

ZEEK BILKINS, M. A.



The Major Is Still For The Gold Standard And For The Democratic Nominee—He Exposes The Whole Political Scheme.

B.—"Hello! Mr. Editor." R.—"Good morning! Major. Have you recovered your equilibrium yet?"

B.—"I don't know what you are talking about, but if you mean that I am going to vote for the Democrat, I guess I have."

R.—"To a man up a tree, it appears that McKinley is your hero, as he favors tariff reform and the gold standard, while your party has temporarily abandoned the gold standard and says the tariff is no longer a prominent issue."

B.—"Oh! you can't see anything. You order be put in the asylum for the blind. Some of you Populists are the greenest folks I ever heard of."

R.—"I don't know what you are talking about, but if you mean that I am going to vote for the Democrat, I guess I have."

B.—"But we have got converted." R.—"Strange that outsiders have heard nothing of this conversion."

B.—"Oh! you can't hear anything. You are deaf as well as blind. You Populists will soon have your lightn' rods put up over your ears so you can hear it thunder. Your crowd makes me tired. Gudebye!"

HON. J. M. BRADLEY,

A Noted Georgia Democrat, Joins the People's Party

Hon. J. M. Bradley, one of the old time Democrats of Georgia, quits the party and in a lengthy letter to the Reform World, Winder, Ga., tells his reasons for so doing.

But, says some one, the party is just about to adopt a free silver platform. Did it not do this before? Has it not always presented a favorable side to the people?

For what are the leaders attempting this little game again? To deceive the people and secure the offices.

I have been driven to this conclusion, that the party to which I have belonged all my life, makes its platforms and promises purely for the sake of getting in on and that they have no idea of keeping them when made.

These are my reasons for quitting the organization.

I am still a Democrat, but in the future will affiliate with a party that advocates Democratic principles of "equal rights to all, and special favors to none"—the People's party.

I believe that all producers should stand together for the relief we all so much need, and I can find no political organization, except the Populist, standing for that relief.

Gratis, Ga. J. M. BRADLEY.

COUNTING in clerk hire, mileage and incidentals, a member of Congress now receives a total of about \$12,050 for his two years' services.

A SILVER SPEECH.

Delivered at the Closing of the Exercises at Thompson School by A. M. Moore, a Student.

Hon. Judges, Ladies and Gentlemen:

With pleasure I appear on the Affirmative of the query, Resolved, "That the best interest of the United States demands free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1."

But I mean the welfare of the majority who create the wealth and upon whose efforts the fate of the nation depends.

First, Hon. Judges, I will show you that demonetization is the cause of the depreciation of silver. At the International Monetary Conference, while urging that a gold standard be adopted, Ruggles, acting as a mouthpiece for John Sherman, said that by 1900 the annual production of gold and silver in the United States would be \$400,000,000.

Having received the Latin Union, Sherman returned home and went to work to deceive the United States. In order to hide his treachery, he made a free coinage speech in 73. The very next day, in the hurry of business, he rushed a bill through Congress demonetizing silver.

Hon. Judges, what is meant by free coinage, is to give silver an equal showing with gold. Wipe every law from our statute books that is against silver.

I wish to stop right here and ask my opponent if this will ruin the country? Hon. Judges, how can my opponent or anybody else object to free coinage when it simply means giving silver an equal showing with gold?

Hon. Judges, how can my opponent or anybody else object to free coinage when it simply means giving silver an equal showing with gold?

When England demonetized silver she had 180,000 land owners, but in less than fifty years four fifths of them had lost their homes. History is repeating itself. At the adoption of the Constitution the farmers owned 75 per cent. of the wealth of the United States.

Hon. Judges, when silver was demonetized tramps were rare, millionaires a curiosity. Now there are four million tramps, and we have thirty-two thousand millionaires.

Chancy Depew, says 50 men in the United States can within 24 hours stop every wheel of trade and commerce from revolving, block every avenue of trade and strike dumb every electric key.

prove this, look at the statistical abstract of the United States, and you will find that as silver declined, all farm products and labor declined. Telegraph operators have been reduced from an average of \$60 to \$30 per month.

Hon. Judges, when silver was demonetized, it was worth \$1.29 per ounce; wheat was worth \$1.47 per bushel; and cotton, 19 cents per pound.

Comparing before demonetization and since, does not the best interest of the United States demand that silver be restored to its old place as money? My opponent says that silver is dishonest. God pronounced it good.

The French delegates at Brussels said to the United States: "You were first to close your mints; you should be first to open them and we will follow."

An English journal, the London Financial News, says that, "If the United States were to adopt silver to morrow British trade would be ruined ere the year was out, and England would be compelled to use silver or the United States would control the commerce of world."

Then he estimates that under gold standard prices the farmer loses six cents on every pound, \$30 on every bale of cotton sold, which on 7,000,000 bales would make a loss of \$210,000,000 for the year 1895.

Hon. Judges, with these facts before you, is it surprising that disaster and ruin are staring our people in the face?

