

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., July 11, 1896.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—No communications published unless accompanied by the real name of the writer.

THINGS ABOUT TOWN AND COUNTY

A Rousing Ratification.

The Way Bellefonte Democrats Received the News.

Although it was five o'clock when the word of Bryan's nomination was received here, it was with such a unanimity of general and supreme satisfaction by all Democrats, and with this feeling of the happy culmination of the hard-fought week's convention, it was but natural that all good Democrats, as well as many warring Republicans, should desire to celebrate the event by a rousing ratification. There was no time for elaborate preparation; in fact, no time seemed necessary, as the people were all of one mind, and as by magic, when dusk had fallen, it seemed as if all the town had assembled in the public square in front of the court house. The Undine band was there in all its glory, sending forth its sweetest and most patriotic American music, from *Silver horns*, while the constant booming of the cannon cracker and the brilliant glare of myriads of fire works, was a fit counterpart of the scene enacted in the coliseum at Chicago.

BRYAN'S PICTURE TO THE FRONT.

A life-size picture of Mr. Bryan was wound around one of the columns of the court house porch, and the crowd cheered to the echo.

It was just a few minutes past eight o'clock when cries of "Speech!" "Speech!" were heard and with the same breath the name of "Sechler." Mr. Hammon Sechler, the popular groceryman and a Democrat of sterling worth, stepped to the front.

SCHLER ON 16 TO 1.

Mr. Sechler said: FELLOW DEMOCRATS:—We are assembled here tonight to inaugurate a campaign of victory. The 10th of July, 1896, will be long remembered as a red-letter day in the history of the Democratic party. The convention held in Chicago this week was an exceptional one in every way. And I think to-night we are justified in the belief that the next President of the United States will be Bryan. The issues before the two great party conventions were identical but the manner of dealing with them widely different.

THE PEOPLE ON TOP.

"The money question was the leading factor. In the Republican convention the bankers won, but in the convention at Chicago, the people came out on top. By this time all differences have melted away and now there is only one great united Democratic party. There have been many comments on the money question, especially on the 16 to 1 basis. Now it has been explained by many but not to my liking and I will give you my explanation. I think it means that when election day comes to hand it will be 16 for Bryan to 1 for McKinley."

NO LOMBARD ST. IN THIS.

W. C. Heinle, Esq., was the next speaker. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Heinle said: "The time is here when the people have risen in their American manhood to the question of each other's needs and wants. The nomination at Chicago was the voice of the people and not the silent ear to the ticker to see what and who the people of Lombard street, London, wanted."

WETZEL KNEW HIM.

Surveyor J. H. Wetzel, in a few remarks, told of a personal acquaintance with the "Boy Orator of the Platte," and pictured him as a man entitled to the confidence of all and worthy any trust reposed in his keeping; and a man for the people all the time.

POPULAR AT HOME.

C. M. Bower, Esq., told of Bryan's election to Congress, in 1890, by an overwhelming majority in a strong Republican district, and expressed the opinion that a man so popular at home, could be relied on anywhere and under all circumstances. In this convention he sat as a delegate. He was backed by no State delegation and his nomination was the result of a spontaneous demand of the people. Mr. Bower also spoke at some length on the platform, which he designated as enunciating true American principles for America.

LIKE THE DRUMMER BOY AT MARENGO.

The ratification, so far as speechmaking was concerned, closed with a stirring address by Hugh S. Taylor, Esq., in which he likened Bryan to the Drummer Boy of Marengo, who could not beat a retreat—nothing but a charge. So was Bryan's nomination, and so will be his election.

MORE MUSIC AND FIREWORKS.

At the close of the speechmaking the band began to play and the air was illuminated for squares with brilliant pyrotechnics. The boy with his tin horn got in his work, and could Mr. Bryan have been here he would have felt gratified at seeing that Bellefonte Democrats strongly endorsed the work of the convention.

ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION.

It is highly probable that next week another demonstration, on a more elaborate scale, will be given in this place, when all Democrats in the county can be here.

A PLEASING SUCCESS.—The concert, that was given in the Presbyterian chapel on Friday evening for the benefit of the Y. M. C. A., was undoubtedly a success for the greatest expectations of the business manager were realized and the audience was perfectly satisfied with the entertainment.

