

# WAS BLAINE AN ANARCHIST?

## Did He Spurn National Honor?

## WAS HE A BLATHERSKITE?

## Let Republicans Who Cherish His Memory Answer.

### AFTER READING HIS SPEECH.

For He Believed in Free Silver and Said That the Single Standard Would Have a Ruinous Effect on All Except Those Whose Investments Yield a Fixed Return in Money, and the Goldbugs Now Call This Anarchy and a Whole Lot of Other Hard Names.

[From the New York Tribune, Feb. 8, 1873.] WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—The morning hour having expired in the senate today, the silver bill came up for discussion, and Mr. Blaine (Rep., Maine) spoke as follows:

The discussion on the question of remonetizing silver, Mr. President, has been prolonged, able and exhaustive, and I may not expect to add much to its value, but I promise not to add much to its length. I shall endeavor to consider facts rather than theories, to state conclusions rather than arguments.

I believe gold and silver coin to be the money of the constitution—indeed, the money of the American people anterior to the constitution, which that great organic law recognized as quite independent of its own existence. No power was conferred on congress to declare that either metal should not be money. Congress has, therefore, in my judgment, no power to demonetize silver any more than to demonetize gold; no power to demonetize either any more than to demonetize both.

In this statement I am but repeating the weighty dictum of the first of constitutional lawyers. "I am certainly of opinion," said Mr. Webster, "that gold and silver, at rates fixed by congress, constitute the legal standard of value in this country, and that neither congress nor any state has authority to establish any other standard or to displace this standard." Few persons can be found, I apprehend, who will maintain that congress possesses the power to demonetize both gold and silver, or that congress could be justified in prohibiting the coinage of both, and yet in logic and legal construction it would be difficult to show where and why the power of congress over silver is greater than over gold—greater over either than over the two. If, therefore, silver has been demonetized, I am in favor of remonetizing it. If its coinage has been prohibited, I am in favor of ordering it to be resumed. If it has been restricted, I am in favor of having it enlarged.

What power, then, has congress over gold and silver? It has the exclusive power to coin them, the exclusive power to regulate their value—very great, very wise, very necessary powers, for the discreet exercise of which a critical occasion has now arisen. However men may differ about causes and processes, all will admit that within a few years a great disturbance has taken place in the relative values of gold and silver, and that silver is worth less or gold is worth more in the money markets of the world in 1878 than in 1873, when the further coinage of silver dollars was prohibited in this country. To remonetize it now, as though the facts and circumstances of that day were surrounding us, is willfully and blindly to deceive ourselves. If our demonetization were the only cause for the decline in the value of silver, then remonetization would be its proper and effectual cure. But other causes quite beyond our control have been far more potentially operative than the simple fact of congress prohibiting its further coinage, and as legislators we are bound to take cognizance of these causes.

The demonetization of silver in the great German empire and the consequent partial or well nigh complete suspension of coinage in the governments of the Latin union have been leading, dominant causes for the rapid decline in the value of silver. I do not think the oversupply of silver has had, in comparison with these other causes, an appreciable influence in the decline of its value, because its oversupply with respect to gold in these later years has not been nearly so great as was the oversupply of gold with respect to silver for many years after the mines of California and Australia were opened, and the oversupply of gold from those rich sources did not affect the relative positions and uses of the two metals in any European country.

The responsibility of re-establishing silver in its ancient and honorable place as money in Europe and America devolves really on the congress of the United States. If we act here with prudence, wisdom and firmness, we shall not only successfully remonetize silver and bring it into general use as money in our own country, but the influence of our example will be potential among all European nations, with the possible

exception of England. Indeed, our annual indebtedness to Europe is so great that if we have the right to pay it in silver we necessarily coerce those nations by the strongest of all forces, self interest, to aid us in upholding the value of silver as money.

On the much vexed and long mooted question of a bimetallic or a monometallic standard my own views are sufficiently indicated in the remarks I have made. I believe the struggle now going on in this country and in other countries for a single gold standard would, if successful, produce widespread disaster in the end throughout the commercial world. The destruction of silver as money and establishing gold as the sole unit of value must have a ruinous effect on all forms of property except those investments which yield a fixed return in money. These would be enormously enhanced in value and would gain a disproportionate and unfair advantage over every other species of property. If, as the most reliable statistics affirm, there are nearly \$7,000,000,000 of coin or bullion in the world, not very unequally divided between gold and silver, it is impossible to strike silver out of existence as money without results which will prove distressing to millions and utterly disastrous to tens of thousands.

