THE SILVER MEN AT WORK.

A SMALL AND EXCLUSIVE GATHERING AT ST. LOUIS.

W. P. ST. JOHN MADE PERMANENT CHAIRMAN AND A COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO CONFER WITH THE POPULISTS—MISS PIERCE MAKES A HIT WITH THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

St. Louis, July 22.—The silver delegates mustered 500 strong at Music Hall to-day. This is a little short of one-half the number in the plan of representation. They are a fine-looking body of men and women, for fifty of the delegates are women, and as a whole they are a tremendous contrast to the multitude holding forth at the big white wigwam and at the various "People's" headquarters about town. There were no spectators to speak of in the hall. Probably one hundred persons were in the seats of the first floor outside of the railing. The hall itself, a very pretty auditorium, was handsomely decorated with bunting. At the centre of the balcony front George Washington, swathed in two American flags, looked down upon the delegates, and beyond them to the stage. From one side of the stage Richard Wagner, wearing a queer little bicycle cap, gazed with much penetration over the orderly little Convention. On the other side was a classic counterfeit of Beethoven. These latter portraits are permanent objects in the hall, and are not typical of anything going on in Music Hall, but they were much admired and commented upon.

The silverites are evidently not of a praying people. They opened business without a prayer. Dr. Mott was thinking so hard about the problems of silver and the distribution of badges that he forgot all about getting a chaplain to invoke divine guidance in the Convention's work. He was much worried, and moved about the stage with a pained expression on his face when one of the Western vice-presidents joked him on the omission. He was disposed to choke off the temporary chairman, Mr. Newlands, at once and call for some one in the Convention to pray, but nobody on the stage knew of a single praying delegate, and so the good but absent-minded doctor had to subside and resume his thinking, while Mr. Newlands talked on. Dr. Mott is a churchman, but he is not versatile enough to pray for a National Convention. Senator Pettigrew said he didn't know how, and Mrs. Helen M. Gougar, who is in the Convention as a delegate working for prohibition, thought a prayer in the middle of the proceedings would seem rather strange, and a California delegate suggested that, as the work of the Convention was all cut and dried beforehand, no Divine guidance was necessary. The Doctor was much distressed, and his subsequent thinking was clearly of a disturbed nature.

A TIRESOME SILVER ORATOR.

Mr. Newlands's speech started out bravely, but it soon became tiresome. He spoke an hour. There was absolutely nothing in it to lighten the tedium of statistics and dull argument, no ray or suspicion of humor or of good nature. The thraldom of gold and the woes of the poor were his text. In a clear, resonant barytone he roared about ounces of silver and ratios, about the price of wheat and international agreements, and other things which it was very tiresome to keep track of as the vehemence of his oratory began to wane. He had his piece well committed to memory, but its effectiveness was greatly lessened in the latter part of its delivery by his diminishing mental vitality in the effort to keep up the big talk of the opening. The acoustic properties of the hall are fine. There is not a square line in the whole place, and the words of the speaker were echoed as in a cave, so that no unseemly violence of utterance is necessary to enable one to be heard in every part of the room, but the Nevada orator roared and gesticulated as though he were talking to "40,000 people in a gale of wind," and thus he wore himself down to enforced moderation and commonplace tameness.

Three times there was continued cheering. The first came upon the mention of the words "free and unlimited coinage of silver," the second when the cabalistic figures 16 to 1 were alluded to, the third when the orator shook his fist in the face of Europe and said that silver must be made free without the consent of any other nation. In the last outburst the scene was pretty and almost sensational. The Colorado and Utah ladies rose to their feet, waved fans and handkerchiefs, clapped their hands and cheered in shrill trebles, while the male delegates shouted, laughed and kept the clatter going for ten minutes. The banners of California and Colorado, sumptuous in silver fringes and lettering, were displayed by excited delegates, and each little new outburst fed upon itself and increased until it enveloped the whole crowd. An excellent local band of twenty-five pieces played "America" on the heels of this demonstration, and then came the most striking occurrence of the day, the recital of the Declaration of Independence by Miss Lillie Pierce, of St. Louis, who was rigged out as the Goddess of Liberty.

MISS PIERCE MAKES AN IMPRESSION.

Miss Pierce is an exquisite little slip of womanhood, who has good elocutionary powers and a fine stage presence. She is a handsome brunette, with large brown eyes, dark brown hair flowing down her back, schoolgirl fashion, and a radiant expression of face. She was costumed in patriotic bunting, after the manner of the goddess in the Patent Office, which the young lady's mother went specially to Washington to study for this occasion. In her hand Miss Pierce carried a small silk flag on a hickory staff, which she waved with much effectiveness in the course of the recital. She was handed out and introduced to the Convention by William Pope St. John, banker, of New-York, a long-legged gentleman, who made a slightly awkward job for so delicate a matter of gallantry. Mr. St. John got his goddess so mixed up with the vice-presidents and correspondents that she resolutely took the lead and marched herself to the appointed place, holding her right arm over her shoulder and leading by the hand the tall, slim gentleman who followed meekly at her heels. Miss Pierce was greatly admired and complimented by many of the delegates. She holds the position by election as Daughter of the Regiment in the 1st Missouri National Guard, and has a reputation more than local for talent in elocution. At the end of the recital, the band struck up gayly again, playing "The Red, White and Blue," and then the delegates began to think of business.

