

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ - ED. & PROP.

CIRCULATION, OVER 1800.

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AFFIDAVIT.

I, Chas. R. Kurtz, publisher of THE CENTRE DEMOCRAT, a weekly newspaper published at Bellefonte, Pa., being duly sworn, say that the actual circulation of the paper above named is now over 1800 each issue.

CHAS. R. KURTZ,
Publisher.

CENTRE COUNTY, STATE OF PENN'A., ss.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of November, 1896.

JOHN M. KEICHLINE
Justice of the Peace.

NOTE:—The average circulation, during 1896, including campaign editions would place it over 2000.

EDITORIAL

BRYAN'S ARTICLE.

The North American Review for the month of December contains as its leading article, one from the Hon. Wm. J. Bryan, "Has the election settled the money question?" As few of our readers have opportunities of reading this article we will make liberal extracts from it, and other parts briefly summarized: It discusses the proposition—"Has the Election Settled the Money Question?" Mr. Bryan says no. It was temporary defeat, but permanent gain for the cause of bimetalism. It is a fact, as he says, that the silver sentiment was strongest where the question had been longest considered. East of Ohio and north of the Potomac it was little understood. The anti-silver men were aggressive, and their stock argument was the 53 cent dollar, which influenced tens of thousands and had little relevancy to the basic question of the effect of the single standard in depreciating values and paralyzing business. That is where the silver debate should start. The 53-cent argument was effective, but about as sensible as the "do you want your sister to marry a nigger" idea, that used to be hurled at the abolitionists. People will have grown away from it when the question comes up again. But in the late campaign there is no question the silver issue absorbed public attention and side-tracked other questions, because, as Mr. Bryan says in his "Review" paper, it is "a question which transcends in importance any other economic question which can occupy the attention of the American people. When we determine the kind and quantity of money, we determine the level of price, and the level of prices concerns every family in the land."

Of the campaign he gives this graphic picture:

To the world at large this nation presented the interesting and inspiring sight of seventy millions of people thinking out their own salvation. Men who had never spoken in public before became public speakers; mothers, wives and daughters debated the relative merits of the single and the double standard; business partnerships were dissolved on account of political differences; bosom friends became estranged; families were divided—in fact, we witnessed such activity of mind and stirring of heart as this nation has not witnessed before for 30 years. Foreign newspapers daily reported the progress of the campaign, and students of political economy came from Europe to obtain a closer view of the struggle. It is probable that the money question has been studied within the last four months by more people than ever before in all the history of the world. Simultaneously engaged in its consideration. And what was the result of that study? Temporary defeat, but permanent gain for the cause of bimetalism. It is a significant fact that the silver sentiment was strongest where the question had been longest considered. In the west and south, where the people had been actively engaged in the discussion of bimetalism for several years, the majority favored the restoration of the money of the constitution. In the eastern states, where, until recently, there was practically no general consideration of the money question, the gold sentiment was strongest. There the people had, up to the opening of this campaign, heard only one side. In those states both parties were against free coinage; nearly all the leading newspapers were against it; the banking interests were against it; and it was also opposed by those influential members of society who live under the influence of the financial and corporate interests.

Until the democratic national convention adopted an emphatic declaration in favor of free coinage at 16 to 1 our side of the question had few defenders in the eastern states. After the convention adjourned the democratic party in the east was reorganized, new men were placed in control, and the work of education was commenced. The result, instead of being discouraging, is full of encouragement. When before has a great cause made such rapid progress in so short a time as bimetalism has made in the eastern states? When has more real heroism been displayed than has been displayed there this year? If anyone thinks that the fight for bimetalism is over, let him ask himself when a single defeat ever disheartened such men as those who have this year advocated free, unlimited and independent coinage? When men's convictions are so strong that they will face political defeat without flinching, defy financial despotism and risk social ostracism in behalf of a cause, they do not surrender because they lose one battle.

