

The Sun

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For our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication we have requested and returned them must be in clear and concise language for our purpose.

Treasury Misinformation.

The Secretary of the Treasury has lately caused to be compiled and printed in the form of a pamphlet of 54 pages, a Treasury circular, containing, as its title says: "Information respecting United States bonds, paper currency, coin, production of precious metals, etc." Much of the contents of the circular is valuable, but on one point it misleads the reader, and furnishes him with misinformation, instead of the truth he has a right to expect.

On the first page of the circular, the provisions of the Resumption act of 1875 are briefly stated, and then the reader is told, that "in pursuance of this authority" \$90,000,000 in gold were placed in the Treasury as a fund for the redemption of the legal tender notes. It is true, that this amount of gold was thus placed in the Treasury, but it was not in pursuance of the authority of the Resumption act, or in pursuance of any other law, but solely by the arbitrary will of Secretary SHERMAN.

No reserve fund is mentioned in the Resumption act, and no law authorizing the creation of such a fund was ever passed.

On the same page of the circular we read that in February, 1894, "an issue of bonds became necessary to enable the Government to restore the gold reserve and redeem the obligations of the United States." On the following page we are told that in November, 1894, and February, 1895, "the Government was again obliged to replenish the gold reserve," and so on, and so on.

Not one word is said here, or anywhere else in the circular, of the true reason for issuing so many bonds, amounting in all to \$293,454,286 was received, but the reader is left to suppose that they were issued solely "to protect the gold reserve, and to redeem the obligations of the United States." The fact is, that up to this date, of the \$293,454,286 received, the bonds sold in 1894, 1895, and 1896, \$157,429,010 have been applied to the ordinary expenses of the Government for which the ordinary revenues were, to that amount, insufficient.

One of the arguments used by the silverites against the gold standard is that its maintenance has compelled the Government in the short space of three years to increase the public debt by \$293,454,286. Now comes the Secretary of the Treasury and, in effect, confirms this false statement, by suppressing the essential fact, that more than half these issues of bonds were made necessary, not by the maintenance of the gold standard, but by the lack of sufficient revenue.

What is the Chicago Platform?

As printed in all of the newspapers immediately after its adoption by the Chicago Convention, and as generally understood by the country, the Popocratic platform contains this plank:

"We demand that the silver standard dollar shall be a full legal tender, equally with gold, for all debts, public and private, and that no legislation shall be enacted which shall prevent the future demonstration of any kind of legal tender money by private contract."

On a parallel line, the Populist platform of St. Louis contains this resolution:

"We demand such legislation as will prevent the demonstration of the lawful money of the United States by private contract."

It is a curious and significant circumstance that the copies of the Chicago platform which are now put forth officially by the managers of Mr. BRYAN'S canvass, add to the resolution as printed above this modifying clause:

"But it should be carefully provided by law, at the same time, that any change in the monetary standard should not apply to existing contracts."

This addition to the financial plank is a heretofore published is identical with an amendment offered by Senator HILL in the Convention, and notoriously defeated along with Mr. HILL'S other proposed amendments by the vote of the Convention.

Neither Mr. HILL, nor any other delegate to Chicago, nor again any other person in the United States, has supposed that the amendment in regard to existing contracts was not defeated, but was adopted by the Chicago Convention.

Yet now Col. EDWARD B. DICKINSON, the official stenographer of the Convention, is reported by the St. Louis Republic as declaring that the HILL amendment was "adopted without roll-call," and that he has been "instructed to place it at the end of the financial plank."

Instructed by whom? By Mr. BRYAN? By Senator JONES of Arkansas? What authority in the BRYAN management has the right to reverse the declared vote of the Convention and to incorporate in the platform matter rejected by that body?

It looks as if repudiation was to extend to the very record of the Convention itself. Are Mr. BRYAN'S managers afraid to stand upon the platform of dishonesty which was erected at Chicago, and upon which the Boy Orator tripped with a whoop?

Shall we learn next that even the similar plank in the platform of the St. Louis Populists was amended, unknown to every body, so as not to apply to existing contracts?

Artillery Week at Peekskill.

In 1884, the third year of the New York Camp of Instruction, the experiment was tried of supplementing the infantry season by a week devoted to the National Guard Artillery. Seven batteries were assembled, under the charge of Capt. L. L. OLNEY, the senior commander, while RANDOLPH'S light battery of the Fifth Artillery was sent by the War Department to Peekskill to furnish an object lesson.