As stated in these dispatches last night, it is not the purpose of the silverites to hurry things, as they want to keep pace with the Populists and spring their Bryan enthusiasm at the moment it will do the most good in the other Convention. For this purpose, a committee was selected to-day by the chairman. On the question of taking a recess or of adjourning there were two bright little talks—one by Judge Scott, of Omaha, and the other by Delegate Bradshaw, of Montana. The Omaha man's effort was made with the evident purpose of giving some other good reason than the real one for adjournment until to-morrow at 10 a. m., which was his motion as a substitute for that of the Minnesota man who wanted to go to dinner. There was a good deal of noise in the hall while these little talks were going on, and there was but slight coherency, as far as could be observed from the stage, in either speech. Both speakers were brisk and energetic, but their subject was of too little consequence to enable them to say anything worth while. The Convention adjourned after two and a half hours amid a great deal of good humor, handshaking, introductions and joking at the expense of the other fellows' section of country.

A HAPPY AND EXCLUSIVE GATHERING.

Altogether, it is a clean, happy little convention. There is nothing to fight over, everybody is jolly and full of enthusiasm, and the sociability of the delegates is simply beautiful to behold. They are a thrifty, well-to-do lot, and the women are, as a rule, well dressed. The contrast between the silverites and the Populists is marked, and there is, moreover, a feeling of uppishness among the silver delegates toward the unwashed element of the other Convention. A California delegate said to The Tribune correspondent:

"We don't want Bryan indorsed by these Populists. We have a feeling that he shouldn't be associated with them. He doesn't want them to indorse him very badly himself. We are not at all in sympathy with the People's outfit, except in so far as they favor silver. They are not the kind of stock to trot with us—they don't hold the bit right. I shall be very glad if the other Convention lets Bryan alone entirely. In our country a stranger comes among us, and he picks his company. He classifies himself. Then we know how to treat him. Our silver people don't class with Populists and I am opposed to Bryan being classed with them in a possible way. This feeling is general with the coast people."

Mrs. Gougar will address the Convention tomorrow, and there is to be in addition a flow of oratory from a number of delegates who are in pain to unburden themselves of silver rhetoric.

POMMERY "SEC" and CHAMPAGNE NATURE (Vin Brut).

"SELECTED for the Banquet in Hamburg given to the GERMAN EMPEROR and the GERMAN PRINCES."

N. Y. TIMES.

THE CONVENTION ORGANIZED.

FEW FORMALITIES IN SETTING THE MACHINERY IN MOTION.

MR. ST. JOHN'S SPEECH AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A CONFERENCE COMMITTEE THE CHIEF FEATURES.

St. Louis, July 22.—The conditions governing entrance to the silver Convention were almost as rigorous as at Chicago on the opening day of the Democratic Convention, although the demands for admittance were so few that at 11:55 there was no one in the gallery but the band, and on the floor scarcely more than 200 persons, including visitors. At 12:30 o'clock Chairman Dr. Mott, of North Carolina, called the Convention to order. Proceedings were opened with the reading of the call for the Convention by J. M. Devine, secretary of the Bimetallic League. At this time there were probably 400 delegates in their seats and twoscore spectators.

MR. NEWLANDS'S ADDRESS.

At 12:35 Dr. Mott introduced Francis G. Newlands, Representative in Congress from Nevada, as the temporary chairman, who addressed the Convention. He said in part:

Gentlemen of the Convention: In January last a conference of the leading bimetallists of the country was held at Washington. The expectation at that time was that both the Democratic and Republican parties would at the coming National conventions either declare for the gold standard or would seek to deceive the voters by evasive platforms, and anticipating this, the purpose of the conference was to inaugurate a new political movement for the unification of the silver forces of the country, regardless of former political affiliations. A National convention was called, and as the result of the organization which has since taken place in almost all the States of the Union, the National Silver party meets to-day to determine what course will best advance the cause which we have at heart.

Meanwhile, the conventions of the two great political parties of the country have been held and have made public declaration of their principles. The Republican party has declared for the gold standard, save so far as its disastrous consequences may be averted by an international adjustment with the leading commerical nations of the world. The Democratic party has declared for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for international action. While it has made other declarations in its platform, it has announced that the silver question is the paramount issue of the day, and that to it all other questions are to be subordinated. It has nominated a candidate of unimpeachable character, of exalted ability, of inflexible integrity, of high purpose, who has never faltered for a moment in his devotion to the cause of bimetallism.