Alexander Hamilton, in his able and invaluable report in 1791 on the establishment of a mint, declared that "to annul the use of either gold or silver as money is to abridge the quantity of circulating medium and is liable to all the objections which arise from a comparison of the benefits of a full circulation with the evils of a scanty circulation." I take no risk in saying that the benefits of a full circulation and the evils of a scanty circulation are both immeasurably greater today than they were when Mr. Hamilton uttered these weighty words, always provided that the circulation is one of actual money and not of depreciated promises to pay.

In the report from which I have already quoted Mr. Hamilton argues at length in favor of a double standard, and all the subsequent experience of well nigh 90 years has brought out no clearer statement of the whole case nor delayed a more complete comprehension of this subtle and difficult subject. "On the whole," says Mr. Hamilton, "it seems most advisable not to attach the unit exclusively to either of the metals, because this cannot be done effectively without destroying the office and character of one of them as money and reducing it to the situation of mere merchandise." And then Mr. Hamilton wisely concludes that this reduction of either of the metals to mere merchandise (I again quote his exact words) "would probably be a greater evil than occasional variations in the unit from the fluctuations in the relative value of the metals, especially if care be taken to regulate the proportion between them with an eye to their average commercial value." I do not think that this country, holding so vast a proportion of the world's supply of silver in its mountains and its mines, can afford to reduce the metal to the "situation of mere merchandise." If silver ceases to be used as money in Europe and America, the great mines of the Pacific slope will be closed and dead. Mining enterprises of the gigantic scale existing in this country cannot be carried on to provide backs for looking glasses and to manufacture cream pitchers and sugar bowls. A vast source of wealth to this entire country is destroyed the moment silver is permanently disused as money. It is for us to check that tendency and bring the continent of Europe back to the full recognition of the value of the metal as a medium of exchange.

The question of beginning anew the coinage of silver dollars has aroused much discussion as to its effects upon the public credit, and the senator from Ohio (Mr. Matthews) placed this phase of the subject in the very fore front of the debate, insisting prematurely and illogically, I think, on a sort of judicial construction in advance by concurrent resolution of a certain law in case that law should happen to be passed by congress. My own view on this question can be stated very briefly. I believe the public creditor can afford to be paid in any silver dollar that the United States can afford to coin and circulate.

We need both gold and silver, and we can have both only by making each the equal of the other. It would not be difficult to show that in the nations where both have been fully recognized, the most widely diffused, the steadiest and most continuous prosperity has been enjoyed—that true form of prosperity which reaches all classes, but which begins with the day laborer, whose toil lays the foundation of the whole superstructure of wealth. The exclusively gold nation, like England, may show the most massive fortunes in the ruling classes, but it shows also the most helpless and hopeless poverty in the humbler walks of life. The gold and silver nation, like France, can exhibit no such individual fortunes as abound in England, but it has a peasantry that, with their silver savings, can pay a war indemnity that would have beggared the gold bankers of London and to which the peasantry of England could not have contributed a pound sterling in gold or a single shilling in silver.

The two metals have existed side by side in harmonious, honorable companionship as money ever since intelligent trade was known among men. It is well nigh 40 centuries since "Abraham weighed to Ephron the silver which he had named in the audience of the sons of Heth—400 shekels of silver—current money with the merchant." Since that time nations have risen and fallen, races have disappeared, dialects and languages have been forgotten, arts have been lost, treasures have perished, continents have been discovered, islands have been sunk in the sea, and through all these ages and through all these changes silver and gold have reigned supreme as the representatives of value, as the media of exchange. The de-thronement of each has been attempted in turn, and sometimes the de-thronement of both, but always in vain.

It is nonsense to say that the institution of free coinage by the United States would cause the deluging of our mints with all the silver coin of Europe and all the silver plate of the world. The silver now in circulation as currency in Europe is all needed where it is, has all been coined at the high ratio of from 12 to 15 1-2 to 1, and consequently represents to its holders an average value of \$1.32 per ounce. Is it reasonable to suppose they would send it here to be sold for \$1.20 per ounce? And as for the coinage of silver plate, no matter what it was once bought for, it would be at any time under a free coinage system worth \$1.20 per ounce, with the cost of artistic and mechanical labor upon it added, and could not be reproduced for less.

The Goldbug Conspiracy. The demonetization of silver is a progressive process. It began in secrecy and has been pursued by devious paths ever since. At the beginning no one dared to make the proposal that the Republican platform of 1896 contains. Emboldened by success, the conspirators are pushing on to bolder plans. Both silver coin and greenbacks are legal tender today. The first point of attack is the greenback. It is proposed to retire them and the treasury notes, thus still further contracting the currency, lowering prices and advancing the value of bonds. When the greenbacks are retired, there will come the final stroke of all—namely, the entire and absolute disuse of silver as a money metal and the deprivation of legal tender quality from the silver coin in existence. We shall then have reached the absolute gold standard. Gold alone will be money. Everything will be payable in gold, no matter when the debt was contracted. Prices will shrink in an unheard of manner. Every debtor will be destroyed financially, and the holders of the world's debts will own the earth and the fullness thereof.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

The gold monometallists tell us bimetalism is anarchy, repudiation and several other bad things, but that it would be a good thing if the leading nations of the world would consent. But if it is all that is bad for one nation to proclaim it, how can the other leading nations make it "holy and righteous?"

