THE CRIME OF '73.

CONGRESS SECRETLY DEMONETIZED THE SILVER DOLLAR.

Strong Testimony of Members of Congress That the Bill Was Doctored in Its Passage Through the House of Representatives.

Twenty-three years ago, by the crafty and concealed agency of a representative of the Bank of England, a bill was passed by a Republican Congress, engineered steadily through by John J. Knox, Comptroller of the Currency, and John Sherman, then, as now, a Senator from Ohio, which bill is known to-day throughout the civilized world as "the crime of '73." That bill demonetized about one-half the Constitutional money of the United States and brought on an Iliad of woes.

Was it, indeed, a crime, or is the charge a slander, such as is sometimes uttered without justification in the heat of a political campaign? I am not conversant in the language of slander, and have prescribed for myself an inflexible rule to make charges against no man derogatory to his good name without being impelled by a sense of public duty and able to substantiate them by ample evidence. I repeat the charge, that the demonetization of the standard silver dollar, Constitutional money of the United States from 1792 to 1873, was a crime; that the section of the bill demonetizing silver was secretly inserted without being read, printed or discussed after the bill left the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures, of which Judge Kelley, of Pennsylvania, was Chairman, and that the House was deceived into passing the bill under the belief that it provided for the standard silver dollar, whereas by trick, cheat and fraud it did not so provide.

Let us hear the Chairman of the Coinage Committee, Judge Kelley, when afterwards charged with having advocated the demonetization of silver. I quote from the official report of his remarks on the floor of the House as found in the Congressional Record (Forty-fifth Congress, second session. p. 1605): "In connection with the charge that I advocated the bill which demonetized the standard silver dollar, I say that, though the Chairman of the Committee on Coinage, I was as ignorant of the fact that it would demonetize the silver dollar, or of its dropping the silver dollar from our system or coins, as were those distinguished Senators, Messrs. Blaine and Voorhees, who were then members of the House, and each of whom, a few days since, interrogated the other: 'Did you know it was dropped when the bill passed?' 'No,' said Mr. Blaine; 'did you?' 'No,' said Mr. Voorhees. I do not think there were three members in the House that knew it. I doubt whether Mr. Hooper, who, in my absence from the Committee on Coinage and attendance on the Committee on Ways and Means, managed the bill, knew it. I say this in justice to him.'"

Judge Kelley, commonly called Pig Iron Kelley, because of his high protection views, was a man of great ability, sterling integrity and National eminence. Again on the floor of the House in the Forty-sixth Congress, (Congressional Record, first session, p. 1231) he cleared himself of all complicity in the crime which had been committed, and among other telltale revelations which he made he used the following memorable language: "All I can say is that the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures, who reported the original bill, were faithful and able, and scanned its provisons closely; that as their organ I reported it; that it contained provisions for both the standard silver dollar and the trade dollar. Never having heard until a long time after its enactment into law of the substitution in the Senate of the section which dropped the standard silver dollar, I profess to know nothing of its history, but I am prepared to say that in the legislation of this country there is no mystery equal to the demonetization of the silver dollar of the United States. I have never met a man who could tell just how it came about or why."

Now, gentlemen, if you turn to the 7th volume of the Congressional Record (45th Congress, p. 584) and will read what Congressman Bright had to say from his seat on the floor, you will find out how this colossal crime against the American people was effectuated and smuggled through the House of Representatives.

"It passed," said Mr. Bright, "by fraud in the House, never having been printed in advance, being a substitute for the printed bill, never having been read at the clerk's desk, the reading having been dispensed with by an impression that the bill made no alteration in the coinage laws; it was passed without discussion, debate being cut off by operation of the previous question. It was passed, to my certain information, under such circumstances that the fraud escaped the attention of some of the most watchful, as well as the ablest statesmen in Congress at the time. Ay, sir, it was a fraud that smells to heaven, a fraud for which some person must give an account in the day of retribution."

