

extorted from the people will not have to be divided among so many conspirators. It's an ill wind that blows no good to somebody.

The populists in congress have expressed their desire to see the highest kind of a tariff bill enacted just as soon as possible. They have come to this conclusion, not from any loyalty to the principles of protection, but because they believe the speedy enactment of such a measure will convince the country, quicker than anything else, that protection will not restore prosperity.

Oh, this banking system is the greatest on earth. If you happen to overdraw your bank account a dollar or two, the bank officials inform you that it must be attended to immediately and that they never pay checks drawn for more than your deposit unless *special arrangements* are made, but they can close their doors any time they wish without making *special arrangements* with depositors. This banking system is just what you voted for; and as we have said before; we believe in a free country; the voters getting what they vote for. From all accounts of bank failures the past week we should judge you were getting what you hollered for: McKinley prosperity.

#### They Never Meant It.

The New York Journal publishes the declarations of many members of the platform committee of the national republican convention to the effect that they were honest in their declarations for bimetallism, and believe that the party will yet honestly endeavor to bring it about. The honesty of the members of the platform committee is not necessarily called in question. The future action of the party depends upon its control.

And the republican party is not, and for years has not been, controlled by the men who vote its tickets or are delegates in its conventions. Not only was the whole burden of argument advanced by the republican party from both press and platform, in the late campaign, opposed to bimetallism, but the influences that *do* control the party, both by utterance and self interest are pledged to fight it.

Mark it down where you can refer to it every time they ring in this bluff, that there will be no legislation by the coming administration favorable to silver. The bankers and the big trusts are opposed to it, and the little fellows have to dance to the big one's music.

#### The New Year.

We send greetings to our many readers and patrons and wish that nature may be generous to you all the coming year, 1897. The thought that some of us who now look out upon this glorious earth, and drink in its life-giving airs, and feed upon its beauty, will on another new year, lie buried in its bosom, is a natural thought. It intrudes itself upon us, and will not be put away, for it is true. The richness and fullness of life as surely suggest the coming stillness and darkness, as the shadows are sure to nestle among the leaves in the rich heart of the summer day. The spectre confronts us alone in the closet, but he walks beside us in the brightest day, and intrudes upon our happiest moments. Yet, in spite of that, on this day—New Year's day—our thoughts penetrate into that unknown future and our hopes, our prospects for the coming year seem brightest.

Now, is the time, we "post the books"—not the ledgers alone, but the account current of our lives—and see whether we are drifting toward yawning gulfs of sin, or raising with purer pur-

pose toward nobler life. Of course one day is like another, and our division of time merely an arbitrary one, but, yet, in the future, as in the past, the advent of the New Year, will continue to symbolize the youth of the world, the perennial, joy of creation, the immortal spirit that, amid the ravages of death and decay and care and sorrow, still pursues its course to its celestial destiny.

#### Where's Your Prosperity?

Our gold standard friends object to the disposition, on the part of the silverites, to call attention to every indication of industrial or financial disaster as an evidence of the failure of their promises that the election of McKinley would restore prosperity. They are very tender on this point and claim, that as McKinley is not yet president their party is not yet responsible.

But why need we wait?

The gold democrats, who now control the government, were allies in the late contest of the McKinleyites. Not only did the national democrats work in harmony with the republicans, but both argued with common arguments for the accomplishment of a common purpose.

The republicans claimed, moreover, that all that was needed was confidence. The election shows that they have the confidence of the people in a hitherto unheard of degree, and in consequence, after March 4, they will have all branches of the government in their control.

If confidence was all that was needed, then, why need we *wait* for prosperity?

The government is now in the hands of the republicans and their allies. Not a single measure can become a law without running the gauntlet of a republican congress or the veto of a gold standard pres