The concert was gotten up on short notice but every number on the program was pleasing even if it was not classical. Messrs Katz, Gearhart and Walkey played several good selections on the mandolins and guitar. Mrs. Burnett, whose singing is always appreciated, sang two selections. Master Heller, Mrs. Joseph's little nephew from New York, surprised his hearers and delighted them so by his xylophone playing that he, as well as the others, was obliged to respond to an encore.

James D. Hawley, of Williamsport, who reminds one of Marshall Wilder in his recitations and mimicry, was the life of the evening. His recitations were all of Whitcomb Riley style but touched his audience to laughter and applause. Miss Victorine Lyon was never heard to better advantage. She sang the "Recitative and Aria" from Freischutz, beautifully, and, when she responded to an encore with "Ben Bolt" a number of people were heard to say "that one song repays us for coming." Miss Hamilton, of Beaver Falls showed great beauty of interpretation and perfect technique in her piano solo from "Faust." The quartette and chorus singing were all entertaining and the whole evening generally satisfactory.

HARRY I. BOUSE MARRIED.—About noon, on Monday, Rev. Dr. Swallow united Harry I. Bouse, of Tyrone, and Miss Carrie Monroe, of Harrisburg, in marriage. The ceremony was performed at the bride's home where a number of guests were assembled to witness it. She was for years employed in the Methodist book rooms in that city and is a very accomplished young lady. The groom is well-known in Bellefonte, where he has many friends. He is a son of the late Rev. George Bouse, who was popular as a Methodist minister while serving many churches in this county. Harry is now traveling for the Malena company of Warriors-mark and we wish him every success in his married life.

State College and Vicinity.

Miss S. S. Hunter has gone to Erie, for the summer.

Prof. L. E. Reber and family are camping at Shingletown Gap.

Prof. Geo. C. Butz and wife have gone to Atlantic City for the summer.

Rev. J. Otis Dennison has just returned from a delightful trip to New York state.

Miss Belle Whitmer, of Philadelphia, has been visiting C. H. and R. M. Foster during the past week.

Mr. James Foster, who has been home on a short vacation, returned, on Monday, to Sheffield, Alabama.

We had the pleasure of seeing Dr. Thos. O. Glenn and lady, of Boalsburg, about town Tuesday evening.

Dr. John F. Harter, of Millheim, brought his hand up and gave us some fine music on the 4th, and helped boost our big time.

A. F. Markle, Berner Pearce, H. T. Price and Miss Annie Hamilton have gone to Washington, D. C., to attend the C. E. convention.

Dr. M. C. Ihseng and Prof. H. H. Stock have just returned from Tioga county where they were concluding the summer school of the mining engineering department.

Chased the Three Friends.

She Was Pursued by a United States Ship or a Spanish War Vessel.

KEY WEST, Fla., July 6th.—Captain Low, of the schooner Charles D. Hall arrived at this port yesterday noon and reports that yesterday morning about 10 o'clock he sighted a steam tug off Sombro light going in a southeast direction, which he took for from him and it was impossible to decipher her name. About 2 o'clock he also sighted the same steamer coming back under full head of steam and shortly afterwards a large three masted steamer hove in sight, coming from the southward, which had evidently frightened the tug. When about twenty miles southeast of this port, the tug hauled to and put back across the gulf.

This morning about 9:30 a small tug supposed to be the Three Friends, was sighted from the custom house going up the gulf under full steam and being chased by a war vessel. The tug was close to the reef and some little distance off. Some think it was the United States ship Raleigh, while others claim it to be a Spanish war vessel. At this moment the war vessel has hauled off and the Three Friends has come inside off the reef.

Gavel With a History.

Chairman Harrity's Emblem of a Bell of Chicago's Pioneer Days.

CHICAGO, July 7.—The gavel used by Chairman Harrity in opening the convention to-day was presented by Ossian Guthrie, of Chicago, and was made from an oak timber taken from old Fort Dearborn. The block house from which the timber was taken survived the great Chicago fire, and was purchased by Mr. Guthrie and other philanthropic citizens and reerected in South park, Chicago, as a reminder of the city's frontier days.

Yale Defeated.

