

**Bryan and Watson.**

In the fight for the restoration of the financial policy of the constitution the west and south are natural allies. What more natural then, that in choosing standard bearers for a union against plutocracy, both sections should be represented? Both agricultural regions, both exporters to the same market, both competitors with the silver using countries, both discriminated against by a tariff policy especially arranged to promote monopolistic combinations, and both reduced to tributary provinces of an arrogant, purse-proud, domineering capitalism, to men of comprehension, the stupidity that has kept them in opposing array has been an ever-growing wonder.

That the Chicago convention did not put a southern man on the ticket with Bryan is one of the inexplicable anomalies of politics. Democrats either feared the mountebanks who are still fighting the war; or else, so long bullied by Reed, humbugged by Cleveland, and betrayed by Carlisle and Hoke Smith, they were unable to banish utterly the 30 years habit of cringing to the eastern money bugs and stand up and breathe a full inspiration of liberty on the first day of their emancipation.

There are no doubts that Mr. Sewell is an excellent gentleman. If there were, the gold bugs' abuse would be a certificate of character sufficient to dissipate them. But his nomination was not good politics. If the Bryan ticket wins, it must be without New England's vote, while on the other hand, there are a half dozen states in which the populist vote is an absolute essential to a Bryan victory.

Southern populists could do no less than demand a guarantee that the regeneration of the democratic party was genuine. We in the north can hardly understand the situation. No more gallant fight than that of the southern populists has ever been waged, and no party encountered more bitter or unscrupulous opposition. Populists and democrats have confronted each other for a half dozen years—not on questions of principle, for both parties essentially agreed on silver, fiat, income tax, etc.—

but on the question of democratic sincerity. As often as democracy won that often its leaders, hypnotized by the serpent of Clevelandism, betrayed every campaign pledge, violated every instinct of patriotism, and depended for continuance in power on outrages without conscience against the purity of the ballot. And as the party is still dominated by many who were accessories to these betrayals of public trust, so newly repented from, for the populists of the south to have yielded without a guarantee, would have forfeited their claims to self respect. A union against plutocracy is assured if their half-way step is met by the democrats. And in the concessions made everywhere for this union no men have been more magnanimous than the southern populists in thus extending the right hand of brotherhood to those who have been their bitter and unfair antagonists.

The character of their candidate is a guarantee of good faith. Tom Watson is a man, of brains, courage and patriotism. Broad as the American constitution, a fighter who never quits, he is as good a representative of the new south with its liberal, progressive, humanitarian instincts, as Bryan of the west with his indomitable will, energy and radical ideas of liberty and brotherhood.

An appreciating measure of value manifests itself by an apparent depreciation in the value of things measured. If labor, the creator of value, be taken as the standard, there has been no depreciation in silver bullion and very little in products. If the foot measure were doubled and the inch left as it is, instead of saying the ratio of inches to feet was 12 to 1, as now, we would have to say it was 24 to 1. Could one truly say then that the inch had been shortened, that is, its length depreciated? Even the mendacity of the gold idolator would not be equal to such a plain prevarication. Yet, depending on the fog with which they have enveloped the financial question to shield them from exposure, the sound moneyites in teaching that it is silver which has shrunk in value, are guilty of that very falsehood.

**The Ratification Meeting.**

The meeting which was held last week to ratify the nomination of Page Morris, the republican nominee for member of Congress in this district, was not a demonstration that would indicate that any very great number of people were greatly overjoyed with the choice of the St. Cloud convention. The procession which was made up of two brass bands and a drum corps in principle, marched from the Spalding hotel to Second avenue east on Superior street and back to the rear of the Palladio building, where the meeting was held, which was a tame affair so far as the republican enthusiasts were concerned. Those in line were principally officeholders, office-seekers, ward heelers and professional politicians, while a number of old republican war horses joined in the festivities and tried to make the occasion jubilant. The entire absence of the laboring classes was very conspicuous.

An immense platform was reared and bunting of various colors was displayed in hopes of inspiring the multitude on to battle. Judge Morris, of course, was the principal orator of the occasion and he was supposed to tell the unenlightened something about the iniquities of the free silver movement. He dwelt on the past good record of his party, the wrongs the democratic party had worked on the country, and more particularly did he condemn the course Congressman Towne had taken during his brief career as a servant of the people.

He made it very clear that he was ready to accept Mr. Towne's shoes and as clearly demonstrated the fact that he knew nothing about the financial question; it took him something over an hour to tell his tale of woe; he certainly convinced his hearers that he wanted their votes and wanted them bad, and worked himself up to a pitch where he believed he was delivering an address to a multitude of people who were looking to him as a saviour.

There was a large number of Towne men present and they occasionally broke out in demonstrations for that gentleman, much to the annoyance of the speakers, but gave them a very good idea how it was among the listeners.

A number of others spoke along