Let me next turn to the Senate, and inquire what was said there about it. Senator Allison an aspirant for the Presidential nomination at the recent Republican Convention in St. Louis, declared the bill was "doctored." You will find his remarks as made in the Senate at p. 260 of the Congressional Record, same volume as I have just quoted from. "When the secret history of this bill of 1873 comes to be told," declared Senator Allison, "it will disclose the fact that the House of Representatives intended to coin both gold and silver, and intended to place both metals upon the French relation instead of on our own, which was the true scientific position with reference to this subject in 1873, but that the bill afterward was doctored, if I must use the term, and I use it in no offensive sense, of course—"

Mr. Sargent interrupted him and asked him what he meant by the word "doctored," but the good natured Mr. Allison perhaps, looking at the "doctor" who had injected the fatal potion, the leprous distilment into the measure, rather feebly responded: "I said I used the word in no offensive sense." But Senator Beck, of Kentucky, was more outspoken. "The demonetization bill," said he (same volume of the Record, p. 260), "never was understood by either House of Congress. I say that with full knowledge of the facts. No newspaper reporter—and they are the most vigilant men I ever saw in obtaining information—discovered that it had been done."

Senator Thurman said: "I cannot say what took place in the House, but I know, when the bill was pending in the Senate, we thought it was simply a bill to reform the mint, regulate coinage and fix up one thing and another; and there is not a single man in the Senate, I think, unless a member of the committee from which the bill came, who had the slightest idea that it was even a squint toward demonetization."

This member was John Sherman. Senator Hereford said (same volume of the Record, p. 989): "So that I say beyond the possibility of doubt (and there is no disputing it) that bill which demonetized silver, as it passed, never was read, never was discussed, and the Chairman of the committee who reported it, who offered the substitute, said to Mr. Holman, when inquired of, that it did not effect the coinage in any way whatever."

Representative Holman, the watchdog of the Treasury, declared "that the measure and the methods of its passage through the House was a colossal swindle." (Congressional Record, Forty-fourth Congress, first session, p. 193.)

Fellow citizens, in this brief resume of the history of the act of Congress of February 12, 1873, which demonetized silver, I have offered you only the evidence of those who witnessed the transaction. Such testimony is not only the best for a popular meeting, but it would be competent in a court of law, as it will be conclusive in the tribunal of history, that a great crime was committed by some person or persons against the American people by the passage of that nefarious act.

J. FAIRFAX MCLAUGHLIN.

A Poor Argument.

One of the many arguments of the men who have tried to fasten gold monometallism upon the people of the United States is this, that the people in Mexico, which country is upon a bimetallic basis, live cheaply. This may be true, but they all have an independent living. There are no tramps in Mexico, unless they are unfortunate Americans whom the gold standard has driven there in search of employment. Surely it is better for all of the people to have a comfortable existence than for half of them to work for inadequate wages, as is the case in this country at present, while the other half are out of employment and the ill paid employed must out of their meager wages support their unemployed brethren. The Mexican argument will not hold water in this campaign. Empty stomachs are greater arguments than sophistries. It is very well to say that the Mexican laborer lives mainly upon vegetables, but the unemployed men of the United States would rather have vegetables than nothing. It will not be necessary for them to confine themselves to such food, however, if silver be remonetized, for then we will only ship as much of our meat product to Europe in payment of interest as we do at present, and the other half will remain at home to be placed upon the dinner tables of the American workmen and to bring back smiles to the faces of their starving children. The Mexican argument will not go in this campaign.—Silver Knight.

A Stock Claim of the Gold Bugs.

One of the stock claims of the gold bugs is that free silver would make the United States the silver dumping ground of the world. There is about $8,000,000,000 actual silver in the world, in coin and used in the arts. About $4,000,000,000 is in coin. How much of that would be taken to the American mints? Imagine the housewives of Europe, Asia and the rest of the world gathering together their old silver and shipping it to the United States; and no doubt the European Nations would take their silver coin, already at par with gold, and would send their supply to this country to be sold at the mints for fifty-three cent dollars! Should this actually be done, a preposterous supposition, the per capita of the United States would run up to over $100—that is, as soon as the mints could catch up; and as soon as that happened what a desperate strait Europe would be in. It would have parted with its silver for fifty-three cent dollars; its supply of that coin, at par with gold when sent here, would have depreciated one-half in value and the per capita would have depreciated in proportion and panicky times would shake the money centres of Europe as they had never been shaken before. This is following to its conclusion one of the absurd claims of the Republicans and goldites. There will, under bimetallism, never be a fifty-three cent dollar, at least as long as the Democratic party can win elections in the United States.

