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FOR REPEAL

Unconditional and Without Compromise, says the President.

MESSAGE ON THE SILVER QUESTION

Recommends what the People Expect of Congress.

BUT A LACK OF MORAL COURAGE

Is shown in failing to treat the tariff question with the same breadth of view--The repeal of the Sherman law a non-partisan question, but the uncertainty regarding future tariff legislation isn't placed above the plane of party politics, although it is largely responsible for the business depression--The message all right so far as it goes--How it was received in Congress.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 8.—Early in the day it became apparent that the time of the house would be consumed in reading the President's message, or deciding parliamentary questions of organization and that no substantial progress could be to-day made in entering upon the financial discussion.

When the house met the opening prayer of the new chaplain was brief. "Thy servants, Oh, Lord," said he, "have come together in session extraordinary, a session that will involve extraordinary duties and the assumption of extraordinary responsibilities and the necessity of extraordinary blessings from God. It may please Thee to vouchsafe these unto us, and may the results of this legislative body be felt far and wide among all classes of our country, and may the annals of this fifty-third session of Congress go down to the ages to come full of assurance that we have contributed very largely to the peace, to the plenty and prosperity of the nation; we ask for Christ's sake. Amen."

The reading of the journal of yesterday was a monotonous proceeding and consumed over half an hour.

Immediately after the reading of the journal, the President's message, not yet having arrived, Mr. O'Ferrall, of Virginia, who has charge of the Belknap-Richardson contested election stated that he believed there was a general desire to hear the President's message before entering upon the discussion of the election case and he would therefore move a recess until 12:45. The motion was unanimously concurred in.

When the house reconvened at 12:45 the President's message was communicated to Congress and read by the clerk of the house.

THE MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 8.

To the Congress of the United States:

The existence of an alarming and extraordinary business situation involving the welfare and prosperity of all our people has constrained me to call together in extra session the people's representatives in Congress, to this end that through a wise and patriotic exercise of the legislative duty which they are charged, present evils may be mitigated and dangerous threatening of the future may be averted.

Our unfortunate financial plight is not the result of untoward events, nor of conditions related to our natural resources, nor is it traceable to any of the afflictions which frequently check national growth and prosperity. With plentiful crops, with abundant promise of remunerative production and manufacture, with unusual invitation to safe investment, and with satisfactory assurance to business enterprise, suddenly financial distrust and fear have sprung up on every side. Numerous moneyed institutions have suspended because abundant assets were not immediately available to meet the demands of frightened depositors. Surviving corporations and individuals are content to keep in hand the money they are usually anxious to loan and those engaged in legitimate business are surprised to find that the securities they offer for loans, though heretofore satisfactory, are no longer accepted. Values supposed to be fixed are fast becoming conjectural and losses and failures have invaded every branch of business.

I believe these things are principally chargeable to a congressional legislation touching the purchase and coinage of silver by the general government. This legislation is embodied in a statute passed on the 14th day of July, 1890, which was the culmination of much agitation on the subject, involved in which may be considered a truce after a long struggle, between the advocates of free silver coinage and those intending to be more conservative.

Undoubtedly monthly purchases by the government of four million and five hundred thousand ounces of silver enforced under that statute were regarded by those interested in silver production as a certain guaranty of its increase in price. The result, however, has been entirely different, for immediately following a spasmodic and slight rise the price of silver began to fall after the passage of the act and has since reached the lowest point ever known. This disappointing result has led to renewed and persistent effort in the direction of free silver coinage.

THE RESULTS OF THE EVIL.

Meanwhile not only are the evil effects of the operation of the present law constantly accumulating, but the result to which the execution must inevitably lead is becoming palpable to all who give the least heed to financial subjects.

This law provides that in payment for the four million and five hundred thousand ounces of silver bullion which the secretary of the treasury is commanded to purchase monthly there shall be issued treasury notes redeemable on demand in gold or silver coin at the discretion of the secretary of the treasury, and that said notes may not be released. It is, however, declared in the act to be "the established policy of the United States to maintain the

two metals on a parity with each other upon the present legal ratio or such ratio as may be provided by law."