The turn-out at that time was very good, the batteries being nearly full, with more than ninety per cent. of the members present. And yet the experience was not very favorable. Rains fell almost daily, and one battery did all its target practice in a driving storm. Besides there were unpleasant revelations of shortcomings. The regular battery seemed to set up an almost hopeless standard, because in light artillery not only the men but the horses must be carefully trained

and kept up. At all events, ten years elapsed before, in 1894, a second artillery camp was attempted; and then it was on a moderate scale, two batteries being sent up from New York for one week, and the two from Syracuse and Binghamton. If we rightly remember, following the week after, DILLERBACK'S Light Battery K, First Artillery, was also on hand to aid and instruct their comrades.

This same regular battery is now once more detailed, and will march up to Peekskill with the militia artillerymen. That march itself will be one of the great features of the season's drill; for it will begin at Madison square on Thursday morning, and, with camp at Van Cortlandt Park and at Sing Sing on the following nights, so as to proceed by easy stages, the troops will have some initiation into campaigning.

During the week which begins on Saturday there will be plenty of artillery drill and target practice; and with the route marches added, and the work already performed throughout the season by artillery detachments at the State Camp, the total tour of duty of this arm will be longer than is exacted of infantry soldiers. The First, Second, Third, Fifth, and Sixth batteries, with Battery K of the regulars, should form quite an impressive gathering of artillery for peace days, while Capt. WENDEL of the First, Capt. RASQUIN of the Fourth, and Capt. OLNEY of the Sixth are still battery commanders, as at the first artillery camp in 1884. Capt. OLNEY again commanding the State force, as he did some twenty years ago.

State military establishments are apt to contain a very small proportion of light artillery, partly, perhaps, on account of its cost. Yet its value as an auxiliary to the regular army in time of war is unquestionable, and in civic disturbances it is of well-known effectiveness. Good results in training and efficiency must come from such tours of duty as the one soon to take place.

Not Quite Available.

The Baltimore Sun advises those sound Democrats who propose to nominate their own candidate for President to select Mr. WILLIAM L. WILSON of West Virginia for the purpose.

We think he won't do very well. Mr. WILSON was elected to Congress in 1892, when BOSS CLEVELAND was chosen President. He was elected to make a tariff for revenue only, and it is his fault as well as his misfortune that he violated his pledges and the pledges of his ill-starred party by making instead a tariff for a deficiency and for protection.

Besides, he has remained, without any protest, in the Cabinet of BOSS CLEVELAND during the whole of the infamous thirteenth intrigue.

Such a man does not seem well calculated to lead in a movement for the assertion and maintenance of Democratic principles against a calamity brought upon the Democracy by Mr. CLEVELAND as principal, and by himself as an accessory.

The Roloff Case.

The suggestion in the Spanish press that the Madrid Government should ask of the United States the extradition of CARLOS ROLOFF is almost too preposterous for serious consideration.

The very proposal that this should be a voluntary act on the part of the Washington authorities, an act of courtesy, based on the precedent of the surrender of WILLIAM M. TWEED by Spain years ago, shows a full recognition of the fact that it could not be demanded as a matter of treaty right.

The essential difference in the two cases is that TWEED was a fugitive from justice under the criminal law, and not a political prisoner. Spain's claims against ROLOFF arise out of the Cuban insurrection, and it is certain that the American people would never tolerate the giving up of a political offender. Not only do our treaties with Spain exclude such persons, but our sympathies go out to those who are striving to free Cuba from the yoke of Spain.

Who is Losing by the Bicycle?

In the current number of the Forum some interesting data have been collected by Mr. J. B. BISHOP to show the economic and social influence of the bicycle. He estimates that since the passion for wheeling got under full headway, less than five years ago, at least \$100,000,000 have been spent in the purchase of bicycles in the United States alone. The output for the present year is computed at from 750,000 to 1,000,000 machines, at an average retail price of \$80 each. Obviously, a million people cannot buy bicycles at the average price named and continue to supply themselves with as many other things as they would if they had not bought. What are the other kinds of goods which have been most seriously affected by the remarkable development of the new branch of manufacturing?