The issue has been presented by a party which has been recently discredited before the country by the financial and industrial disturbances which it has created through the repeal of the Sherman act and by threatening and actual tariff legislation. Dragged into financial agitation by the determined will of an Executive whom it has since repudiated, it proposes not merely to reverse legislation already enacted, but to go further and declare for the free and unlimited coinage of silver, and besides it proposes to guarantee the country against further industrial disturbance and any agitation for further changes in the tariff law, except such as are necessary to make up the deficit of revenue. While it would have been wiser to confine the Democratic platform to issues concerning which bimetallists would not differ, thus securing the complete unification of all the silver forces, yet a simple question is presented to sincere bimetallists throughout the country, and that is whether they will permit differences as to nonessential issues to divide them—thus insuring the defeat of their common cause—or whether, preserving their independence of conviction and action as to non-essentials, they shall accept the brilliant leader whom the Democracy have named, and, uniting all the silver forces wherever organized into one invincible army, march to victory in November next.

He then discussed the general subject of bimetallism and the effect of the proposed silver legislation, and closed as follows:

This campaign is to open up an era of education, and in this work the silver party enters animated by no sectional spirit, controlled by no feeling of envy against the more prosperous, but inspired by the desire to maintain abroad an American policy which shall protect the interests of American production, whether in the mining camps of the mountains, the wheat fields of the West, the cotton fields of the South or the factories of New-England. But let us remember always in this contest that union is strength, and that the motto of our opponents is now, as it has always been, "Divide and conquer."

Mr. Newlands's references to the declarations by the Democratic platform for free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, without international agreement, and to the qualities of the Democratic candidate, were received with much favor by the delegates.

A permanent organization was then undertaken, committees being named by calling the roll of States. Some of those which were represented failed to respond, so that it was impossible to tell how many States were in the Convention. After naming the Committee on Credentials the temporary chairman suggested that the State delegations get together and select their representatives on the several committees, and pending this Miss Lillie Pierce, of St. Louis, was escorted to the platform and recited the Declaration of Independence. A delegate from Colorado moved the thanks of the Convention be given Miss Pierce, and it was adopted by a rising vote, and more cheering.

It was finally agreed that the State delegations should hand the names of the different members of committees to the secretary.

All the States were not represented in the Convention, and some delegations requested to be passed when their States were called, but those responding named the following as members of the Resolutions Committee:

California, C. W. Baker; Colorado, R. O. Olds; Connecticut, J. Sheldon; Illinois, W. H. Harvey; Indiana, F. J. Van Vorhees; Iowa, S. H. Bashore; Kansas, J. J. Miller; Michigan, G. F. Richardson; Minnesota, S. B. Howard; Missouri, H. A. Thompson; Montana, G. D. Thomas; Nebraska, C. B. Scott; Nevada, J. P. Jones; New-Jersey, J. McCullough; North Carolina, J. J. Mott; North Dakota, D. W. Clark; Ohio, A. J. Warner; Oregon, J. Young; Pennsylvania, A. S. Dulin; South Carolina, C. A. Jewett; Tennessee, E. C. McDowell; Utah, H. E. Bartine; Virginia, E. L. Hibleyn; Washington, G. W. Thompson; Wisconsin, F. Powell; Indian Territory, J. E. Gibbons; District of Columbia, H. Kilbourne.

The following National Committeemen were appointed:

California, G. W. Baker; Colorado, D. N. Stevens; Connecticut, A. N. Troup; Illinois, G. M. Emerick; Indiana, A. Walcott; Iowa, A. Steckel; Kansas, R. W. Turner; Michigan, F. Jarvis; Minnesota, J. W. Griffin; Missouri, W. T. Foster; Montana, C. G. Bradshaw; Nebraska, G. L. Laws; New-Jersey, S. W. Reese; North Carolina, B. T. Keith; North Dakota, H. Sawyer; Tennessee, E. C. McDowell; Virginia, A. J. Wedderburn; Washington, J. W. Thompson; Wisconsin, R. A. Cole; District of Columbia, C. J. Hillyer.

While the lists were being prepared Chairman Newlands read the following telegram from Senator Teller:

A TELEGRAM FROM SENATOR TELLER.

Denver, July 21.

I. N. Stevens, St. Louis.

The money question overshadows all others. On its rightful determination depend the prosperity of the people and the perpetuity of republican institutions. All other questions must be subordinate to it. A vote for Bryan and Sewall is a vote for industrial and financial independence of the American people from foreign domination and control, and they should have the support of all opponents of the gold standard.

The sentiments contained in the telegram were vigorously applauded.

A delegate from Pennsylvania read the following letter from ex-Congressman J. C. Sibley, dated Franklin, Penn., July 20:

I find it absolutely impossible to get to St. Louis. I hope success will attend the efforts of the friends to have only one ticket. Let the issue be squarely joined and the verdict of the people recorded.

A motion to take a recess caused some discussion. A recess until 4:30 o'clock this afternoon was finally agreed to, and at 2:22 o'clock the Convention separated.

