconditionally and unreservedly,
to the free and unlimited coinage of
the silver and gold, the maintenance
of the foundation of the government
since 1873, and also unconditionally
pledged in favor of a national currency,
without the intervention of banks of
issue, and against the issuance of interest-
bearing bonds in time of peace for any
purpose whatever.

I appeal not only to the Republicans
in my own State, who can appreciate
the sacrifice I make in renouncing

party obligations on this question in
advance, but to the people throughout the
country, without regard to party, to
co-operate in this great non-partisan,
patriotic American movement to sus-
tain the industrial and financial inde-
pendence of the United States in the
pending monetary crisis.

"This sentiment influences me to
accept the chairmanship of the National
Silver Party. I shall give to this
movement my best services and
thought, and successful or otherwise,
I shall realize the satisfaction of having
done my duty to the people and to the
country as I see and understand it.

"In my own State I confidently ap-
pel to the rank and file of both parties
to support my efforts. North Carolina
is an agricultural State, and nine-
tenths of its people are directly and
indirectly affected by the operation
of the silver question. I appeal to
them to lay aside party feelings,
ignore party obligations on this social
question, disregard party appeals, for-
get the exasperations of past party
contention, and spurn the offer of
place and emolument.

"We succeed, the example and experi-
ence of the last campaign in North
Carolina to show the practicality and
safety of men of different parties co-
operating to carry out a great measure
essential to the welfare of the people,
where neither of the parties favoring
it could effect it alone. That was a
cooperation on the issue of
fair elections. It is now arranged to
extend such a plan through all the
States on another vital issue of even
greater importance to this country.
No one party can do this, but a ma-
jority of the people in all the parties
will do it, and they can do it if they
want it done.

"The people must avert the PERIL.
The peril that menaces the people in
the election of a President whose ad-
ministration would perpetuate the
perpetuation of the present financial
system, can only be averted by the
people themselves. It may be too late
four years hence. Present abnormal
conditions do not warrant belief in
the peaceful submission of the people
to further oppression and impoverish-
ment. The only way to avert the
peril is through the election of a
President who will champion the de-
mand of the people for a system of
harmless 'socialism,' but if they are
wise, they will heed the admonition
and not persist in their greed of ac-
cumulation at the expense of the toiling
and suffering people. The plain, pa-
triotic duty of every American who
loves his country is to stand
unflinchingly behind the principles that
have made it the greatest, the richest,
the proudest, the most independent na-
tion on the face of the globe, is to as-
sert his manhood and subordinate
interests to the welfare of the
nation in the impending conflict.

"Let us have this metal money re-
stored, and in the proportions found
in nature's store house, and as it ex-
isted in Washington's time when the
flag and the Constitution were fresh
and the people speak to the people
from an open book.

"The men who are for gold stand
together, no matter who party they
belong to. They have control of both
Republican and Democratic parties.
The people in their districts, striking
a central blow, knock out first
one, and then the other party, but the
matter which turn is taken, gold is
restored. The gold leaders are keen,
determined, and loyal to the gold
standard. Are the silver leaders less
determined, less intelligent, less loyal?
If they are equal to the others in these
qualities, what is the matter with them
that they allow a victory after victory
to be scored against them, and that,
too, when the silver party in the coun-
try are in the vast majority?

"The people are enraged, and justly
so. Must they say at last to these
leaders, 'Let these many years you have
sent us to the silver party, and you have
returned to us without it; you are unprofi-
table servants, and have led us through
the bog and quagmire of disappoint-
ment. We like to honor you, but you
must take us by some other road and
reach our idol.' The men who blazed
the way to the silver party, but did
well. The people see the citadel of
their liberties, and are ready for the
battle. The Philistines are at our
doors. 'To your tents, oh Israel!'

THE HEAD NOT YET FOUND.

But it is no longer needed to prove
Pearl Bryan's Murder.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Feb. 14.—The in-
dentification of the hat found near the
place where the body of Pearl Bryan
was found is regarded as one of the
most conclusive proofs that the crime
of murder took place at that location
and not in Cincinnati. There is fur-
ther corroboration of this theory in the
finding of a black bead, such as was
worn on the hat of the murdered girl,
very near where the body was left.
This would indicate a struggle and
some violence and that he hat was
worn by the victim at that time and
place. When found the hat was some
distance away and was weighted
down by a bowler, tied with a handker-
chief that belonged to Jackson. Search
in other places for the missing head
was unsuccessful to-day. But the
head is no longer needed to prove the
crime or to point out the criminal, but
the public duty of the hour is to
bring that rewards amounting to
nearly \$4,000 are offered for its re-
covery.