THINGS TO BE REMEMBERED.

Bimetallism would mean more money, a stable measure of values and prosperity. That is the Democratic claim. In 1865 according to Secretary McCullough there was $2,000,000,000 in circulation in the United States. There was a little more than this according to the figures in Maurice Muhleman's book "Monetary Systems of the World." But take the Secretary of the Treasury's figures. The population was 35,000,000. The per capital circulation according to that was about $57.

In 1890 the money in the country was about $868,000,000, although Secretary Foster's report made for political effect, stated that it amounted to $1,588,000,000. Using Secretary Foster's figures the per capita was only $24, but an accurate estimate of the money is as follows: Loss of paper money during twenty-eight years, $50,000,000; hoarded, low estimate, $25,000,000; National Bank reserves, $460,000,000; private bank reserves, estimated, $250,000,000; total, $785,000,000. Deduct that from the figures given by Secretary Foster and the balance in actual circulation will be seen to have been but $803,000,000. The population in 1890 was 64,000,000, and the per capita $12.50.

The word "dollar" is used to designate the unit of value in this country's currency. The single gold standard has enabled the money lenders of the world to so control the metal that, like any other scarce and preferred article, its value has increased over fifty per cent. since 1873. The price of silver measured in gold has depreciated, but measured in the products that are used by scientists and financiers to measure its values it has maintained its position. Gold has appreciated and will continue to do so unless the corner is broken by the Democratic party on November 3. The continuation of the gold standard would work an irreparable injury to the debtor classes in this country, the small merchants, workingmen, laborers, and the farmers. Bimetallism would assure a stable measure of values, and would give equal justice to all classes of citizens.

Against the people in this campaign are arrayed the consolidated forces of wealth and corporate power. The classes which have grown fat by reason of Federal legislation and the single gold standard have combined to fasten their fetters still more firmly upon the people and are organizing every precinct of every county of every State in the Union with this purpose in view.—Chairman Jones of the National Democratic Committee.

The demonetization of silver in 1873 produced one of the worst panics in the history of the United States.

The operation of the McKinley law and the repeal of the Sherman Silver Purchase act in 1893 caused a panic whose influence is still felt.

The maintenance of the gold standard means the issue of bonds and the accumulation of an enormous debt. It means poverty for the producing classes and those directly dependent upon them, the vast majority of people in the United States.

The continuation of the gold standard means the increase in value of every debt, over fifty per cent. Since 1893 the increase has been over twenty per cent. The great debtor class demands justice, not repudiation.

An "Honest Dollar."

An honest dollar is a dollar that has equal DEBT-PAYING and purchasing power.

An honest dollar is a dollar that flows into the channels of trade and commerce and is not hoarded in the miser's safe.

An honest dollar is a dollar that can be used by the POOR as well as the rich.

An honest dollar is a dollar as fair for the BORROWER as for the lender.

An honest dollar is a 100 CENT DOLLAR and not a dishonest 200 cent dollar.

An honest dollar is a dollar that is ALWAYS AMONG THE PEOPLE, and not an imaginary dollar in the vaults of those who make themselves hoarse in defense of THEIR "honest dollar," which seldom sees the light of day.

An honest dollar is a dollar that is as beneficial to the mechanic and laborer as to the Morgan-Belmont syndicate.

An honest dollar is a dollar that sets the wheels of industry in motion and creates a demand for labor rather than corrode in the secret vaults of the men who have nervous prostration on account of being awake nights thinking of the miseries of the wage-earners under the operations of the free coinage of gold and silver.—New York Suburban.