The Committee on Resolutions effected a temporary organization immediately after the Convention took a recess, by the selection of General A. J. Warner, of Ohio, as chairman. An adjournment was had until 8 o'clock to-night.

The Committee on Permanent Organization elected C. G. Bradshaw, of Montana, one of the editors of Senator Stewart's "Silver Knight," chairman, and R. E. Diffenderfer, of Pennsylvania, secretary. Joseph Sheldon, of Connecticut, moved that W. P. St. John, of New-York, be made permanent chairman of the Convention. G. W. Finch, of Kansas, moved as a substitute that E. A. Towne be named for the place. Finally, upon the suggestion of H. F. Burtsch, of Michigan, it was unanimously resolved that the committee would recommend Mr. St. John for permanent chairman and Mr. Towne for vice-chairman. The further organization of the Convention was completed as follows: Secretary, R. E. Diffenderfer, of Pennsylvania, with authority to select his assistants; reading clerk, "Jeff" Pollard, of Missouri; sergeant-at-arms, Mr. Doud, of Missouri.

THE AFTERNOON SESSION.

Most of the delegates were in their seats at 4:30 and there was a sprinkling of visitors in the galleries. At 4:50 o'clock Chairman Newlands dropped his gavel. Mr. Williams, a delegate from Nebraska, moved that a committee of three be appointed to invite the delegates to the Populist Convention to take seats in the galleries for the afternoon, the Populists not being in session. It was unanimously adopted. The Committee on Rules made its report, recommending that the rules of the present Congress be used in conducting the Convention's business. The Committee on Credentials reported no contests and suggested that any portion of a State delegation present in the Convention could cast the full vote of the delegation. The report was adopted.

The Permanent Organization Committee through its chairman, Colonel Bradshaw, reported in favor of William P. St. John, of New-York, as permanent chairman. As his name was mentioned the Convention cheered vociferously. Charles A. Towne, of Minnesota, was named as vice-president of the Convention, and again the delegates manifested their pleasure. Robert E. Diffenderfer, of Pennsylvania, was named as secretary. In concluding his report Colonel Bradshaw briefly eulogized Mr. St. John. The report was adopted with a cheer.

MR. ST. JOHN'S ADDRESS.

While a committee was escorting Mr. St. John to the chair, Mr. Newlands announced that Mr. Towne would address the Convention to-morrow. Mr. Newlands then introduced Mr. St. John as permanent chairman. Mr. St. John prefaced his remarks by saying that as it had been intimated that he would be asked to preside over the Convention,

WILLIAM P. ST. JOHN.

he had put his remarks in writing, that what he had to say might be in a shape which he would not regret having said. (Cheers.) He therefore asked the indulgence of the Convention while he read, rather than trust to the eloquence of the occasion. At the outset Mr. St. John captured the delegates by interpolating a statement that he should speak from a banker's point of view, and that if he were addressing a gathering of bankers he would use no different terms. He said:

Gentlemen of the Convention: The skill and efficiency of your labors in the past have been rewarded by the adoption of your demand for legislation by two great organizations of the people, namely, the Democracy and the People's party. If now you are able to induce a coalition of these two organizations for the one purpose, the desired achievement on behalf of the people will ensue.

Assuming, then, that you will prevail upon those patriots calling themselves the People's party to indorse the nomination of Bryan and Sewall, it is advisable to warrant the desirability of the end in view.

It is among the first principles in finance that the value of each dollar, expressed in prices, depends upon the total number of dollars in circulation. The plane of prices is high when the number of dollars in circulation is great in proportion to the number of things to be exchanged by means of dollars, and low when the dollars are proportionately few. The plane of prices at present and for some time past is and has been ruinously low. The increase of our population at about two millions a year, scattered over our immense territory, calls for increasing exchanges and thereby demands an increasing number of dollars in circulation.

The increase in the number of dollars when dollars are confined to gold is not sufficiently rapid to meet the growth of our exchanges. The consequence is a growing value of dollars or a diminishing value of everything else expressed in dollars; which is to say, a tendency toward constantly declining prices.

The fountain head of our prosperity has run dry. Our farmers all over the country have endured the depression in prices until they get about $8 or $9 per acre for an expenditure of $10 per acre, and the like. Their credit is exhausted at their country stores. The country store ceases to order from the city merchant, the city merchant reduces his demand upon the manufacturers. Manufactures are curtailed. The consequence is that employes and all elements of labor are being discharged, and wages are lowered to those who continue in employment. The suffering of the farmers, who constitute nearly one-half of our population, is thus enforced upon the city merchant, the manufacturer and all forms of labor. These combined elements constitute the overwhelming majority of voters. Their intelligent conclusion will be felt when expressed at the polls.

The banker also is without prosperity unless prosperity is general throughout the United States. He must learn to distinguish between cheap money and money commanding a low rate of interest.