The requisition moves slowly. Some
error in the papers has required cor-
rection and now it appears that the
hastily drawn indictment has been
found to be imperfect and Judge Helm
has instructed the grand jury to with-
draw it and report another in correct
form. It is said that opposition to
the extradition will be made on the
ground that there is danger of mob
violence.

AN EARTHQUAKE IN CUBA.

Santiago de Cuba, Feb. 18.—An earth-
quake shock which was preceded by
deep subterranean rumblings and a
few tremors, has been experienced here.
The inhabitants were terror-
stricken until the noises ceased.

SILVER THE ISSUE

And North Carolina Is For Free
Coinage.

LINE OF BATTLE DRAWN
It Will Be Fought Out In The
Coming Campaign.

DUTY OF DEMOCRATS CLEAR

The True Sentiments of the Party Must
Be Expressed in Every Con-
vention From the Pri-
maries Up.

To the Editor: In the approaching
campaign the financial question must
be the controlling issue. It cannot
be the tariff, for the people will
never engage in another great national
contest over a question of percentage,
whether the tariff shall be 42 or 52 per
cent.

In all the confusion about fusion; in
all the uncertainty among politicians,
the ideas of the people of North Car-
olina on the question of money is well
defined and positive. The necessity of
the times, the demands of the people
for immediate, free and unlimited
coinage of silver. Senator Pritchard
has declared that this is a question
of no importance, but it is not in the
power of Senator Pritchard and the
Republican party, aided by the gold
standard element of the Democratic
party, to divert the minds of the peo-
ple from this vital issue. The principle
of the restoration of the money of the
people will determine the political
affiliations of all men in the approach-
ing campaign. He that is not for it
must be against it. Senator Burdick
has truly said that on this question:
"the line of battle will be clearly and
sharply drawn from the mountains
to the sea, and from one end of the
Union to the other." On this question,
the Republican party, which has al-
ways been and always will be, the
tool of monopoly and the enemy of
the people, will be controlled by the plat-
formers, and declare for gold, or, which
is worse, attempt a straddle. With
the exception of a few counties in the
west, composed, as this party is, of negroes
and office-seekers, it will of course
vote for the nominee of the Demo-
cratic party, regardless of the duties of
citizenship, men, principles, and platform.
The Republican vote of this State will
be cast according to orders issued by
the potentates of Wall street.

It seems to us that the position to
be taken by the Democrats of North
Carolina, in this campaign, is to
every consideration of party policy,
patriotism and humanity. We must
stand boldly and uncompromisingly
for the immediate, free and unlimited
coinage of silver. This is, and always
has been, Democratic doctrine. It is
one of the fundamental principles of
the party, and is believed in and de-
manded by the overwhelming majority
of its members. We take it that there
is no possibility but that the Demo-
crats of North Carolina will, as they
always have done, in convention as-
sembled, declare for the restoration
of silver, and it is by no means a fore-
gone conclusion that the gold standard
element will control the National De-
mocratic convention. If that convention
has any regard for the principles and
traditions of the party, if it will listen
for one moment to the demands of the
people who furnish the rank and
file of the party, and furnish all the
votes; if it will consider the cause of
humanity and hear the cries of op-
pression and distress and suffering
that come louder and louder from
every State of the Union, that con-
vention will promptly, emphatically
and unequivocally, declare for the
restoration of the money of the peo-
ple. It will then receive the en-
thusiastic support of all Democrats
and all honest advocates of silver. But
if the national Democratic convention,
controlled by a horde of office-
holders and powerful financial
syndicates, should name a nominee
and adopt a platform in accord
with the administration, the duty of
North Carolina Democrats, and of
Democrats of the Union, is clear and
mandatory. There are thousands in
North Carolina who love the Demo-
cratic party. We are proud of her
history and her principles. Her
triumph has been co-existent with the
prosperity of the people and the glory
of the Union. She has always stood
with the people, resisting the en-
croachments of monopoly, and has al-
ways been the champion of civil lib-
erty and human rights. In the pres-
ent contest marks a crisis in her history,
and it is the solemn duty of all Demo-
crats to see that in this contest the
true sentiments of the party are ex-
pressed in every convention that shall
be held, from the primaries to the Na-
tional convention. It is especially the
duty of North Carolina Democrats to
see that the delegation sent to Chicago
will stand firmly for the money of the
people and if that convention, at the
dictation of Grover Cleveland and Wall
street, should act as naught the wishes
of the overwhelming majority of the
party, and regardless of the condition
of the country, driven to the verge of
anarchy and ruin regardless of the de-
mands and sufferings of the people,
should trample upon the will of the
people, and attempt to pledge the
Democratic party to the support of
the fusion platform, our delegation should
be instructed to withdraw from the
convention, repudiate its platform and
nominees, and denounce its action as
an outrage on Democratic institutions
and a menace to the existence of the
Republic. How could we do otherwise?
North Carolina is for free silver. The
people everywhere are for free silver
and every one knows this fact. This
is Democratic doctrine, and is the pa-
ramount question in politics, and will
be until it is settled.