Speaking of the opposition arrayed

against the free silver cause, Mr. Bryan recites familiar facts when he says:

Throughout the entire Union the trusts, corporations and banking interests were for the most part organized against silver, and these interests could act in concert on a moment's notice, while prompt cooperation was difficult, if not impossible, among the masses. The campaign did not afford sufficient time to bring clearly before the people an important truth which investigation must reveal, namely, that on the money question the interests of the money-owning classes are not identical with the interests of the wealth-producing classes. A dollar which increases in purchasing power is an advantage to those who trade in money and to those who hold fixed investments, but it is an injury to those who owe money and must purchase it with the proceeds of toil. It must be evident, therefore, that the people familiarly known as financiers cannot be trusted to frame a financial policy for the whole people unless they are entirely free from the selfishness which is generally supposed to be a well-nigh universal trait of mankind. Money lenders have never been known to advocate laws reducing the legal rate of interest; why should they be expected to advocate a financial system which will stop the appreciation of money?

The advocates of free coinage have asserted that the gold standard is a conspiracy organized by the great financiers of the world to lessen the volume of the world's standard money for the double purpose, first, of raising the purchasing power of a given quantity of money, and, second, of making it easier to corner the supply of standard money. The advocates of free coinage believed the charge when they made it, and they believe it still. Inspired by the conviction that they are laboring in behalf of a large majority of the people, not only here, but throughout the world, they will continue their fight, confident that four more years of experience will convince many who have thus far resisted argument.

Opponents of free coinage are attempting to cry down any further agitation of the question. They complain it disturbs business, but at the same time we see them organizing for future battles, just as they secretly organized to demonize silver and to repeal the Bland act, to repeal the purchase clause of the Sherman law, and are now getting ready for a further contraction of the currency by retiring the greenbacks and reducing all our silver coinage to a subsidiary status. On this question of agitation Mr. Bryan says:

They complain that agitation disturbs business, and they accuse the advocates of free coinage of stirring up discontent. The violent epithets used by some of the worshippers of gold recall the story of the London fish-wife who was remonstrated with for abusing an eel. She justified her language by saying that the eel would not keep still while she was skinning it. Those who suffer because of the gold standard can hardly be expected to keep quiet and look pleasant while the injury continues. Hard names do not relieve their sufferings. They, too, want confidence restored, but it must be a confidence that their condition will be improved—not that their lot will be made still harder.

Agitation is the only means by which wrong can be redressed under our form of government. The man who denounces agitation simply opposes the discussion of a public question, and the man who attempts to put a stop to the discussion of a public question confesses his hostility to our form of government. In a nation where the people govern they must be free to consider any subject which concerns their welfare. Those who are disposed to suppress any further agitation upon the money question should remember that the opponents of bimetalism have always been ready to agitate whenever they desired to secure legislation.

And then Mr. Bryan recites the historic facts of the war on silver. As to the late election being conclusive because of the great gold majority, Mr. Bryan points out how the greater majority for Grant in 1872 (greater than McKinley's) was reversed two years later; that while Blaine was defeated in 1884 Harrison was elected in 1888, which was followed by the democratic tidal wave of 1890, and the great majority for Cleveland in 1892. Says Mr. Bryan:

The changes which have taken place in the past indicate the possibilities of the future. There is only one principle which can be made with certainty of fulfillment, and that is that the American people will study a subject until they understand it, and will then settle it. Changes of opinion will go on until the best solution of every question is found. Our form of government is based upon the theory that the people are capable of self-government. This theory is, in my judgment, well founded. The people have both the intelligence and the patriotism to select and to secure for themselves those policies which are best. They are now engaged in an effort to discover and secure a satisfactory financial policy, and it would be a reflection upon them to say that they would permanently accept an unsatisfactory policy. Experience plays an important part in the settlement of public questions. The financial and industrial conditions are unsatisfactory at this time no one denies. The advocates of free coinage have insisted that these conditions are largely due to the gold standard. They insist that falling prices are but an evidence that gold is rising, and they assert that the rise in the purchasing power of an ounce of gold is due to legislation which has increased the demand for gold. The republicans, on the other hand, have blamed the Wilson bill for the present hard times, and have promised to restore prosperity by opening the mints. The next four years will determine whether the republican promises can be fulfilled.