DEAR DOLLARS AND CHEAP.

The dollar worth two bushels of wheat is a dear dollar, and yet it commands interest in Wall Street at present of but 2 per cent per annum on call. If the dollar can be cheapened by increasing the number of dollars, so that each dollar will buy less wheat, the increasing price of wheat will increase the demand for dollars to invest in its production. Then the borrower of dollars to invest in the production of wheat, being reasonably sure of a profit from that employment of the money, can afford to pay interest for its use as a part of his profit. In other words, interest is a share of the profit on the employment of money. So that abundant money, money readily obtainable, which is to say, really cheap money, is the money which commands a high rate of interest, as a share of the profit of the borrower in using it.

As we appeal to the country, in justice of our cause, one or two points of common inquiry must be satisfied as follows:

The experience of Mexico is held up for our alarm. We answer, first, that Mexico is conspicuously prosperous at home. Her increase in manufactures, railway earnings and the like in recent years is phenomenal.

Second, Mexico is no criterion for the United States, for the reason that she has a foreign-trade indebtedness of about $20,000,000 annually in excess of the value of her exports of cotton, sugar, coffee, hides and the like, which must be paid for in the surplus product of her mines. Her silver, therefore, goes abroad as merchandise, and at a valuation fixed by the outside world. The United States, on the other hand, is a nation of 70,000,000 of people, scattered over a territory seventeen times the area of France. A single one of our railway systems, the Erie, exceeds the aggregate railway mileage of all Mexico. We offer an employment for money to an aggregate greater than the world's spare silver will furnish us. Hence, our silver money, at home and abroad, will be valued as the money of the United States.

THE OPPOSITION'S "THREATS."

The opposition threatens us with a flood of Europe's silver upon our reopened mints. We answer, Europe has no silver but her silver money. Her silver money values silver at from three cents to seven cents on the dollar higher than ours. Hence the European merchant or banker must sacrifice from 3 to 7 per cent of his full legal-tender money in order to recoin it at our mints. Europe's silverware, like America's silverware, carries in it the additional value of labor and the manufacturer's profit.

They threaten us with a flood of silver from the Far East. We answer that the course of silver is invariably Eastward and never toward the West. British India is a perpetual sink of silver absorbing it, never to return, by from $30,000,000 to $60,000,000 worth every year. And India's absorption of silver will be enlarged by the steadiness of price for silver fixed by our reopened mints.

They threaten us with a "sudden retirement of $600,000,000 gold, with the accompanying panic, causing contraction and commercial disaster unparalleled." We answer that our total stock of gold other than about $10,000,000 or $15,000,000 circulating on the Pacific Coast is already in retirement. Practically all our gold is in the United States Treasury or held by banks. The gold in the Treasury will remain there if the Secretary avails of his option to redeem United States notes in silver. The gold in the banks constitutes the quiet and undisturbed portion of their reserves against their liabilities. It will continue to do money duty as such reserve after free coinage of silver is enacted. Hence a premium on it will not contract the currency. The utmost possible contraction of the currency will be the few millions circulating on the Pacific Coast, and this will be retired but slowly.

THE BLAND ACT'S EFFECTS.

A similar threat of a flight of gold was made for the Bland act of 1878. President Hayes was urged to veto it, but Congress passed it over the veto. Instead of a flight of gold, as had been predicted, we gained by importation $4,000,000 the first year, $70,000,000 the next and $90,000,000 the third year. During the twelve years that the act was on the statute book we gained $221,000,000 of foreign gold. Instead of the destruction of our credit abroad, as had been predicted, the United States 4 per cent loan, which stood at 101 on the day of the enactment, sold at 120 per cent within three years and at 130 per cent subsequently. Instead of defeating the resumption of specie payments on January 1 of the following year, the 24,000,000 silver dollars which were coined in 1878 and circulated by means of the silver certificates reduced the demand upon the Government for gold. Hence, the threat of disaster now is without historic foundation.

This, then, is what will follow the reopening of our mints to silver: the gold already in the Treasury will remain there, if common sense dictates the Treasury management; that is, if the Treasurer exercises the option to redeem United States notes in silver. A premium on gold will not occasion a contraction of the currency, bank hoards of gold continuing to serve as a portion of bank reserves against bank liabilities. A premium on gold will tend to increase our exports by causing a higher rate of foreign exchange; that is to say, by yielding a larger net return in dollars on the sale of bills of exchange drawn against goods exported. A premium will tend to diminish our imports by increasing the cost of bills of exchange with which to pay for goods imported. The tendency of increasing our exports and decreasing our imports will be, first, to set our spindles running, swell the number of paid operatives, increase their wages, thereby adding to the number and paying capacity of consumers, and thus enlarge our home market for all home products and manufactures, with prosperity in general as the result assured. The tendency of increasing our exports and decreasing our imports will be, second, to establish a credit balance of trade for the United States. A credit balance of trade means that Europe has become our debtor and must settle with us in money. Europe's silver money is overvalued in her gold, compared with ours, by from three to seven cents on the dollar. The European merchant or banker will therefore make his trade settlements with us in gold more profitably by from 3 to 7 per cent than in his silver. With the instant that European trade settlements with the United States are made in gold, parity for our gold and silver money is established in the markets of the world. Therewith the 371¼ grains of pure silver in our silver dollar and the 23.22 grains of gold in our gold dollar become of exactly equal worth as bullion in New-York.