The demotion of silver has
been a powerful factor to ruin, pau-
perize and enslave our people. It has
humiliated and dishonored the nation.
We have seen our government at the
mercy of speculation, driven almost
to bankruptcy, stand trembling beg-
ging gold from Shylock. Our fore-
fathers of the Revolution refused to
pay the smallest tribute to England,
but we to-day, by the ignominious
position of our own government, pay mil-
lions of unjust tribute to the Roths-
childs and bondholders of London. If
an angel of darkness had, with the
blast of a trumpet spread war and pes-
tence and famine from one end of
this land to the other, he could have
done no worse than did Cleveland when
he completed the work of the Republi-
can party in the demonetization of sil-
ver, thereby confiscating the homes of
millions, paralyzing industry, turning
workmen out of employment to raise
the red hand of riot and anarchy,
bringing wail and woe upon hundreds,
taking bread from the mouths of chil-
dren, and ringing tears from the eyes
of the innocent and helpless. Shall we
indorse this great conspiracy and
crime against the people? The Demo-
crats of North Carolina will never en-
dorse it. The Democratic party of the
Union will never endorse it, and if any
organization falsify purporting to act
for the party should endorse it, the peo-
ple will organize a new and
purified Democracy, and one that will
be in reality as in name the party of
the people, and stand for a govern-
ment by the people and for the people
and for the people's interests, money
changers from our temples, and de-
clare any proclamation of the emanci-
pation of humanity. The people of
North Carolina are for the free coinage
of silver. They are in earnest for it.
They must unite for it. We believe
that they will unite. No political
trickery can prevent them from uniting.
The entire electoral and Con-
gressional vote of this State will be
cast in accordance with the wishes of
our people.

The fight is on; the sword has been
drawn, the scabbard thrown away.
There are some who from honest
conviction will contend for the silver
gold standard. To such, if necessity
require at the parting of the ways, we
will bid a sad and respectful farewell.
There are others who, with blind pre-
judices, will cling to dead traditions
and a party name, and there are others
yet who speak to the conscience of
the nation and the emolments of
extraneous office, traitors to hope of fed-
eralism and leadership, actuated by
the motives of the wretch who betrayed
his Master for thirty pieces of silver,
will basely desert the cause of the peo-
ple, regarding not the voice of duty
nor the conscience of the people, but
all good men. For a little money they
are helping to rob the poor and the
weak and to drive the iron wheels
over the good and true, and beautiful
that might spring from human lives.
They go with the contempt of all men
of the party that they go. Let those
who would fall back, fall back. Let
those who would oppose, oppose.
Everywhere there are those who
rally, and with an enthusiasm that will
inspire others, that will arouse this
country from ocean to ocean, gather-
ing and swelling, like the accumulating
waters of a great river, to sweep all
evil away before them.

"Come with me," said Richard Cob-
den, as John Bright turned heart-
stricken from a new made gear, "in
London there are women and children
dying with hunger, with hunger made
by the laws. Come with me and we
will not rest until we repeal these
laws." The same condition threatens
our country to-day. "He who will
hear, to him the clarions of the battle
call."

M. L. REED,
LOCKE CRAIG,
Asheville, N. C., Feb. 17.

AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATION.