Quoting Major McKinley six years ago about the widespread depression in agriculture, and that "no prosperity is possible to other industries if agriculture languish," Mr. Bryan says:

He (Mr. McKinley) was correct in asserting that prosperity must begin with the farm. The farmer has suffered because the prices of agricultural products had fallen while taxes, debts and many other fixed charges have not fallen in the same proportion. His total income has decreased, while his necessary expenditures have stubbornly refused to

decrease, and he has been compelled to economize in his living expenses. The president-elect recognized this fact in 1890, because he said in the report above referred to: "We do not believe that our people, already suffering from low prices, can or will be satisfied with legislation which will result in lower prices." In the late campaign the laboring men have been told that low prices are an advantage to them, while the farmers have been pointed to the advantages of higher prices. It is going to be very difficult for the incoming administration to secure higher prices for the farmer and lower prices for the wage-earner.

Looking ahead to the renewal of the silver coinage contest in 1900, Mr. Bryan says:

If our opponents imagine that the bimetalists will be easily defeated in 1900, let them remember that thousands of republicans have been held to that party this year by the pledge that their party will try to secure international bimetalism. If the party did not intend this pledge to be relied upon, why was it inserted? If republicans have relied upon it, will they not be disappointed when the four years pass without a successful effort to secure co-operation on the part of European nations? We have charged that international bimetalism was not seriously contemplated by those who wrote the republican platform and that the pledge was made to deceive the voters; the next few years will sustain or disprove our charge.

Mr. Bryan is correct in declaring international bimetalism was not seriously contemplated by those who wrote the republican platform, but we have the authority of Mr. Mark Hanna that McKinley was elected because he and his agents persuaded the man on the farm and the laborer in the city that international bimetalism would follow McKinley's election, and that the Republican party was opposed to gold monometallism. Senator Chandler in his recent letter declared four-fifths of the American electorate was determined on bimetalism and the free coinage of silver. We concur in this view, and knowing something of the earnestness and determination of the people on this question, Republican as well as Democratic bimetalists, the conclusion is irresistible that only in one way can the silver question be kept out of the election of 1900 as the governing issue. That one way is the success of international bimetalism within the next four years. We hope it may succeed, but don't believe it will. The capitalistic, and therefore the controlling forces of the Republican party are against it. They denounce it in their leading eastern organs as another phase of Bryanism, and to be warred against with the same tremendous energy and resources they threw into the late canvass. We believe Mr. McKinley inclines to bimetalism, with indecision characteristic of the man, and that he will be overborne. The future, as it appears to Mr. Bryan, is outlined in the closing paragraph of this paper:

The contest for financial independence will go on. "An American financial policy for the American people" will still be the motto of those who have in this campaign advocated the free coinage of silver on equal terms with gold. We entered the contest with a disorganized army; we emerged from it a united and disciplined force without the loss of a soldier. We are ready for another contest. We shall watch legislation, discuss every movement made by the enemy and keep before the public the principles for which we contend. We believe that we are right, and, believing that right will finally triumph, we face the future firm in the belief that bimetalism will be restored.

ABRAHAM MILLER never knew when he had enough. The county should put him on a special pension roll.

Gov. HASTINGS has given up all aspirations for the U. S. Senate at present. What may be in store for him later remains to be developed.

THE dozen or more applicants for county commissioners clerk are growing exceedingly uneasy, as the days are going by. Some are dead sure—they will drop all the harder.

THE announcement was given forth that Hastings and Quay understand each other and are in accord. The Gov. will not ask to go the U. S. Senate. Wonder whether our friend Al. Dale is satisfied?

