

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Notification Committee :

I shall at an early day, and in a more formal manner, accept the nomination which you tender, and I shall at that time discuss the various questions covered by a Democratic platform. It may not be out of place, however, to submit a few observations at this time upon the general character of the contest before us, and upon the question which is declared to be of paramount importance in this campaign.

When I say that the contest of 1900 is a contest between democracy on the one hand and plutocracy on the other, I do not mean to say that all our opponents have deliberately chosen to give to organized wealth a predominating influence in the affairs of the government, but I do assert that on the important issues of the day the Republican party is dominated by those influences which constantly tend to substitute the worship of Mammon for the protection of the rights of man.

IN 1859 LINCOLN SAID THAT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY BELIEVED IN THE MAN AND THE DOLLAR, BUT IN CASE OF A CONFLICT IT BELIEVED IN THE MAN BEFORE THE DOLLAR. THIS IS THE PROPER RELATION WHICH SHOULD EXIST BETWEEN THE TWO. MAN, THE HANDIWORK OF GOD, COMES FIRST; MONEY, THE HANDIWORK OF MAN, IS OF INFERIOR IMPORTANCE. MAN IS THE MASTER, MONEY THE SERVANT, BUT UPON ALL IMPORTANT QUESTIONS TODAY REPUBLICAN LEGISLATION TENDS TO MAKE MONEY THE MASTER AND MAN THE SERVANT.

The maxim of Jefferson, "Equal rights to all and special privileges to none," and the doctrine of Lincoln that this should be a government "of the people, by the people and for the people," are being disregarded and the instrumentalities of government are being used to advance the interests of those who are in a position to secure favors from the government.

The Democratic party is not making war upon the honest acquisition of wealth; it has no desire to discourage industry, economy and thrift. On the contrary, it gives to every citizen the greatest possible stimulus to honest toil when it promises him protection in the enjoyment of the proceeds of his labor. Property rights are most secure when human rights are most respected. Democracy strives for a civilization in which every member of society will share according to his merits.

### **NO INJUSTICE TO PREVENT INJUSTICE.**

No one has a right to expect from society more than a fair compensation for the service which he renders to society. If he secures more it is at the expense of someone else. It is no injustice to him to prevent his doing injustice to another. To him who would, either through class legislation or in the absence of necessary legislation, trespass upon the rights of another, the Democratic party says "Thou shalt not."

Against us are arrayed a comparatively small but politically and financially powerful number who really profit by Republican politics, but with them are associated a large number who, because of their attachment to their party name, are giving their support to doctrines antagonistic to the former teachings of their own party.

Republicans who used to advocate bimetallism now try to convince themselves that the gold standard is good; Republicans who were formerly attached to the greenbacks are now seeking an excuse for giving national banks control of the nation's paper money; Republicans who used to boast that the Republican party was paying off the national debt are now looking for reasons to support a perpetual and increasing debt; Republicans who formerly abhorred a trust now beguile themselves with the delusion that there are good trusts and bad trusts, while in their minds the line between the two is becoming more and more obscure; Republicans who in times past congratulated the country upon