Mr. St. John's assumption that the Convention would prevail upon the patriots calling themselves the People's party to indorse Bryan and Sewall was received with great applause, continuing for nearly a minute. The assertions that the threatened flow of silver from the East had no force, and that the entire stock of gold in the country would be retired was also without force, for all of it but ten or fifteen millions circulating on the Pacific Coast had already been retired, were greeted with loud applause.

APPROACHING THE OTHER CAMP.

The next business in order, Chairman St. John announced, was the appointment of special committees. G. W. Baker, of California, moved the appointment of a committee consisting of one from each State to meet a similar committee from the Populist committee to take up the question of differences between the two parties for the purpose of coming to some rational agreement, to the end that the nomination of Bryan and Sewall might be ratified by the two conventions. Mr. Olmstead, of Oregon, speaking for the Populists and as one of the leaders of the party of that State, seconded the motion, making the suggestion that each State delegation select its representative on the committee. The motion was further seconded by delegates from Missouri and Virginia. A delegate asked if any one knew that the Populists were ready to confer with the silver party. Mr. Olmstead, speaking for the Populists, again responded that they were ready to meet the silver men anywhere, and he urged the silver men to meet the People's party half way.

Some desultory discussion ensued as to the propriety of the silver men making the first advances. Mr. Olmstead again addressed the Convention, stating that the two conventions were called to meet here to-day in order to consolidate the free-silver forces for the campaign. The Populists being the older party and having always stood for free silver, it would ill become their dignity, he thought, for them to take the first steps.

Mr. Porter, from Virginia, and a delegate from Ohio seconded the motion and urged that the great end of united and harmonious action be kept in view.

A delegate from Illinois offered as a substitute for Baker's motion one to the effect that each State delegation select a member of this conference committee and that the Populist Convention be informed of the action with a request that a similar committee be appointed by that body.

A delegate from Kansas, Mr. Shinn, expressed the opinion that it was not wise or expedient for the silver convention to force themselves upon the Populists. There was really no difference between the two bodies (cries of "Mistake!"), and he believed the effect of the motion upon the Populist Convention would be different from that intended by its author.

General Warner advocated first the appointment of a small committee to advise the Populist Convention of the fact that the silver convention had been organized and learn whether or not it was the wish of that Convention that the silver convention appoint a full committee of conference to meet a similar committee appointed by it.

Mr. Foster, of Missouri, a member of the committee appointed by the National Committee last night to consider the subject of conference, reported that as a result of their inquiries it was determined that a more representative body should be appointed. Many of the Populist leaders had expressed the hope that the Conference Committee should be appointed.

The previous question was ordered on the motion of the delegate from Illinois, which was accepted by the author of the original motion, and it was agreed to.

ENVOYS TO THE POPULISTS.

The roll of States was called and the following members of the Committee on Conference named:

Alabama, R. H. Walker; California, G. W. Baker; Colorado, B. C. Wheeler; Connecticut, J. Sheldon; Illinois, W. J. Strong; Indiana, Anson Wolcott; Iowa, C. C. Cole; Maryland, A. J. Wedderburn; Massachusetts, B. O. Flower; Michigan, S. Robinson; Minnesota, W. W. Irwin; Missouri, W. T. Foster; Montana, C. G. Bradshaw; Nebraska, G. E. Brown; Nevada, G. J. McCarthy; New-Jersey, J. H. McCullough; New-York, W. P. St. John; North Carolina, B. F. Keefe; North Dakota, W. H. Standish; Ohio, J. A. Brown; Oregon, M. S. Olmstead; Pennsylvania, J. A. Wright; Tennessee, Percy Bernard; Utah, H. E. Bartine; Vermont, J. Batelle; Virginia, J. W. Porter; Washington, J. R. McBride; West Virginia, Isaac C. Ralfsinder; Wisconsin, J. E. Thomas; Arizona, W. J. White; Indian Territory, William Tell; District of Columbia, J. D. Rhodes.

On motion of a delegate of Michigan, at the unanimous request of the delegation from that State, it was ordered that hereafter the proceedings of the Convention be opened with prayer.

At 6:25 p. m., on motion of Mr. Cornell, of Colorado, the Convention adjourned until 10 a. m. tomorrow, notwithstanding the objections of some delegates who wanted another recitation from Miss Pierce, who was on the platform during the afternoon session.