Mr. Bryan's Religion. There is always a peculiar religious strain running through Mr. Bryan's thought. It was inherited from his Baptist father. And this tendency is marked when he discusses popular government.

His favorite answer to those who question the intervention of God in the affairs of men is the last verse of Bryan's lines "To a Waterfowl," which I heard him repeat last night to the newspaper correspondents who accompanied him from Chicago:

He who from zone to zone  
Guides through the boundless sky thy certain flight  
In the long way that I must tread alone  
Will lead my steps aright.  
—Exchange.

In all the world, in coinage or available for coinage, there is less than a troy pound (12 ounces) of silver to each ounce of gold. Free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 is therefore at a ratio unfavorable rather than favorable to silver in comparison with gold.

House Nerves. This is the latest name invented by medical experts for the peculiarly depressing set of ailments which afflict people who stay indoors too much. The discovery of the novel malady is due to a journal devoted to science, and it is a mark of unusual and undoubted comprehension that the name of the disease should be so simple and so easily understood. There was nothing, as far as can be seen, to prevent the scientific godfathers from naming their child "akoganglia," or something equally terrifying to the unsophisticated. Merely as "house nerves" we can regard the ailment with some complacency, but for all that it is not a thing to be laughed at.

The symptoms which the inventors of "house nerves" describe as quite common today are "low spirits and brooding," much irritability and a generally "morbid habit" of mind. Women, we read, especially women who are delicate and afraid to go out owing to the weather, are those who suffer most from this malady. They have a way of imagining that something awful is happening to their husbands or children when they are out of sight. They "conjure up accidents, analyze their feelings and lose their power of will." All this because people are too sedentary and stay at home too constantly.

Of Interest to Thin Women. An English doctor recommends to women suffering from dyspepsia, consumption and anemia, or any who need to take on flesh, to eat very thin slices of bread and butter. The idea is that it induces people to eat much more butter, a quality of fat most essential to their nutrition, in a form against which they will not rebel.

# TO "FARM OUT" SINGLE TAXERS.

## Labor of Imprisoned Agitators to be Advertised for Sale.

DOVER, Del., Aug. 5.—At a meeting of the levy court of Kent county, held yesterday, the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "Resolved, That William M. Dickson, clerk of the peace in and for Kent county, be and is hereby authorized and directed to advertise in two newspapers for proposals for the services of the tramps and Single Taxers who persist in violating the laws of this state, and that he be directed to receive and award to the highest and best bidder for the services of these law breakers to work on the streets or roads of the county, said bids to be under seal and security for the money to be inclosed with the bid. All bids for the services of these men must be in the hands of said clerk of the peace on or before 12 o'clock on Tuesday next."

Arthur H. Stephenson and other Single Taxers confined in jail here made application last night through their counsel, Jackson H. Rafston of Washington and James L. Wolcott of Dover, under habeas corpus proceedings, for admission to bail pending final disposition of the case. Charles Nicholson continued the hearing until Saturday next, but denied the application for admission to bail. Haines D. Albright of Philadelphia and Charles W. Kane of Wilmington joined the imprisoned Single Taxers last night, having been arrested for obstructing highways.

# FATAL WRECK ON THE READING.

## The Engineer and Conductor Killed and Fireman Fatally Injured.

SHAMOKIN, Pa., Aug. 5.—Two men were killed and another fatally injured in a freight wreck on the Philadelphia and Reading railroad six miles west of Shamokin yesterday. To add to the horror of the disaster the wreckage took fire from the dismantled locomotive, and the explosion of a carload of powder, which was in the wreck, compelled the rescuers to keep at a safe distance.

Killed: Michael Smock, engineer, aged 35 years, of Tamaqua, killed in wreck and body cremated; Alexander Smith, conductor, aged 45 years, of Tamaqua, leaves a wife and several children, horribly crushed about body.

Injured: Jacob Dreisbach, fireman, aged 32 years, married, of Tamaqua, badly scalded by escaping steam and burned about body, will die.

The body of Engineer Smock was recovered from the smouldering wreck late yesterday afternoon, and consisted only of a charred trunk, which was brought to town in a toolbox. A tramp declares that his chum, Charles Guiner, of Geneva, N. Y., was stealing a ride on the train and was killed.