This declaration so controls the action of the secretary of treasury as to prevent his exercising the discretion nominally vested in him, if by such action the parity between gold and silver may be disturbed. Manifestly a refusal by the secretary to pay these treasury notes in gold, if demanded, would necessarily result in their discredit and depreciation and as obligations payable only in silver, and would destroy the parity between the two metals by establishing a discrimination in favor of gold.

Up to the 15th day of July, 1893, these notes had been issued on payment of silver bullion purchases, to the amount of more than one hundred and forty-seven millions of dollars. While all but a very small quantity of this bullion remains uncoined and without usefulness in the treasury, many of the notes given in its purchase have been paid in gold. This is illustrated by the statement that between the first day of May, 1893, and the fifteenth day of July, 1893, the notes of this kind issued in payment for silver bullion amounted to a little more than \$54,000,000, and that during the same period about \$49,000,000 were paid by the treasury in gold for the redemption of notes. The policy necessarily adopted of paying the notes in gold has not spared the gold reserve of one hundred millions of dollars long ago set aside by the government for the redemption of other notes, for this fund has already been subjected to the payment of new obligations amounting to about \$150,000,000 on account of silver purchases and has as a consequence for the first time since its creation been encroached upon. We have thus made the depletion of our gold easy and have tempted other and more appreciative nations to add it to their stock. That the opportunity we have offered has not been neglected, is shown by the large amounts of gold which have been recently drawn from our treasury and exported to increase financial strength of foreign nations. The excess of exports of gold over its imports for the year ending June 30, 1893, amounted to more than \$87,500,000. Between the first day of July, 1890, and the 15th day of July, 1893, the gold coin and bullion in our treasury decreased more than one hundred and thirty-two millions of dollars, while during the same period the silver coin and bullion in the treasury increased more than one hundred and forty-seven millions of dollars.

THE KEYNOTE.

Unless government bonds are to be constantly issued and sold to replenish our exhausted gold only to be again exhausted, it is apparent that the operation of the silver purchase law now in force leads in the direction of the entire substitution of silver for the gold in the government treasury, and that this must be followed by payment of all government obligations in depreciated silver.

At this stage gold and silver must part company and the government must fall in its established policy to maintain the two metals on a parity with each other. Given over to the exclusive use of a currency greatly depreciated according to the standard of the commercial world, we could no longer claim a place among the nations of the first class, nor could our government aim at a performance of its obligation, so far as such an obligation has been imposed upon it, to provide for the use of people the best and safest money. If, as many of its friends claim, silver ought to occupy a larger place in our currency and currency of the world through general international co-operation and agreement, it is obvious that the United States will not be in a position to gain a hearing in favor of such an arrangement so long as we are willing to continue our attempt to accomplish the result single handed.

The knowledge in business circles among our own people that our government cannot make its fiat equivalent to intrinsic value nor keep inferior money on a parity with superior money by its own independent efforts, has resulted in such a lack of confidence at home in the stability of currency values that capital refuses its aid to new enterprises, while millions are actually withdrawn from the channels of trade and commerce to become idle and unproductive in the hands of timid owners. Foreign investors, equally alert, not only decline to purchase American securities, but make haste to sacrifice those which they already have.

It does not meet the situation to say that apprehension in regard to the future of our finances is groundless, and that there is no reason for lack of confidence in the purposes or power of the government in the premises. The very existence of this apprehension and lack of confidence, however caused, is a nuisance which ought not for a moment to be disregarded. Possibly if the undertaking we have in hand were the maintenance of a specific known quantity of silver at a parity with gold, our ability to do so might be estimated and gauged, and perhaps, in view of our unparalleled growth and resources, might be favorably passed upon. But when our avowed endeavor is to maintain such parity in regard to an amount of silver increasing at the rate of fifty millions of dollars yearly, with no fixed termination to such increase, it can hardly be said that a problem is presented whose solution is free from doubt.

THE PEOPLE MUST BE PROTECTED.