All over the country farms are mortgaged, banks are breaking, railroads are in the hands of receivers, factories are shutting down, labor is unemployed and the President of the United States is forced to borrow money to run the government.

According to official records, the public debt has increased \$27,165,282 during President Cleveland's administration. There are to day due England \$1,000,000,000 in gold.

Shall we as a free and liberty loving people continue the infamous law that is making these men richer and the poor poorer, or shall we restore silver

to the down-trodden millions of our nation.

My opponents claim that the depreciation of silver is overproduction, but by reference to Nalhall, the London Statistician, you will find that in 1700 there were 34 times as much silver as gold.

As a measure of value the ratio has never been more than 16 to 1. France and the Latin Union for 40 years kept a premium of 3 per cent. on silver at the ratio of 15 1/2 to 1.

Bradstreet's Mercantile Agency says: "All business in the United States decreased about 2 per cent. last year." The annual live stock investigation says: "Stock declined \$62,139,000 last year, or \$622,663,000 for the last three years."

Last year factories in Japan declared a dividend of 28 per cent., while many of those in the United States were closed and the rest were forced to reduce wages 10 per cent. to 25 per cent.

Judge Clark says: "Mexico is developing more rapidly than any other country upon the globe." To prove this he says: "Wheat is worth \$1.00 per bushel, cotton 13 cents per pound, and that this 13 cents will pay as much debt, railroad fare, and as such taxes as it ever did."

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for the whole world will pay only half interest on the national debt, the opponents of silver say that the greenbacks must be cancelled. Then with silver demonetized, the greenbacks destroyed and our production of gold only paying one seventh of the interest on the national debt, what are we to do?

Hon. Judges, I have shown you that in all silver countries there is prosperity existing, while in all gold standard countries discontent and disaster prevail.

Again, I have shown you that once silver was at a premium before it was demonetized in this country, and that France and the Latin Union for more than 40 years kept a premium of 3 per cent. on silver at the ratio of 15 1/2 to 1.

Liberty, N. C. BERTIE COUNTY MEETING.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer. WINDSOR, N. C.

Bertie County Farmers Alliance held an interesting meeting at Lowellsville July 9th. Ten Alliances represented. One long since defunct came forward with report and delegation.

Pres. A. W. Snell, San Souci; Vice Pres. Ervin Pritchard, Windsor; Sec. Treas. and Business Agt. A. J. Cobb, Windsor; Chap. T. T. Speight, Lewis ton; Lect. H. P. Howell, Roxobel; H. J. Ward Chairman Executive Com. mittee, Evansville; Fraternally A. J. Cobb, Lect. B. C. F. A.

Resolutions adopted by Bertie County Alliance July 9th, 1896, in session at Powellsville, N. C.

Resolved, That the managing editor of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER arrange to publish in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER the Alliance price current.

2. That our delegate to the State Alliance be instructed to see if there cannot be a reduction made in the salary of officers of the State Alliance.

3. That he endeavor to have the constitution so amended, that no officer of the State Alliance shall hold office for a longer term than two years successively.

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Southern Railway (Piedmont Air-Line) Condensed Schedule. TRAINS IN EFFECT JUNE 4, 1896.

TRAINS LEAVE RALEIGH DAILY. NORFOLK AND CHATTANOOGA LIMITED. 4:12 p. m. Daily.—Solid vestibule train with sleeper from Norfolk to

11:45 a. m. Daily.—Solid train consisting of Pullman Sleeping car and coaches from Chattanooga to Norfolk, arriving at Norfolk at 5 a. m., in time to connect with the Old Dominion Merchants' and Miners', Norfolk and Washington and Baltimore, Chesapeake and Richmond S. S. Co's for all points North and East.

Express Train. 8:50 a. m. Daily.—Connects at Durham for Oxford, Keyville, Richmond, at Greensboro for Washington and all points North.

Express Train. 3:09 p. m. Daily.—For Goldsboro and intermediate stations. Local Accommodation. 2:00 a. m.—Connects at Greensboro for all points for North and South and Winston Salem and points on the Northwestern and North Carolina Railroad.

Express Train. 3:05 p. m. Daily.—From Atlanta, Charlotte, Greensboro and all points South.

Norfolk and Chattanooga Limited. 4:12 p. m. Daily.—From all points east, Norfolk, Tarboro, Wilson and water lines. From Goldsboro, Wilmington, Fayetteville and all points in Eastern Carolina.

Norfolk and Chattanooga Limited. 11:40 a. m. Daily.—From New York, Washington, Lynchburg, Danville and Greensboro, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Hot Springs and Asheville.

Express Train. 8:50 a. m. Daily.—From Goldsboro and intermediate stations. Local. 7:20 a. m. Daily.—From Greensboro and all points North and South. Sleeping car from Greensboro to Raleigh.

Express Train. 9:00 p. m. Daily except Sunday.—From Goldsboro and all points East. Local freight trains also carry passengers.

Pullman cars on night train from Raleigh to Greensboro. Through Pullman vestibule Drawing Room Buffet Sleeping Car and two-trouled coaches without change on Norfolk Limited.

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