Philip Goetter, of Chicago, is married, and has been for some time, but his ignorance of feminine proclivities is harrowing. To begin with he posted a notice to the effect that Mrs. Goetter must not whisper in the house. This seems to be cruelty refined, for how could his wife tell her callers what she thought of that sort of ukase when he was about, unless she whispered. Incidental to this he forbade her joining a club, locked his house at 8 o'clock every evening, and denied her a latch key, and brought the whole matter to a climax by ordering her, in writing, not to be a new woman. Mrs. Goetter is now suing for separate maintenance. It is possible that the evidence on the trial will disclose a refusal on the part of her husband to let her ride a bicycle. If this is so, wild horses couldn't keep a jury from finding in her favor.

HANNA'S FAT FRYING.

WHERE REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN FUNDS ARE COMING FROM.

Trusts Made Prosperous by McKinleyism to Contribute $10,000,000—Hundreds of Palms are Itching to Handle This Immense Sum.

Mark Hanna admits that it will take much money to educate the people sufficiently to insure the election of his candidate, and the fat-frying is now in full blast. The gigantic trusts and combines, all of which have been benefited in the past by the system represented by Mr. McKinley and further hope for future benefits, are expected to contribute liberally to the Republican campaign fund and already the assessment necessary has been decided upon.

The trusts are expected to contribute $10,000,000 towards the election of Mr. McKinley. As the total capitalization of the various trusts now doing business in defiance of law is about $1,500,000,000, the enormous sum of ten million dollars can be raised without a heavy assessment. It will necessitate a contribution of one dollar from each trust for each $150 of capital stock, or about two-thirds of one per cent.

The largest check will have to come from the Dressed Beef and Provision Trust. This monopoly will have to raise $665,000, and if you are compelled to pay a few cents more on each pound of beef, lard and bacon you buy in the immediate future you may know that you and other consumers are paying this assessment and that Messrs. Armour, Cudahy, Swift, Fowler et al. are not losing anything in their effort to protect the credit of the United States.

The smallest amount will come from the trust that controls the little wooden skewers that bother you when you try to carve your rib-roast. The output of those wooden pins is controlled by a trust which has a capital of but $60,000, which is ample for the purpose, however. The trust will assist Mr. Hanna to the extent of $400.

The two Coal Trusts, with an estimated capital of $100,000,000, an estimate carefully and reliably made by the Philadelphia Times, from which the figures of capitalization are taken, is probably too low. As the price of coal has recently been advanced and other advances are threatened, the $665,000 the coal barons will contribute to the election of their friend will not be missed. That is, by the trust. But every consumer, and especially the poor people who buy coal by the basket or ton, will feel the extortion.

There are certain expenses incidental to the conduct of a campaign which are legitimate and must be met. When money is used only for these legitimate expenses the men having the expenditure in charge can make an accounting. But when the sum to be expended is as enormous as the amount which will be spent under the direction of Mark Hanna this year, no such accounting can be made, is ever expected or desired. It is a secret known only to the men who handle the boodle, and contributors must trust to their "honor."

A gentleman who is familiar with the conduct of campaigns from a ward election to the struggle for the Presidency is authority for the statement that not one-half of the money contributed is ever expended for the purpose intended. It passes through so many hands, the fingers of which are sticky, that only a small percentage reaches the man who regards voting as a commercial transaction.

This being the case, it will be seen that the $10,000,000 to be raised by the trusts offers many advantages to the practical politician. It will offer among other things a chance to regain the money which was paid for the Southern and Western delegates who nominated Mr. McKinley in St. Louis.

Ten million dollars is an enormous sum of money. No one appreciates this better than campaign managers. It is so large that one-half of it will make 100 men rich. Given the opportunity to spend such a sum without having to show vouchers or receipts and the job becomes entrancing. The trust managers who raise this fund at the behest of Mr. Hanna will never know what becomes of it. Perhaps they will not care. But hundreds of palms are already itching to handle the sum, and architects have already been asked to prepare plans for fine houses that will be paid for out of this fund.

It may interest the dishonest managers of dishonest trusts to know that of the $10,000,000 which they are expected to contribute, $5,000,000 will be used to corrupt voters and $5,000,000 will be stolen. This statement is made on the authority of a United States Senator, to whom the facts were given by the secret agent in charge of Republican collections.—New York World.