The people of the United States are entitled to a sound and stable currency and to money recognized as such on every exchange and in every market of the world. Their government has no right to injure them by financial experiments opposed to the policy and practice of other civilized states, nor is it justified in permitting an exaggerated and unreasonable reliance on our national strength and ability to jeopardize the soundness of the people's money. This matter rises above the plane of party politics. It vitally concerns every business and calling and enters every household in the land. There is one important aspect of the subject which especially should never be overlooked. At times like the present, when the evils of unsound finance threaten us, the speculator may anticipate a harvest gathered from the misfortune of others; the capitalist may protect himself by hoarding or may even find profit in the fluctuation of values, but the wage-earner—the first to be injured by a depreciated currency and the last to receive the benefit of its correction—is practically defenseless. He relies for work upon the ventures of confident and contented capital. This fall-

ing him his condition is without alleviation, for he can neither prey on the misfortunes of others nor calm his labor. One of the greatest statesmen our country has known, speaking more than fifty years ago, when a derangement of the currency had caused commercial distress, said: "The very man of all others who has the deepest interest in a sound currency, and who suffers most by mischievous legislation in money matters, is the man who earns his daily bread by his daily toil."

These words are as pertinent now as on the day they were uttered and ought to impressively remind us that a failure in the discharge of our duty at this time must especially injure our countrymen who labor, and who, because of their number and condition, are entitled to the most watchful care of the government.

UNCONDITIONAL REPEAL.

It is of utmost importance that such relief as congress can afford in the existing situation be afforded at once.

The maxim, "He gives twice who gives quickly," is directly applicable. It may be true that the embarrassments from which business of the country is suffering arise as much from evils apprehended as from those actually existing. We may hope, too, that calm counsels will prevail and that neither the capitalist nor the wage earner will give way to unreasoning panic and sacrifice their property or their interests under the influence of exaggerated fears. Nevertheless, every day's delay in removing one of the plain and principal causes of the present state of things enlarges the mischief already done and increases the responsibility of the government for its existence. Whatever else the people have a right to expect from Congress, they may certainly demand that legislation condemned by the ordeal of three years disastrous experience shall be removed from the statute books as soon as their representatives can legitimately deal with it.

It was my purpose to summon Congress in special session early in the coming September that we might enter promptly upon the work of tariff reform, which the true interests of the country clearly demand, and which so large a majority of the people as shown by their suffrages desire and expect, and to the accomplishment of which every effort of the present administration is pledged. But while tariff reform has lost nothing of its immediate and permanent importance, and must in the near future engage the attention of Congress it has seemed to me that the financial condition of the country should at once and before all other subjects be considered by your honorable body.

I earnestly recommend the prompt repeal of the provisions of the act passed July 14, 1890, authorizing the purchase of silver bullion, and that other legislative action may put beyond all doubt or mistake the intention and ability of the government to fulfill its pecuniary obligations in money recognized by all civilized countries.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

Executive Mansion, Washington, D. C., Aug. 7.

LISTENED TO WITH INTEREST.

The message was listened to with interest during its entire reading and there was a dead silence in the house. Gen. James B. Weaver, of Iowa, the late People's party candidate for the presidency, was on the floor by virtue of his right as an ex-member, and occupied a seat beside Mr. Hayes, of Iowa. General Weaver is an ardent free coinage man and Mr. Hayes, a Democrat, is one of the most vigorous anti-silver men in the house. There were a number of broad smiles on the Republican side at the President's allusion to tariff reform as a secondary issue just at this time, but at the conclusion of the message it was loudly applauded by the Democrats.

THE MICHIGAN CASE.

When order had been restored, Mr. O'Ferrall called up the case of Richardson and Belknap, both claiming to have a "prima facie" title to a seat in the house from the Fifth Michigan district. Mr. Burrows presented the case of Mr. Belknap and contended that the certificate which Mr. Belknap held was one of the best ever presented to the house. Mr. Wendock presented the claims of Mr. Richardson, stating that the action of the supreme court of Michigan was clearly without jurisdiction.

After some discussion Richardson was declared entitled to be sworn in. After some routine business, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Congressman Mutchler, the house adjourned.

IN THE SENATE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 8.—The Rev. Mr. Milburn, the new chaplain of the senate, opened the proceedings with prayer.

The journal of yesterday was read by the new secretary, Mr. Cox. The credentials of Mr. George C. Perkins, under the appointment of the governor of California in place of the late Senator Stanford, were presented and read and the oath of office was administered to the new senator.

The senate then took a recess until 12:45.

The recess having expired Mr. Harris, of the committee to wait upon the President, reported that the committee had performed that duty, and had been informed that the President would communicate with Congress immediately. Thereupon Mr. Prandon, one of the President's private secretaries, delivered the message which was immediately read to the senate by Mr. Johnson, its chief clerk. Not often has an executive communication been listened to in the senate with such profound attention and interest as this message was. Every senator was seated and appeared to be on a nervous strain not to lose a word.