The makers of watches and jewelry are said to have been the first to feel the effects of the diversion of money to bicycles. It seems that formerly on Christmas Day or a birthday the favorite present to the male members of a family was a watch; now it is a bicycle. The young girls on their part were accustomed to save their pin money for the purpose of buying earrings or a bracelet; now they hoard it for a bicycle. The grown-up daughter, who used to look forward to the purchase of a piano, now concludes that she will wait no longer and gets a bicycle instead. It is reported that the piano trade for the current year has fallen off 50 per cent. According to the furniture makers, young women, when allowed by their parents to choose between a new set of parlor furniture and a bicycle, always choose the latter. Undoubtedly, however, the worst sufferers are the horse and carriage trades and the ancillary lines of business. Saddle horses are a drug in the market; the livery stable business has been cut down from a half to two-thirds; for new carriages the demand has been so much reduced that several leading manufacturers have gone to the wall. The saddle and harness makers have been forced to turn their attention to the making of bicycle saddles. Riding academies have been turned into bicycle schools.

So far only the direct economical consequences of the bicycle craze have been considered. Mr. BISHOP proceeds to discuss some of its indirect effects. The journals of the tobacco trade assert that the consumption of cigars has fallen off during the present year at the rate of a million each day; this they ascribe to the fact that, as a rule, wheelmen do not smoke while riding. Saloon keepers say that they also suffer, because their rooms are deserted on pleasant evenings; even the wheelmen who visit them avoid strong drink, because riding requires a steady head. A large restaurant in this town which makes a specialty of table d'hôte dinners has incurred this summer a loss of half its business through the desertion of wheelmen. Railway and steamboat

men report that excursionists prefer to go to the country or the seashore on the bicycle rather than by rail or water. Trolley and other street car lines from cities to their suburbs have had their receipts sensibly diminished. In cities the theatres are said to be injured by the bicycle even in winter, and to be ruined in summer. On the other hand, in country villages, the churches are fast losing the attendance of young people on Sunday, and are trying to lure them back by providing storage room for their wheels. Shoemakers complain that they suffer materially because persons who formerly got their exercise by walking have taken to the wheel, upon which they ride in low-priced shoes, which are subject to little wear and tear. The hat makers say they are injured because bicyclists wear cheap caps. The tailors aver that their business has been damaged at least 25 per cent. because their customers do not wear out clothes as rapidly as formerly, spending much of their time in cheap ready-made bicycle suits. Dealers in dry goods say that the predilection of young women for the wheel has reduced their sales of dresses and expensive costumes from 25 to 50 per cent. because so many girls prefer an evening ride on bicycle garb to sitting at home in more elaborate apparel. Finally, the booksellers declare that much riding prevents much reading, and that their trade suffers. One great news agency in New York city, which deals in novels and periodicals, asserts that its trade has fallen off about a million dollars.

Some of the economical effects of the widely extended use of the bicycle will no doubt be lasting, but others are certain to be transitory. As Mr. BISHOP remarks, people are not going to get on permanently without pianos or watches because they ride upon bicycles. As soon as a given community becomes stocked with bicycles and the changes and improvements become so unimportant as no longer to require the purchase of new machines every year, money will begin to flow back into some of its former channels.

The Truth About Bryan's Crown of Thorns

The sacrifice of Mr. BRYAN'S theatrical likening of the gold standard to a "crown of thorns pressed down upon the brow of labor," needs no further comment. The emptiness and falsehood of it deserve to be considered by every man who can vote. No ranting demagogue ever personified such antagonism to the actual interests of labor as the Populist candidate BRYAN does in his effort to substitute silver for gold as the money standard.

Since the alleged "crime" of 1873, when silver was legally demonetized, after having been practically demonetized for forty years, these things have happened:

During the period between 1873 and 1892, on the authority of observers whose business it is to watch for just such phenomena, the United States achieved industrial progress and enjoyed prosperity which have been the wonder of all people. So stern a censor of the protective system as the St. Louis Republic, acknowledged, at the time, that the election of CLEVELAND in 1892 was unique in that the party then in power and opposing him was turned out, not under the pressure and dissatisfaction of business disaster, but at a time of the very highest prosperity known to the country.

During this same period gold has steadily grown more plentiful, and mechanical improvements and commercial organization have made most products cheaper. Looking at prices alone, the silver demagogues have complained that the gold dollar has appreciated. Be that as it may, the wages of labor have steadily risen. A bigger wage, paid in what the silver men call more valuable money, is the crown which the silverite has reared for BRYAN'S would have people believe in pressing upon workmen's foreheads with the harshness of punishment.