OUR own Lawrence Brown the "Little Napoleon" as he was termed here, is being boomed for Surveyor of the Port, at Philadelphia, to succeed Hon. P. Gray Meek. Mr. Brown is right in line and has many influential friends and we hope he may be successful. He would prove an excellent official.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND's message to congress has occasioned no excitement whatever. His views in regard to Cuba are very conservative. There is a firmness about it that we admire in which he notifies Spain that they must accomplish something or stop the brutal slaughter and destruction of property. On the money question Grover is still in the same boat with the Wall street brokers and money changers. He is a confirmed gold bug, favors contraction of the currency and dearer money.

No Cripe

When you take Hood's Pills. The big, old-fashioned, sugar-coated pills, which tear you all to pieces, are not in it with Hood's. Easy to take and easy to operate, is true of Hood's Pills, which are up to date in every respect. Safe, certain and sure. All druggists, 75c. C. T. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. The only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Hood's
Pills

MOVE FASTER.

The "advance agent of prosperity" should move a little faster. The people have had their expectations built up to a high notch, and the pace at which the much boasted prosperity is returning is a little too slow for this progressive age. A canvass of half the city of Chicago by the board of charities shows that 8,000 families, or about 35,000 persons, are in destitute circumstances. It is believed that when the whole city is canvassed that that number will be doubled. About 70,000 people in poverty in a city that gave Mr. McKinley 50,000 majority does not speak well for the "confidence" that was to immediately result from that candidate's election. Move faster, Mr. Advance Agent; you promised it to the people; fulfill your promise.

RHEUMATISM.

Victims of this most painful disease will be glad to learn that there is a positive cure for it. Fred Graff, of Greenville, N. Y., writes: "I suffered awfully with rheumatism for five years, and could find no relief from the various medicines I took until James Elson recommended

DR. DAVID KENNEDY'S
FAVORITE REMEDY

which I used, and after taking five bottles it cured me. It is a great medicine and works as sure as coal does in a locomotive. This medicine has done much for me."

It is a never failing specific in diseases of the skin, liver, kidneys and blood, and cures where all other treatments fail.

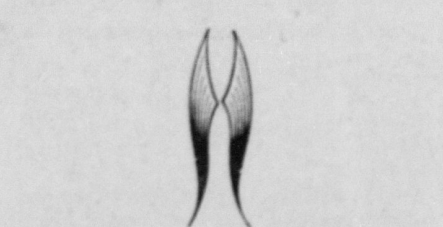
PROVISIONS, GROCERIES & C. (as corrected weekly by Bauer & Co.)	
Apples, dried, per pound	05
Cherries, dried, per pound, seeded	08
Beans, per quart	07
Onions, per bushel	50
Butter, per pound	20
Tallow, per pound	03
Country shoulders	08
Sides	07
Hams	13
Hams—sugar cured	12
Breakfast Bacon	19
Lard, per pound	06
Eggs per dozen	20
Potatoes, per bushel new	15
Dried sweet Corn per pound	10

Bellefonte Grain Market.

Corrected weekly by Geo. W. Jackson & Co.

Red wheat, per bushel	90
Rye, per bushel	35
Corn, ears, per bushel	125
Corn, shelled, per bushel	50
Oats—new, per bushel	18
Barley, per bushel	30
Buckwheat, per bushel	25
Ground plaster, per ton	8.00

FAUBLES



YOU WANT

GOOD CLOTHES

You want them to wear.
You want them to fit.
You want them at rock bottom prices.

We have nothing but good clothes. Every suit in our store is made and fits perfectly, they are the kind that wears. Holds together and gives you perfect satisfaction.

AS TO PRICE ASK

Your Neighbor

He will tell you that we not only give you lower prices than others but that we will save you on the purchase of a single suit almost enough to buy the second one.

Do you think it worth your while to see us.

MONTGOMERY & CO.,
BELLEFONTE, PENNA.

Clothing and Furnishings.
Brockerhoff House.