The flood gates of legislation were thrown wide open and a current of bills on financial and other subjects was admitted. Mr. Hill, of New York, was the first senator to get in a bill for the repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman act. Mr. Stewart, of Nevada, followed with two other bills (and a speech) on the same subject. In the speech he declared himself against the repeal of the Sherman act and such repeal would, he said, destroy silver coinage forever.

A resolution was offered by Mr. Lodge, of Massachusetts, directing the committee on finance to report a bill for the repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman act, and providing for a vote on the passage of such a bill by the 22d of August, if not sooner reached.

In the course of the discussion that followed, Mr. Sherman declared himself

in favor of a full and fair debate, without limitation or closure, and Mr. Teller said that the debate would not come to an end in thirty days or even in sixty.

Mr. Sherman said that the act which was now sought to be reversed had been caused by the imminent danger of the the two houses agreeing to a bill for the free coinage of silver. On this subject Mr. Sherman went into some details which have been frequently published, and said that his friends on the other side of the chamber were responsible for the Sherman act. He added, however, that every provision of it was wise, conservative and just, except the purchasing clauses, for the repeal of which he would now vote with the greatest pleasure. I wish to see the broadest discussion, and will vote for no measure of extreme urgency to press a decision of the question.

Mr. Vest, of Missouri, said that a partisan discussion at this time was to be deplored, but the senator from Ohio had made an extraordinary statement which in justice to all Democratic senators ought to be now considered. The senator had stated that the Sherman act had been enacted in order to prevent the passage of a free silver bill.

Mr. Sherman—To prevent a greater evil.

Mr. Vest—Is that a correct statement? Mr. Sherman—The house provided for the monthly purchase of four and a half million dollars worth of silver, which would now buy 64 million ounces. To defeat that measure and also to prevent the passage of a free coinage bill as passed by the senate, this compromise measure was agreed upon.

Mr. Vest—That extraordinary statement implies that President Harrison would have signed a free coinage bill, for nothing is better known than that it was impossible for such a bill to pass over the President's veto.

To this Mr. Sherman retorted that he trusted the time would never come when Congress would either compel or induce the President to save it from the consequences of its own action. Mr. Teller, of Colorado, closed the discussion. He said the clamor for the repeal of the Sherman act did not come from the productive agencies, but from the money centers. There would be time enough, Mr. Teller added, for the discussion of the subject.

After a set speech on the financial question by Mr. Dolph the senate adjourned.

HOW IT WAS RECEIVED.

Great Attention Given to the Reading.

Comments of Members.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 8.—The message of the President was received by Congress with a degree of attention and earnestness that has seldom been accorded to a state paper.

A notable fact was the general absence of adverse criticism from a party point of view, and among those who have reserved an expression of their judgment the Democrats were quite as numerous as the Republicans. For instance Mr. Voorhees, chairman of the finance committee, declined positively to be interviewed on the message, and Mr. Hill, of New York, did the same.

Senator Allison, one of the leading financial lights of this country, was very conservative in his expression of opinion. He remarked "It is a very fair message. He states truly that the Sherman act was a compromise between the free silver men and those who opposed their views."

Senator Allison thought that the tariff references of the President were calculated to disturb business further at a very critical time.

Mr. Bourke Cockran, of New York, who is expected to lead the anti-silver forces on the floor of the house, said: "Admirable, most admirable. Even the silver men must admit that it is the most perfect presentation of the question that could be made."

Representative Bland, of Missouri, the Moses of the free coinage men, said: "As nearly as I could make out, it was a plea for a single gold standard because England maintains it. If England would coin silver probably this country would do so. We seem to have lost the spirit of 1776."

Representative Simpson (Populist), Kansas, said: "It is the weakest message ever presented to the country. Weak as dishwater does not express it. The President's reference to the labor question is the veriest rot."

Hon. Thomas B. Reed, of Maine, says: "One can hardly fail to be impressed by the resemblance between the message of the President to-day and that of the last Democratic President who addressed a Congress of his party in 1857."