The Committee on Conference, appointed at the close of the proceedings this afternoon, effected an organization by selecting Mr. St. John as chairman and A. D. Wedderburn, of Maryland, as secretary. A motion was made that the chairman and secretary prepare a letter to be sent to the Populist Convention at its session this evening formally notifying to that body the appointment of the committee and requesting the appointment of a similar committee by that convention to meet with them.

Nearly an hour was spent in discussing matters of detail in reference to order of procedure and finally an adjournment was taken until 10 o'clock to-night.

PECK GETS INTO THE BRYAN CAMP.

Milwaukee, July 22.—Secretary Noel, of the Democratic State Central Committee, announced yesterday on behalf of the chairman, ex-Governr Peck, that Mr. Peck was now for silver and would do all in his power to secure the election of Bryan.

Solid Silverware

Loving Cups, Vases, Pitchers and other pieces suitable for prizes.

THEODORE B. STARR,
206 Fifth Avenue,
Madison Square.

CONVENTION SIDE LIGHTS.

SOME OF THE QUEER CHARACTERS SEEN AND QUEER THINGS HEARD.

HOW DEBS BOOMS HIMSELF—MISS MITCHELL'S ODE—WHAT LINCOLN WOULD DO IF ALIVE—"CYCLONE" DAVIS'S RIVAL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

St. Louis, July 22.—"Calamity" Weller, of Iowa, is strongly opposed to Bryan. He also is a close imitator of Colonel Fellows, of New-York; of the Hon. George Frederick Williams, of Massachusetts, and others in the "weeping" line. At the National Reform Press Association meeting, held yesterday, he fought bitterly against either nominating or indorsing Bryan. In closing his remarks he wept bitterly, and pleaded with his hearers not to have anything to do with Bryan or any of the old parties. "The tear in politics" is getting to be a big thing.

The largest man from the largest Congress district in the largest State in the Union, J. S. Bradley, of Abilene, Tex., presented a gavel to the temporary chairman. It was of bois d'arc wood, with a walnut handle. Burned in the wood on one end is: "From F. O. Reed, Paris, Tex.," and on the other end, "Bois d'arc wood, as durable as a flat dollar"; on one side, "St. Louis, July 22, 1896, presented to the People's Party Convention."

This afternoon a Kansas delegate sat down at a table in Faust's and called for an order of corn, which was served him. It consisted of two ears. The Kansan then called for his bill, and the waiter presented a check for 15 cents. The delegate looked at the check, then remarked: "Fifteen cents for two ears of corn! Why, if you will come to where I live I will give you a whole sackful for that price." He paid the amount, but kept the check for a souvenir.

One of the most interesting characters to be seen about the hotels is Jesse Harper, of Illinois. He is sixty-eight years old, and proudly tells his audiences that he practised law with Abraham Lincoln in 1856. The old gentleman is a Middle-of-the-Road Populist of the strongest kind, and will not swallow Bryan, which, he says, means the demise of his party. Some one in a little knot of people that stood about him to-day listening to his reminiscences asked:

"Who would Abe Lincoln vote for if he were alive to-day?"

"Why, he would be a Populist, to be sure, if he lived in these times, but he would never be a Democrat if he lived forever," was the quick reply. "Now," he continued, "don't you fellows think old Abe Lincoln knew more about these things than you do? I think so, and what he would do is good enough for me."

"Uncle Jesse," as he is known all over Illinois, is a delegate to the Convention, and, incidentally, sells his 25-cent book on the financial question and reforms, which he lets delegates have at 15 cents as an inducement.

"Cyclone" Davis has a rival. The newcomer calls himself "Tornado Bill," but his right name is William Davis, and he represents one of the California districts in the Populist Convention. He is an out-and-out Bryan man, and that is one reason, he says, why he and "Cyclone" Davis, from Texas, are enemies. "Tornado Bill" wears a large blue badge announcing the fact that he is from California, and on the other side of his coat is a Bryan badge. For four hours yesterday "Tornado Bill" entertained a crowd of Populists with his hot harangue at the Lindell Hotel. He shot it into the "Middle-of-the-Road" men, charging them with "boodling" without distinction, and several times he had narrow escapes from being assassinated. He denied having Bryan money about him, and said he wished he had some, as he could use it among the "Middle-of-the-Road" men to buy them back into line. In referring to "Cyclone" Davis, he said he could put him into his pocket and blow all around him.

"I want a good close shave. Do you know who I am?" In this manner Eugene V. Debs addressed a Planters House barber this morning. He accompanied his words by taking two buttons from his pocket. One he pinned on the barber's coat, the other he presented to the bootblack who stood in attendance. "For President, Eugene V. Debs," was the inscription, and it was accompanied by a profile likeness of the labor leader. Debs believes Presidential lightning may strike him, and he does not lose an opportunity to distribute his buttons.