LONDON, July 7.—The Henley-Leander crew beat the Yale eight in the first trial heat for the grand challenge cup. The cessation of wind greatly aided the Leanders. Yale got away with the lead but Leander won easily by one and three-quarter lengths. Time 7:14.

Invaded by Worms.

Altoona at the present time is subjected to an invasion of army worms. They are to be seen in every part of the city and there must be millions of them. The grass and leaves are being eaten up by the pests.

SILVERITES AGAIN

They Win the Second Heat in the Democratic Convention.

MANY HOURS OF ORATORY.

The Convention Sustains the Committee on Credentials.

SCENES OF WILD EXCITEMENT.

During the Ballot on the Michigan Contest the Vote of New York in Favor of the Gold Men Evokes a Remarkable Outburst of Enthusiasm—The Silver Men Have Their Inauguration and the Result of the Vote is Announced.

CHICAGO, July 9.—The battle of the giants was waged all along the line yesterday, with the silver men in control in the committee rooms and in the convention. No quarter was shown. The committee on resolutions, where they had a majority, with a few modifications adopted and sent to the floor. The committee on credentials, where they had a majority, adopted the sub-committee on Tuesday night. Senator Hill, after the resolutions which inferentially condemned the president at three distinct points had been adopted by the committee, offered a plank commending the administration for its honesty, fidelity and courage. By a vote of 27 to 17 it was defeated.

Everywhere there is talk of a gold bolt, and it seems now very probable that there may be definite action of at least a portion of the minority. The leaders, however, are still exercising their influence to restrain the convention from any such action. Ex-Governor Flower, who at first advocated a bolt, changed front, but Colonel George B. McClellan and Perry Belmont were for radical action.

The course of the committee on credentials indicating an intention to unseat the Michigan gold delegation had the effect in an indirect way of staying the hands of the silver leaders. It precipitated a storm of protests from the gold men, who said they considered it simply an exercise of force. The Massachusetts and Connecticut delegations were especially incensed, and they threatened to either withdraw from the convention or decline participation in its action if the Michigan delegation was unseated.

Coupled with this came the intimation that Senator White, who had been selected for permanent chairman, would rule that a nomination could be made by two-thirds of the delegates voting in the convention. It was this latter threat which the committee on credentials, who reconsidered the Michigan matter, if such a ruling was allowed the gold men, with their big lead, could perhaps compass his nomination if the gold men declined to vote. The friends of the other candidates became alarmed at the possibility, and with sweet combination of the Missourians made haste to reconsider their determination to unseat the Michigan delegates-at-large. It was decided to report that certain district delegates from that state had been illegally chosen.

The Credentials Committee Hitch.

It was this hitch in the committee on credentials which rendered the day session of the convention a nullity so far as results were concerned. For over two hours the convention awaited the end of the struggle in the committee on credentials, occupying their time in listening to the fervid oratory of silver champions. The gold men sat silent and impassive as half a dozen silver orators were, one after the other, called to the stage to stir the blood and fire the imagination of the gold men.

The only real business transacted at the first session of the day was the seating of the silver delegation from Nebraska. This was accomplished without any contest. The report of the credentials committee seating the Nebraska silverites and asking for further time on the Michigan contest was promptly adopted. The gold men smilingly walked out to the music of the band, and the contestants took their seats. This was the signal for a wild demonstration in honor of Bryan, "the boy orator of the Platte," who is now everywhere recognized as a formidable dark horse.

There was an adjournment at 1:37 until 5 o'clock, and the crowd for the second session of the day was larger than the first. Several hundred people attempted to remain in the convention hall during the three hours of recess. They camped in squares scattered along the long sloping banks of chairs which stretch up to the eaves of the building like the benches of the ancient Coliseum, after which Chicago has named its mammoth hall. These patient enthusiasts were not suffered to remain, however, for one ticket entitled a spectator to but one admission, so the officers swept along the seats and herded the populace to the doors, ladies and children with the men. They were compelled to present their coupons to the doorknockers if they had any, and came trooping back to make themselves at home and while away the time with newspapers and sandwiches. An hour before 5 o'clock the hundreds began streaming in.

The Resolutions Committee's Report.