A McKinley Lie Nailed.

"We had a protective tariff under which ample revenue were collected for the Government, and an accumulating surplus, which was constantly applied to the payment of the public debt." [Mr. McKinley's letter of acceptance.]

The Treasury Department publishes the following official statement: "During the fiscal year 1893—ended June 30, 1893—the revenues were $2,341,674 in excess of the expenditures. During the fiscal year 1894—ended June 30, 1894—the expenditures exceeded the revenues to the amount of $69,803,260, notwithstanding the fact that the expenditures of the Government were $16,752,676 less than in the preceding year. The McKinley bill was in force during the whole of the fiscal year 1894."—New York Times.

This is a "Fleak."

The New York Tribune is howling for McKinley and urging the people to elect him President so that the country can have more protection and higher prices for American products. Until recently it published tables nearly every day, showing how prices had fallen since the Wilson tariff law, and it promises that if the Republicans are successful in November the era of low prices and cheap goods will give way to the good old stiff prices and dearness brought about by the tariff of 1890.

While thus committing its party to the Harrison-McKinley theory that cheapness is an evil, the Tribune tries to keep in favor with the people who do not want to pay more for what they buy. So in a recent issue it trots out the old story of how the tinplate industry has grown since 1890, forgetting, of course, to mention that the output of tin plates has been greatly increased since the Wilson law cut the duty on them in two. As a proof of the benefits of high tariffs the Tribune says that protection has reduced the prices of steel, the most important part of the raw material for tin plates, and thus enabled our manufacturers to compete with foreign products.

This is a little Republican joke. Protection reduces the price of steel by shutting out foreign steel with high duties, so that the home manufacturers can combine and charge higher prices. The great steel trust formed five months ago by all the leading steel and iron makers of this country, immediately advanced prices of the steel billets used in making plates for tinning from 15 to 20 per cent. They were able to do this because the tariff on foreign steel prevented tin plate manufacturers from buying in the cheapest markets and thus put them at the mercy of the grasping trust. If it were not for the protection foolishly allowed to remain in the Wilson tariff on iron and steel which we can manufacture cheaper than any other part of the world, the tin plate makers would be to-day buying their steel plates far cheaper than the prevailing prices.

It is unfortunately true that as the late P. T. Barnum said: "The American people like to be humbugged." But if they can be fooled by such cheap tricks as that of pretending that heavier taxes on an article makes it cost less, they deserve to be plundered by the monopolists who own the Republican party.

Reckless Assertions of McKinley.

Major McKinley, in his speech of acceptance, said that under the operation of the Republican policy of high protection, the country "bought more goods at home and sold more abroad" than under the present reduced tariff.

One would think that a politician occupying his present position would be very careful of his statements and sure of their correctness. Evidently he has not done so.

Figures furnished by the bureau of statistics of the United States show that for the nine months ending on the 1st of April last the exports of the manufactured goods of this country amounted in value to $163,187,926, being 24.57 per cent of the entire exports. At the same rate for the remaining three months of the present year, the exports of manufactured goods would amount to $203,904,907. In no previous year had the exports of our manufactures amounted to so great a sum in value; and it should be borne in mind that on account of the reduced cost of such goods (attributable in great part to the reductions of duties on raw materials by the new tariff) it required a larger bulk to make this sum in value. In the fiscal year 1891 the exports of domestic manufactures were only $168,927,315, on 19.37 per cent. of all exports of merchandise; in 1892 they were only $158,510,937, or 15.61 per cent. and in 1893, $183,718,484, or 21.24 per cent.

If the political campaign of this year is to be "one of education," as Republican leaders tell us, care should be taken to have truth for its rudiments, not reckless assertions due to ignorance or design; and surely the Presidential nominee of the party should not be the principal of a school of error or deception.—Atlanta Journal.

McKinley's Bad Break.