The truth is that when he adopted the crown of thorns as a stock metaphor, BRYAN really knew nothing of the facts. We imagine that the overwhelming majority of voters know the facts, though, and will act in accordance with their obvious lesson. Preserve the gold standard! No repudiation!

Gen. Gordon as a Pop Rat.

Gen. JOHN B. GORDON of Georgia, at present a Senator in Congress from that State, has been regarded and regards himself as a conservative Democrat, and a friend of Hon. WASHINGTON. On Monday, however, he declared his intention of supporting the Chicago nominations and said that he might take the stump for them. His reasons for favoring what his judgment condemns offer a curious specimen of the inconsistencies into which a man can twist himself in the attempt to justify an unjustifiable course.

The political situation in Georgia, while similar to that in other southern States, is not thoroughly appreciated in the North. The Democracy of Georgia is always threatened with the accession to power of an unscrupulous element. This is made up of a radical agrarian element, holding to very unusual views on financial and other questions. With the assistance of the silverite element might at any time secure control of the State.

To keep this element, a most dangerous one in the background, the Democrats did it necessary to State leaders. There are some who would have Democrats in Georgia who, before the Chicago Convention, talked as if they would not support any silver nominee, but now most of these, recognizing the alternative, are, one by one, deciding to vote the silver ticket. It is not to be wondered at that the silverite element has mentioned would be as bad. I deem it my duty, under the circumstances, to vote for the nominees of my party."

means by lagging in the negro vote. If he fears that the election of a Republican President and a Republican Congress would revive the Force bill and endanger white supremacy in the South, he fears a bogey of his own making. The Republicans have given up the Force bill idea, for good and all, and not only in their platforms, but in their wishes. This is due to no particular virtue of theirs, but to the fact that they hope to make several States of it Republican, and not by special reliance upon or encouragement of the colored Republicans there, but by an appeal to business interests. There is absolutely no existing reason to apprehend any danger of negro domination in the South in so far as any measure of the Federal Government for that purpose are concerned.

If Gen. GORDON is afraid of the negroes in State elections in Georgia, that fear has no rational connection with his vote for Presidential electors, and should have no effect upon it. He can vote the Democratic ticket in State and local elections without voting for the wild agrarianism of the Chicago platform.

It has been reserved for Gen. GORDON to discover that the way to keep the radical, agrarian element out of power is to put it in power; and that what he regards as a calamity at Atlanta would be a blessing at Washington.

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Our contemporary is reasoning on the other side of nowhere. The gold men don't use the argument attributed to them by the Buffalo Times, but they do use the argument "Government agreeing to buy all the silver presented at the mints," for the reason that there is no such proposition. Free-silver coinage doesn't mean that the Government shall buy an ounce of silver. It means only that everybody can take silver to the mints in unlimited quantities, and that his particular piece worth 53 cents stamped a dollar.

Psychology of the Silver Craze

A Mental Affection that Must Have Its Course—An Opinion that It's Nearly Here.

From the Emporia Gazette (Kan.). The quality of arrogance in the human mind is one of the never-fading signs of mental derangement. The man who believes he is Christ grown rabid with fury when his identity is questioned, the man who fancies he is a victim, not a convert. He is to be studied as a mental phenomenon, not argued with as a rational being.

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Still, the Atlanta Constitution's remarks are instructive, and well calculated to make more votes against Repudiation.

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An adopted son of Editor CHARLES A. DANA was who raised in the State of Washington and a free silverite, and a person of no small talents.

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Gold men argue there would be no increase whatever in the value of silver bullion if the Government should issue a large quantity of silver coins. Is that really logical?—Buffalo Times.

Our contemporary is reasoning on the other side of nowhere. The gold men don't use the argument attributed to them by the Buffalo Times, but they do use the argument "Government agreeing to buy all the silver presented at the mints," for the reason that there is no such proposition. Free-silver coinage doesn't mean that the Government shall buy an ounce of silver. It means only that everybody can take silver to the mints in unlimited quantities, and that his particular piece worth 53 cents stamped a dollar.

He talks wildly of the crime of '73, just as the man in the padded cell talks of the people who are struck by lightning, a victim, not a convert. He is to be studied as a mental phenomenon, not argued with as a rational being.