At 5:30 the committee on resolutions filed into the inclosure. In the van was the stalwart form of Senator Hill. As the delegates and crowd gathered round him they arose to their feet and wildly cheered the New York leader. Again and again they cried his name, but the senator Senator Grady coolly paced the platform

with hands in his trouser's pockets while the band played, and when he could make himself heard remarked that he never had been able to speak in a convention without starting a fight. His exit set the hall to crying "vote, vote" once more. quietly took his seat and conferred in subdued tones with those about him, as if utterly unconscious of the tumult. Ten minutes later Chairman Daniel called the convention to order and announced that the committee on credentials was ready to report. When the reading clerk read the report seating four silver district delegates from Michigan, which changed the complexion of the delegation, under the unit rule, from gold to silver, there was considerable applause among the silver men on the floor.

Ex-Congressman John C. Crosby, of Massachusetts, on behalf of the minority of the committee, took the stage and earnestly protested against the decision of the majority. John H. Brennan of Wisconsin, John P. Salsburg of Delaware, Ehot G. Stevenson of Michigan and ex-Lieutenant Governor Sheehan of New York also spoke against the majority report, which was defended by Delegate Taylor of Arkansas, Governor McLaurin of Mississippi, Delegate Blake of Texas and Delegate McKnight of Michigan.

There were many other debates on either side of the question, but this Michigan debate was becoming so wearisome that when Delegate Beckman, a smooth faced young man from that state, began to talk the people began to cry for a vote. Mr. Bruckner, however, stirred them to a yell by declaring that while he had always been a free silver man he believed the silverites had enough delegates to elect a free silver president on a free silver platform without committing highway robbery. Charles S. Thomas, the Colorado member of the national committee, also aroused enthusiasm by speaking in a similar strain.

An Incipient Bow.

State Senator Thomas O'Grady, of New York, was just beginning to be seated and he was interrupted by the first fight of the convention. It started over in front of the press seats to the left of the platform, where a stalwart policeman, through mistaken diligence, pounced upon a delegate from Illinois who was attempting to enter the section allotted to the delegates. People climbed to their chairs everywhere, and a small riot seemed on hand until the chairman pressed the button which signalled the band to play.

At the conclusion of a speech from Delegate O'Donnell, of Colorado, Chairman Daniel put the question first on the substitution of the minority report for the majority report to confirm the sitting delegates in their title to the seats. The roll was called. Alabama, the first state called, started a revolt against the majority. Although a solid silver delegation, a challenge of her vote developed the fact that seven votes in the delegation favored the gold delegates. But under the unit rule Alabama's 22 votes were cast against the minority report. The gold men got 11 out of California's 18 silver votes, two of which were cast by Senator White and Congressman Maguire.

Indiana's silver delegation furnished 8 of their 30 votes for the gold delegates. Delegate Haldeeman, of the Kentucky delegation, by a challenge, uncovered 2 affirmative votes in that delegation. There were 3 votes in the Massachusetts delegation for seating the silver delegates, and 1 in Maryland. Mr. Stevenson, of Michigan, cast the 28 votes of his state, in which there were 12 silver votes, in favor of keeping the gold men in their seats.

The cheering was wild when ex-Governor Flower cast the seventy-two votes of New York for the minority report. It continued for a full minute, when the cheering suddenly swelled into a roar. The gold delegates mounted their chairs and waved their handkerchiefs, while the galleries grew perfectly frantic with enthusiasm. They whistled, stamped their feet, hung their hats aloft and turned the convention into pandemonium. The enthusiasm rose and fell only to rise again like the oncoming tides of the ocean. Up to that time it was unquestionably the most enthusiastic scene of the convention.

Chairman Daniel tried to restore order with his gavel, but the raps were swallowed up in the awful din as the crack of a toy pistol would be by a volley of a hundred guns.

The band broke in with the strains of one of Sousa's popular marches, but it had no effect on the 10,000 people who were yelling like mad. When the music ceased the demonstration grew fiercer. The silver men were infuriated. They were evidently convinced that the galleries were packed.

Temporary Chairman Daniel Powerless.