Robert Garrett's Two Wills. Towson, Md., Aug. 5.—Two wills made by the late Robert Garrett were filed for probate here today. The first will was drawn in Baltimore in 1883, and substantially names his wife as sole devisee and legatee. The second instrument was executed in London, England, July 5, 1888, a short while after the tragic death of his brother, T. Harrison Garrett. In the last document \$100,000 is bequeathed to each of the three children of his brother, \$20,000 to William F. Frick, his father-in-law, \$30,000 to Charles Nitze, his homine d'affaires, and \$50,000 to A. B. Crain, Mr. Garrett's private secretary. All the rest and residue of the estate is given to his wife. It is thought that the reason for probating both wills is the fact that the last one was executed just at the commencement of Mr. Garrett's long continued illness.

# Chicago Stock Exchange Closed.

CHICAGO, Aug. 4.—The speculative deal in the Diamond Match and New York Biscuit stock has come to an end. The Moore Brothers have failed. The greatest speculation ever known in Chicago has culminated in the failure of the people who were in the deal. The Chicago Stock Exchange adjourned at 10 o'clock this morning for an indefinite period. This action was decided upon at a meeting held last evening, at which were present the members of the Stock Exchange governing board and a number of prominent capitalists. It was decided that to prevent a great slaughter of values the exchange should be closed. It is thought the adjournment will last but a few days. Moore Brothers lost \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000.

# Cuban Women's Lot.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Aug. 5.—Advices from Havana state that Senora de Trujillo and Senora de Solonongo, wives of insurgent chiefs, and the latter also sister to the rebel leader, Lazo, were arrested in Pinar del Rio. They have since been sent to the house of refuge in Havana for women of ill repute under close watch. In Havana social circles the lack of consideration shown by the Spanish military authorities toward the women mentioned is much discussed. The first named is the wife of a former leading Pinar del Rio physician and highly connected.

# Ignorance Debarred from Citizenship.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—In refusing to grant naturalization papers to two young Italians Judge Cole, of the district supreme court, held that no one who is in ignorance of the constitution of the United States is competent or is entitled to become admitted to citizenship. The young men explained that they had come to this country before reaching their majority, and that they have ever since resided here, but when questioned by the judge they confessed that they do not understand the constitution and were even doubtful as to the form of this government.

# Stone Will Notify Bryan.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Aug. 4.—Senator White, of California, has delegated to Governor Stone, of Missouri, the honor of notifying W. J. Bryan of his nomination for president of the United States at Madison Square Garden on next Tuesday. Governor Stone received a telegram from Senator Stephen White yesterday stating that it would be impossible for him to make the nominating speech, and asking the governor to accept the honor. Governor Stone has accepted.

# Forty Welsh Miners Entombed.

SWANSEA, Wales, Aug. 5.—A dispatch from Neath, seven miles from here, announces that forty miners were entombed in the Bryncoch pit, near that place, by an explosion which occurred yesterday afternoon. It is feared that twenty-five of the men have been killed. Four corpses have already been recovered.

# Will Not Prosecute Cecil Rhodes.

LONDON, Aug. 5.—The Daily Mail states that it has heard that the government has taken no steps to prosecute Cecil Rhodes for his complicity in the Jameson raid into the Transvaal, and that law officers of the crown are ridiculing the prosecution under the foreign enlistment act.

# B. & B. STATE NORMAL SCHOOL

## Determination

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—the way we went at the prices was an example, and the way we're keeping at them is another—and there have been other examples of determination, on the part of the buying public, some of them having come long distances to get the benefit of this unusual Dry Goods distribution—and more will.

40 inch Lawns, 10c—note the fineness of these when you get samples—and the extra width—solid, alternating or fancy striped.

20 and 25c—Zephyr Gingham, 10c—some with solid color stripes an inch wide—others hair-line striped—some fancy.

## Three Kinds of Fine 35c-cent Grass Linens, 15c.

—natural color with large plaids in two colors; red and brown, blue and brown, yellow and brown, yellow and blue, yellow and red, 15c.

Plain Grass Linens, with eighthinch stripes of lavender and white, 15c.

Pure Linen and Silk mixed—blue and white or pink and white, narrow stripes nice for shirt waists 15c—chances for fine Grass Linens with worth and style, without peer for the money—samples will prove it.

Determined above thought of cost or loss to empty the

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—large lines of novelty mixtures, fancy weaves, diagonals, jacquards, plain solid colors—one effectual price on them all—35c—the greatest chance people ever had to get goods low priced.

Other Fine Foreign Dress Goods and Suitings with equally destructive prices on them—

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—all silk and wool mixtures, checks, homespuns—some at the dollar price were as much as \$2.50.

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Columbia River Salmon, Finest Goods 15, 20 and 25 cents per can.

Tubs, Pails, Wash Rubbers, Brooms, Brushes and Baskets.

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