"We might just as well understand that we cannot fix by law the wages of labor," said Mr. McKinley to Pennsylvania workingmen on Saturday. Wonders will never cease. Here is the father of that veteran campaigner—"protection means higher wages"—writing its epitaph with never a sob and never a tear!—New York World.

THE PITTSTON DISASTER.

A Report From the Commission of Mine Inspectors Appointed by Gov. Hastings.

The commission of mine inspectors appointed by Governor Hastings to determine the cause of the Twin Shaft mine cave-in, near Pittston, Pa., in which forty-eight miners were entombed, made its report.

The inspectors conclude that Superintendent Langan, who was among those lost, erred in going so far into the mine, knowing there was a "squeeze." The original cause of the "squeeze," the commission believes, was a "mud crack," together with irregularity in the chambers of veins Nos. 5 and 6.

It was also found that "naked lamps" were used at the time of the accident, and from these and the character of the "squeeze" it is presumed an explosion occurred.

The report is signed by all the inspectors, and recommendations accompany it to guard against similar accidents in the future.

PLAYING SOCIETY.

The Little Girl's Interpretation of What the Smart Set Do.

The small girl yearned for things beyond her environment and, with true feminine adaptability, was making the most of the resources at command.

"Reginald," she said to the youngster who was trying to give a tight-rope exhibition on the tongue of the grocery wagon, "e-mere."

"Who ye talkin' to?" was the indignant inquiry.

"Youse."

"My name ain't Reginald. My name's Tommy."

"Ye're name's Reginald."

"Why is it?"

"Because I say it is. Do you see my right hand?"

"Yes."

"No ye don't, nothing of the kind, cos I've got it behind my back, an' there's a brick in it, an' wot I say goes, an' yer name's 'Reginald.'"

"All right. Wot're ye goin' ter do?"

"Play society."

"I don't know how."

"It's easy. Ye come up ter me an' ye say, 'Ah, howduhdo, howduhdoo. Ye're looking chawming this evenink, don'tcheknow.'"

"An' wot do you do?"

"I say, 'Do you reeyully think so?'"

"An' den I s'pose I gits back at yer agin."

"Sure. You jes' kinder duck yer head over yer shoulder an' squint down at me an' say, 'Pon honor.' An' den I sorter gurgles, 'So good of you ter say so.' After we gits t'rough wit dat, we makes believe we're two other people at de same party."

"An' say somet'ing different?"

"Naw. We says de same t'ing. An' we keeps it up till we gits tired an' den we says 'Good night. I've had a puffickly luvvily evenin',' and den we goes home."

"An' you've got de brick in yer han' all de time?"

"I ain't lettin' go of it, not fur a minute."

"All right, I'll play. But it jest goes to show all over agin how big a fool a woman kin make of a man ef she oncet makes up her mind to it."

A Subterranean City.

The "City of the Salt Mines" is situated several hundred feet below the surface at Wielicska, Galicia. This wonderful subterranean city has a population of over 1,000 men, women and children, scores of whom have never seen the light of day or the earth's surface. This remarkable city has its town hall, a theater and its assembly room, as well as a beautiful church, decorated with statutes, all being fashioned from pure crystallized rock salt. It has well graded streets and spacious squares, all well lighted with electricity. There are isolated cases in this underground city, where not a single individual in three or four successive generations has ever seen the sun or has any idea of how people live on the outside of the earth. Their rock salt houses are said to be perfect sanitariums, and the average longevity of the denizens of the "City of the Salt Mines" is said to exceed that of the surface inhabitants of Galicia.

Rosin's Many Uses.

It is perhaps not commonly known that the finer grades of rosin are used in the manufacture of paper. Cheap printers' ink contains rosin. Rosin also enters into the composition of scented toilet soaps, of sealing wax, of putty, of sizing and of varnishes. It likewise furnishes by distillation a lubricating oil for machinery which competes even with petroleum in cheapness.

Fish Do Not Sleep.

The Scientific American insists that some species of fish and insects do not sleep. Among fish, the salmon, pike and gold fish are not known to sleep at all, while some other species indulge in periods of rest for an hour or two at a time. Certain flies are known not to slumber, and all the animalculae belong to the list of those which sleep not.

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