Chairman Daniel held up his hand for order, but he was not heeded. He ordered the clerk to call the roll, but that official's voice could not penetrate four feet into the whirlwind of sound. The silver men in the galleries hissed at the silver leaders on the stage, who were manifestly disturbed. Governor Stone, of Missouri, moved hastily up to the stage to consult with Chairman Daniel. Senator Cockrell worked his way around to where sat the Illinois delegation. Others moved hither and thither. It looked almost as if the silver men had been stricken with paralysis.

He faced the chairman. The silver delegates regained their composure as they saw that strong, masterful figure towering above the forest of arms, unshaken by the tumult raging about him. He challenged the vote of Michigan, but Chairman Daniel decided that the point could not be raised until the roll call was completed. Governor Altgeld attempted to continue, but was howled down.

The silvermen attempted a counter demonstration when business had been taken up again and the favorable vote of Ohio was called, but their efforts were but a feeble breath after the tempest for gold. The gold men took their turn again when Pennsylvania's vote was announced for them, but they were satisfied with a mild cheer. Other silver states being challenged as the roll call proceeded, showed that silver men were jumping over factional traces on the issue.

Finally the vote was announced: 558 nays, 38 ayes, 3 not voting and 1 absent. Its announcement set the convention afire with another tremendous flame. The silver men had their turn in earnest. The scene showed plainly the complexion of the assembly, for this time the delegates were the shouters, and the galleries remained silent, except in scattered places. The delegates seized newspapers, hats and handkerchiefs and waved them above their heads, tossed them high in the air, swung their flags madly and with all their strength, and unremotely howled.

The states' standards along the aisles were seized and wrenched from the bolts which held them to the floor to be elevated high into the air. Over in the far southwestern corner, nearly a quarter of a mile from the platform, it seemed the Montana miners' band was blowing all the power of its lungs into the brass horns. The

band above the chairman's head was also at work, but neither produced an audible sound, and even the stalwart base drummers were pounding a pantomime. The complexion of the scene has been changed. This time it was the gold leaders who sat mute with clouded brows. The generals of silver were beaming. Senator Daniel made efforts with his voice and ineffectual efforts, and he scolded with full resignation. Toward the end of the silver clamor some of the most hysterical westerners pulled off their coats and vests to wave. After nineteen minutes, one minute more than the gold cheering, the silver men were satisfied.

The report of the committee on permanent organization was called for and Delegate Finley, of Ohio, its chairman, made his way to the stage and read the list of permanent officers selected, which was headed by Senator White, of California, for chairman. Mr. Finley, Senator Vest of Missouri and Judge McConnell of Illinois were appointed a committee to escort Senator White to the platform.

The appearance of the distinguished committee on the platform with their charge was the signal for a most cordial reception. Temporary Chairman Daniel, in yielding the gavel to the California senator, made a most graceful speech, thanking the convention for its courtesy. The contrast between the two leaders was most marked. Senator White, with his resolute face and full beard streaked with gray, looks more like a soldier than a statesman, and he would command instant attention in any body. Mr. White presided over the St. Louis convention of 1888, and made an ideal officer. His speech last night was brief.

Then came the inevitable gavel presentation. It was made by W. A. Clark, of Montana. It was a handsome silver mallet, given in the name of the greatest mining state of the Union, Mr. Clark said. The motion for adjournment until 10 o'clock this morning was made at 9:30 p. m., and the spectators poured out.

Mr. Bailey, of Texas, has announced that he intends to offer an amendment to the platform relating to currency. He desires to change the provision which declares for issuing of all money by the government so that it may not prevent the issuing of notes by state banks. Senator Tillman declines to accept the change, although urged to do so by one of the delegates. He says that he is willing to test the sense of the convention on the matter.

There is much uncertainty regarding the position of Governor Pattison in the race for the presidential nomination. It seems to be understood that after the adoption of the silver platform by the delegates, he will be formally placed in nomination, for the reason that his friends could not consistently urge his selection on a platform expressing convictions on finance to which he is opposed. Nevertheless, the Pennsylvania delegation is instructed for Pattison, and unless he signifies a desire that his name be withdrawn, he will be formally placed in nomination.

The Silver Leaders Alarmed.

The prolonged demonstration which took place in the convention last night, beginning with the announcement of New York's vote on the Michigan contest, was construed by the silver men as prearranged. Some of them regarded it as an effort to stampede the convention and nominate Senator Hill. They immediately jumped to the conclusion that the hall had been filled with many schemes were hurriedly discussed looking to the prevention of any future demonstration of the same character.