Congressman M. W. Howard, of Alabama, the young man who wrote "If Christ Should Come to Congress," may be seen towering over the groups of excited talkers in the hotel lobbies, and doing a great deal of talking himself; but he is not the potential factor among the delegates that he thought he would be. Mr. Howard is a tall, big-boned, smooth-faced young man, and when he was elected to Congress in 1894 by such a flattering majority over William H. Denson, it looked as if he was paving the way to eclipse all the other Southern Populist leaders, and his friends had great expectations of him. But he tried to leap into fame at one bound. He hied himself to New-York, and became voluble as to what he was going to do when he took his seat in Congress, and even before the session begun he was writing away on his book to enlighten the world about the devious ways of Congressmen. The book fell flat. Nearly everybody condemned it as a profanation and burlesque on literature. Howard failed to put into motion the great reforms he had so glibly prated about. He failed to scintillate, and, in fact, his face was more familiar in the House restaurant than it was on the floor of the House. Howard's career was brief, and he is slated on the ex-list for a long time to come.

James W. McGarrity of the VIIth Georgia Congress District, said at a meeting of the Washington Populist delegation: "The Chicago platform is Populistic and resulted from the pressure of the reform movement. In Georgia the goldbug candidates for Congress on the Democratic ticket are in the saddle in every district. We can trust Bryan, but his power as President will be limited, and we can't trust his party organization. The indorsement of Bryan would be an unconditional surrender. We can never agree to it."

Helen Hartwell Mitchell is one of the women Populists who wears a Bryan badge. Miss Mitchell is an actress. "I learned the part of Lady Macbeth while scrubbing the floor in my father's hotel in Osborne County, Kan.," said the vivacious lady to-day. "Kansas is a great place for bright people, but it is no place to make money." Kansas Populists are great admirers of Miss Mitchell's elocutionary powers. Jerry Simpson, John Breidenthall and Frank Doster are arranging to have her recite an ode of her own composition before the Convention. The closing lines are as follows:

Now, Chauncey, I've something to tell you;
Let me lean up to you close;
Do you see how the sunset has flooded
The heavens with silver and rose?
Do you see o'er the silver-capped mountains
Bryan's banner waving out?
Don't you see his strong arms reaching?
Don't you hear his voice calling out,
"Silver, oh, silver at last!"

The Nebraska delegates are afraid of the influence of Paul Vandervoort, one of the leaders of the Middle-of-the-Road element and the candidate of that faction for first place. They turned him down in the State Convention, but Paul bobbed up early at the National Committee and is putting in hard licks against Bryan's nomination or indorsement. With a view of offsetting Vandervoort's work, the Nebraska delegation has addressed the following to the Convention:

To the Delegates of the National Populist Convention: Inasmuch as it has come to our attention that Paul Vandervoort, of Omaha, Neb., has been in the city for the past week attempting to create dissension and discord among the true Populists, we, the Nebraska delegates, deem it just to say that Vandervoort is not now and never has been regarded as a Populist by the party of our State. In the years past Mr. Vandervoort has been regarded as the chief lobbyist of the railroads, rings and corporations in preventing legislation in their interests in our State Legislature. We have no reason to believe that he has ever changed his mind or occupation, but is now, as in the past, ready to devise any scheme that will result in the default of Populist principles or the triumph of Republicanism. Owing to those facts he was unable to secure a seat in the Populist Convention of his county or election as a delegate to the State or National Conventions. He is at this time an officeholder in the city of Omaha, under appointment by Republican State officers. We believe his presence and conduct in this city are in the interest of the Republican candidate for President.

W. L. GREEN, Chairman.
WARRICK SAUNDERS, Secretary.
For the Nebraska delegates.

When the delegates began to gather in the Auditorium this morning there were kicks innumerable over the plan of seating the delegations by States. Texas and Tennessee, two of the most important Middle-of-the-Road States, found that they had been cut out of the clover pasture in front of the speaker's platform and relegated to the stubble field on the extreme left of the hall. At the Republican Convention this space was occupied by the people who are said to have paid $10 a seat for their tickets. Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Washington and Indian Territory found they were similarly located on the extreme right of the hall. The choicest locations in the space directly in front of the platform were allotted to Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, Mississippi, California, New-York and Massachusetts.

L. C. Bateman, Populist nominee for Governor of Maine, is in to join forces with those who are seeking to prevent the indorsement of Sewall by the Populists. He aired his grievance in this wise: "Mr. Sewall is now a candidate for the Vice-Presidency of the United States on a silver ticket. He advises his friends to vote for Mr. Winslow, the gold candidate, saying that we must have a new convention and a new silver platform upon which Mr. Winslow can stand. Mr. Sewall was never a greenbacker. I have fought every campaign in Maine on the reform ticket for eighteen years. Mr. Sewall admitted in an interview last week that he was not a Greenbacker."

Here is the way in which a Populistic organ sums up the distinctive features of the Convention: "Boss rule is barred. The bosses do not boss. There are leaders, but they do not lead. This is a National Convention of individuals. Sectionalism will cut little figure in deliberations. The gathering is as unlike the Republican Convention as day is unlike night. It is something