\$3,400.00 CASH AND PRIZES GIVEN FREE EACH MONTH FOR Sunlight SOAP WRAPPERS

As follows:
4 First Prizes, each of \$100 Cash - \$ 400.00
20 Second " " " \$100 Bicycles - 2,000.00
40 Third " " " \$25 Gold Watches - 1,000.00
Cash and Prizes given each month - \$3,400.00
Total given during 12 mos. 1897, \$40,800.00

HOW TO OBTAIN THEM.
Competitors to save as many SUNLIGHT SOAP Wrappers as they can collect. Cut off the top portion of each wrapper, that portion containing the heading "SUNLIGHT SOAP." These (called "Coupons") are to be sent, postage fully paid, enclosed with a sheet of paper stating Competitor's full name and address and the number of Coupons sent in, to Lever Bros., Ltd., New York, marked on outside Wrapper (upper left hand corner) with NUMBER of the DISTRICT Competitor lives in.

NAME OF DISTRICT.
1 New York City, Brooklyn, Long Island and Staten Islands, New Jersey.
2 New York State (outside of N.Y. City, Brooklyn, Long and Staten Islands).
3 Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia and District of Columbia.
4 The New England States.

Next Largest Numbers of Coupons.
The 10 Competitors who send in the next largest number of coupons from the district in which they reside will each receive at winner's option a lady's or gentleman's Pierce Special Bicycle, price \$100.00.
The 10 Competitors who send in the next largest number of coupons from the district in which they reside will each receive at winner's option a lady's or gentleman's Gold Watch, price \$25.
The Competitions will Close the Last Day of Each Month during 1897. Coupons received too late for one month's competition will be put into the next.
2. Competitors who obtain wrappers from spool soap in dealer's stock will be disqualified. Employees of Lever Brothers, Ltd., and their families, are disqualified from competing.
A printed list of Winners in Competitor's district will be forwarded to Competitors in about 21 days after each competition closes.
Lever Brothers, Ltd., will endeavor to award the prizes fairly to the best of their ability and judgment, but it is understood that all who compete agree to accept the award of Lever Brothers, Ltd., as final.
Times, First Class Nickel Lamp, New Departure Bell, Standard Cyclometer, and Hunt Lace Saddle.

LEVER BROS., Ltd., New York.

A Shoe store!

"Of the people, by the people, for the people;" that's the kind of an establishment this is.

Conducted in your interests, supported by your unwavering patronage and intended for your betterment, this store has been a phenomenal success from its inception, and it is growing bigger and better day by day.

CHRISTMAS GOODS

It is impossible to find anything in our stock that would not make an acceptable gift—that boy needs a pair of boots or dress shoes, the daughter a pair dress boots or school shoes, the wife a pair warm leggins or overgaiters, the mother a pair of warm shoes, the father or brother a pair of slippers, etc.

Can you think of anything more economical, more acceptable or more suitable these finching times for the presents you are looking for.

GROSS
The Tailor.

FIRE, FIRE!

Had fire aside of us—fire in the same building overhead.

DISFIGURED

Our room was slightly disfigured, but we are at the same old stand.

Call on us

You can get a good fit for less money than elsewhere—try us.

GROSS, THE TAILOR.

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT?

or looking for a suitable article to give as a

Christmas :-: Present

to your father, brother, husband or friend?

Of course you are, and we respectfully invite you to glance at the following list, and then call and examine our stock.

A SUIT OF CLOTHES

or an Overcoat, Derby, or Soft Crease Hats, Underwear, Hosiery, Gloves Handkerchiefs—Linen or Silk.

...NECKWEAR...

in four-in-hand; Puff Scarf, Teck Scarf, or String Ties; Umbrellas for both Ladies' and Men. Gold and Silver Tipped Canes. Sweaters with large sailor collars. Shirts, both in fancy colors and white. Collars, Cuffs, Satchels and Trunks.

COME :-: EARLY

and avoid the crowd of the last week.

MONTGOMERY & CO.,
BELLEFONTE, PENNA.