With the growing storm the silver leaders became very much incensed. Acting on the spur of momentary impulse Governor Stone, of Missouri, climbed to the top of the galleries completely. Many of the silver delegates assured him of their support, and it looked for a while as if this heroic remedy would be resorted to. Different counsels prevailed, however. The governor first consented to a modification suggested by ex-Senator Martin, of Kansas, providing for closing the hall to visitors at all future sessions. Later the silver men became more reconciled to the state of affairs, and with the first flush of surprise and indignation at the manifestation their ill feeling passed off, and it was decided to do nothing for the present looking to the suppression of such demonstrations.

The first manifestation made upon New York's vote was generally accepted as a personal tribute to Senator Hill. He sat quietly in his seat while the cheering proceeded and appeared anxious to attract as little attention as possible. He was sought out by his friends and congratulated upon the demonstration. When it was suggested to him that it might make an effort to secure his nomination he closed his lips tightly and declined to make a reply.

PLATFORM OF PRINCIPLES.

Pledges of the Democratic Party to the Voters of the Land.

CHICAGO, July 9.—The following is the platform in full as agreed upon by the committee on resolutions. It was presented to the convention at this morning's session, and is now under discussion.

It has been arranged to allow an hour and twenty minutes on each side for the discussion of the resolutions, after which the platform will be insisted upon. Senator Tillman is to consume forty minutes of the time for the majority report. He will be followed by Bryan, Jones and one other silver man.

Senator Hill will make the principal speech on behalf of the minority speakers. It is understood that Vicks, Gray and Hesselbeck will be the other minority speakers. It is intended to proceed with the nominating speeches as soon as the platform is adopted.

We, the Democrats of the United States, in national convention assembled, do reaffirm our allegiance to those great essential principles of justice and liberty upon which our institutions are founded and which the Democratic party has advocated from Jefferson's time to our own—freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of conscience, the preservation of the law and the faithful observance of constitutional limitations.

During all these years the Democratic party has resisted the tendency of selfish interests to the centralization of governmental power, and steadfastly maintained the integrity of the dual scheme of government established by the founders of this republic of republics. Under the guidance and teachings the great principle of local self government has found its best expression in the maintenance of the rights of the states and in its assertion of the necessity of confining the general government to the exercise of the powers granted by the constitution of the United States.

Recognizing that the money system is para-

mount to all others at this time, we invite attention to the fact that the federal constitution names silver and gold together as the money metals of the United States, and that the first coinage law passed by congress for the establishment made the silver dollar the monetary unit, and admitted gold to free coinage at a ratio based upon the silver unit.

We are opposed to the policy and practices of surrendering to the holders of obligations of the United States the option reserved by law to the government of redeeming such obligations in either silver coin or gold coin.

We are opposed to the issuing of interest bearing bonds of the United States in times of peace, and condemn the trafficking with bond syndicates which, in exchange for bonds at an enormous profit to themselves, supply the federal treasury with gold to maintain the policy of gold monometallism.

Congress alone has the power to coin and issue money, and President Jackson declared that this power could not be delegated to corporations or individuals. We, therefore, demand that the power to issue notes be taken from the banks, and that all paper money shall be issued directly by the treasury department, be redeemable in coin and receivable for all debts, public and private.

We hold that tariff duties should be levied solely for purposes of revenue, such duties to be so adjusted as to operate equally throughout the country, and apply discriminately to no class or section, and that taxation should be limited by the needs of the government, honestly and economically administered. We denounce as disturbing business, the Republican threat to restore the McKinley law, which has twice been condemned by the people in national elections, and which, enacted under the false plea of protection to the industry, proved a prolific breeder of trusts and monopolies, enriched the few at the expense of the many, restricted trade and deprived the producers of the great American staples of access to their natural markets. Under the money question is settled we are opposed to any agitation for further changes in our tariff laws, except such as are necessary to make up the deficit in revenues caused by the abolition of the supreme court on the income tax.