The Bill, Carrying \$3,158,192, Passed
By the House Yesterday.

Washington, Feb. 18.—The House
passed the Agricultural appropri-
ation bill, which carries \$3,158,192. The
section of the revised act for the
purchase and distribution of "rare and
uncommon" seed which Secretary
Morton declined to execute in the
current appropriation law was repealed.
The appropriation for seed was in-
creased from \$130,000 to \$150,000, and
its execution was made mandatory
upon the Secretary.
Mr. Couzens, of Iowa, introduced his
amendment to reduce Mr. Morton's
salary from \$8,000 to \$25 until he ex-
pended the appropriation in the cur-
rent law, but the amendment was ruled
out on a point of order.
Several amendments to inspection
acts of 1891, recommended by Secretary
Morton, which would have given him
additional power to enforce regula-
tions and have strengthened the law
by the imposition of penalties for vio-
lations, were struck out.
A resolution was adopted directing
the committee on Ways and Means to
investigate the effect of the difference
of exchange between gold and silver
standard countries upon the manufac-
turing industries of the United States.

Notice also was given that the
contested election case of Van Horn vs.
Tarsney would be called up next
Tuesday.

ANOTHER MASSACRE FEARED.

The Condition of the Armenians in
Turkey Truly Pitiable.

Boston, Mass, Feb. 18.—The follow-
ing has been received in Boston from a
resident in Marsovan, Eastern Turkey,
under date of January 20, 1896:
"The city has been in great fear the
last few days, and any spark may easily
discharge a magazine. Amasia is less
badly off, and Hadji Keoy escaped
by the skin of his teeth. The condi-
tion is most pitiable."
The total amount received and for-
warded to Turkey for relief thus far,
by Frank H. Wiggin, Assistant Treas-
urer of the American Board, Boston, is
\$70,522.89.

THE FIFTY MEN PERISH

Terrific Explosion of Gas in a
Colorado Mine.

NOT A MAN HAS ESCAPED
Between Fifty and Sixty Men
Were at Work.

THE MINE IS NOW ON FIRE

Smoke is Rushing From the Mouth of
the Shaft and Prevents the
Work of Rescue by Those
on the Scene.

Glenwood Springs, Col., Feb. 18.—A
gas explosion occurred in the Vulcan
mine at New Castle, just before 12 to-
day when there were between 50 and
60 men in the mine at work. At the
shaft-mouth a hole 100 feet square was
blown out.

Ed. Welsh who was just at the mouth
of the tunnel when the explosion took
place was blown to atoms.

It is almost certain that all the men
in the mine perished.
Smoke is rushing from the shaft in
dense clouds which prevent entrance
to the mine. The men who were
means of supplying air to the workmen
and as these are completely demolish-
ed, the last hope of any one being
found alive is cut off.

Superintendent Paul Blount, of the
Consolidated closed down his mine and
sent his men to the rescue but they
could do nothing on account of the
smoke and gas. They have now pro-
ceeded to reach the interior. The scene
at the mine is one of wildest confusion.

Wives and children are rushing madly
out and fear tearing their hair and ren-
dering the air in deep anguish which such
a calamity brings.

A throng of people was soon at the
scene of disaster, a distance of nearly
two miles from New Castle. A glance
was enough to dissipate any hope for
the lives of the entombed men. The
force of the explosion has blown down
cave-in, and the tunnel and air courses
were filled with the fallen rock, earth
and timbers. Both fan houses were
wrecked and the slope and vicinity
was so full of debris, and the gas was
so bad that it was hard and dangerous
to begin the rescue. The overwork-
less, willing hands were soon at work
and five men went down as far as pos-
sible to ascertain the condition of the
slope. The gas was so bad that after
the party had gotten 200 feet they were
compelled to recede. The party con-
sisted of Superintendent Blount, of the
Consolidated; Joseph E. H. H. H. H. H.
Reese, Sam Hills, and Robert Temple-
man, from the Consolidated mine.

The construction of a temporary fan
house was commenced at once and the
work of pumping fresh air into the
mine was soon begun.

It is believed that that any of the
miners are still alive but the starting
of the fans will be made as soon as pos-
sible, in the hope that if any have sur-
vived they may be kept alive till help
reaches them. Two young miners,
Tom Connelly and James Patrick, met
with narrow escapes. The overwork-
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