But for this decision by the supreme court there would be no deficit in the revenues under the law passed by a Democratic congress in strict pursuance of the decisions of that court for nearly one hundred years, that court having in that decision sustained constitutional objections to its enactment which had previously been overruled by the ablest judges who have ever sat on that bench.

We declare that it is the duty of congress to use all the constitutional power which remains after that decision, or which may come from its reversal by the court, to have a tariff reconstituted, so that the burdens of taxation may be equally and impartially laid, to the end that wealth may bear its proportion of the expense of the government. We believe that the most efficient way of protecting American labor is to prevent the importation of foreign pauper labor to compete with it in the home market, and that the value of the home market to American farmers and artisans is greatly reduced by a vicious monetary system which depresses the prices of their products below the cost of production, thus deprives them of the means of purchasing the products of our home manufacturers.

The absorption of wealth by the few, the consolidation of our leading railroad systems and the formation of trusts and pools require a stricter control by the federal government of those arteries of commerce. We demand the enlargement of the powers of the interstate commerce commission, and such restrictions and guarantees in the control of railroads as will protect the people from robbery and oppression.

We denounce the profligate waste of the money wrung from the people by oppressive taxation, and the lavish appropriations of recent Republican congresses, which have kept taxes high, while the government has been unemployed, and the products of the people's toil are depressed in prices till they no longer repay the cost of production. We demand a return to that simplicity and economy which has been the characteristic of the democratic government, and a reduction in the number of useless offices, the salaries of which drain the substance of the people.

We denounce arbitrary and capricious officials in local affairs as a violation of the constitution of the United States and a crime against free institutions, and we especially object to government by injunction, by which federal judges, in contempt of the laws of the states and the rights of citizens, become at once legislators, judges and executioners.

Recognizing the just claims of deserving Union soldiers, we heartily endorse the rule of the present pension commission; that no names shall be arbitrarily dropped from the rolls, and the fact of enlistment and service should be deemed conclusive evidence against disease and disability before enlistment.

We favor the admission of the territories of New Mexico and Arizona into the Union as states, and we favor the early admission of all the territories having the necessary population and resources to entitle them to statehood, and while they remain territories they should be officials appointed to administer the government of any territory, together with the District of Columbia and Alaska, should be bona fide residents of the territory in which their duties are to be performed. The Democratic party believes in home rule, and that all public lands of the United States should be appropriated to the establishment of free homes for American citizens.

We recommend that the Territory of Alaska be granted a delegate in congress, and that the United States be extended to said territory.

We extend our sympathy to the people of Cuba in their heroic struggle for liberty and independence.

We are opposed to life tenures in the public service. We favor appointments based upon merit, fixed terms of office, and such an administration of the civil service laws as will afford equal opportunities to all citizens of ascertained fitness.

We declare it to be the unwritten law of this republic, established by custom and usage of a hundred years, and sanctioned by the example of the great and wise statesmen who founded and have maintained our government, that no man should be eligible for a third term of the presidential office.

The federal government should care for and improve the Mississippi river and other great waterways of the republic, so as to secure for the interior states easy and cheap transportation to their ports. We believe that the aid of the government should be extended upon a definite plan of continuous work until permanent improvement is secured.

We declare that the act of 1873, demonetizing silver without the knowledge or approval of the American people, has resulted in the appreciation of gold and a corresponding fall in the prices of commodities produced by the people; a heavy increase in the burden of taxation and of all debts, public and private; the enrichment of the money lending class, at home and abroad; paralysis of industry and impoverishment of the people.

We are unalterably opposed to monometallism, which has locked fast the prosperity of all industrious people in the paralysis of the money market. Gold monometallism is selfish policy, and its adoption has brought other nations into financial servitude to London. It is not only fastened on the United States only by the stifling of that spirit and love of liberty which proclaimed our political independence in 1776 and won it in the war of the revolution.

We demand the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation. We demand that the standard silver dollar shall be a full legal tender, equally with gold, for all debts, public and private, and we favor such legislation as will prevent for the future the demonetization of any kind of legal tender money by private contract.

Confiding in the justice of our cause and the necessity of its success as the polls, we submit the foregoing declaration of principle and purposes to the considerate judgment of the American people. We invite the support of all citizens who approve them, and who desire to have them made effective through legislation for the relief of the people and the restoration of the country's prosperity.