"While the disaster is not the same, the expression of sorrow is very similar. While this message is impressive, it is far from being adequate to the occasion."

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

How the President's Message is Received by Various Minds.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., August 6.—The Evening Post, Independent Democrat in politics, says editorially:

"The words in which Mr. Cleveland transmitted his message to Congress are those of a prudent politician, whose intellectuality is under the strict repression of a myriad of conflicting interests. His document is therefore a serious disappointment. Mr. Cleveland has discovered that this is a broad and lengthy land, that legislation beneficial to the east is utterly disastrous to the west, that between the gold kings of Wall street and the silver miners of Colorado there is no bond. Having made this discovery, he seeks by the aid of his pen to say to all what is least disagreeable. On the tariff the President is practically silent. He pays it the tribute of a courtly bow, and then, linking his arm with that of the gold bug, stalks stately by to witness the execution of the white metallists. Mr. Cleveland is no longer a statesman, he has become a diplomat."

DENVER, COL., August 8.—The Times says editorially this afternoon: "There is no hope for silver if the message of President Cleveland to Congress is to be the ultimatum and to be accepted by that body."

"The President has thus ignored the platform of his party and planned his foot firmly on the platform of London and Wall street. Utterly condemning the Sherman law, holding it responsible for the ills that have overtaken the country, he will not admit that silver has a rightful constitutional place in the monetary system of the country. He throws the white metal to the dogs and demands that the finances of the country be conducted on a purely gold basis."

"There is only one thing for the

friends of silver to do, and that is to keep up the fight for free and unlimited coinage of silver; to continue to champion the just cause of bimetalism and the people."

New York, August 8.—The Evening World says:

"The President's message points out the danger in which the country is placed by unwise laws. It urges their immediate repeal. That is what the national legislature is called together to do. That is what the people ask. That is what is not only good, but the very safety of the nation demands. We to statesmen who stand in the way of this necessary patriotic work. We to the small politician who seeks cunningly to delay action on repeal by the petty trick of exciting discussion on side immaterial issues."

"Let the people's representatives follow the recommendations of the people's President and satisfy what they know to be the people's wishes and expectations, and then adjourn and leave the country in peace."

The Sun—"We congratulate the Democracy on the fact that the President recognizes squarely and honorably the validity of his pledges. There is no sign of repudiation."

The Times—"There is not a trace of partisanship or of that much more subtle temptation for men in high places—the pride of opinion. There is no harsh criticism of conflicting theories or theories, while there is the most moving appeal to the sense, the patriotism, and the fairness of all."

Pittsburgh, Pa., August 8.—The Dispatch, (Independent Republican) will say: "The message is clear, inarguable and indisputable in insisting on the first step. That is, to stop silver purchases at once, and then settle the other questions in accordance with sound and conservative principles."

The Commercial-Gazette, (Republican) will say: "In the main President Cleveland's message to Congress is clear, sound and praiseworthy. He tells the story of financial trouble in a simple, straightforward manner and his recommendation for the unconditional repeal of the purchase clause of the Sherman act will meet the approval of the best people, and a majority of all the people, north, east, south and west."

The Post (Democrat) will say: "President Cleveland's message is brief, clear, and decidedly to the point. He lays the present disturbed financial condition of the country to the Sherman law, and advises its prompt repeal. Congress should act at once."

Chicago, August 8.—The Inter Ocean (Republican) says:

"The message of President Cleveland to the Fifty-third Congress, explaining the call for a special session, is a clear and forcible presentation of the subject now most prominent before the country."

Louisville, Ky., August 8.—Under the caption "A great document," Mr. Watterson will say in to-morrow's Courier-Journal: "Like everything emanating from the pen of the President, the message bears the impress of a strong and earnest mind. The purchase clause must go, it must go unconditionally, it must go promptly. Those senators who undertake to impede its going will dig their own graves."

"Touching the tariff the President speaks in no uncertain tone. His message is all that the most ardent friends of revenue reform could desire or ask."

Cincinnati, O., August 8.—The Enquirer says of the President's message: "It is a forceful state paper and several questions which were in doubt are settled by it. He believes the Sherman act the main, if not the sole cause of our financial upheaval. Yielding nothing of his demand for tariff reform, he believes that its consideration should await the disposition of the more pressing need."

London, August 8.—The Post, commenting on President Cleveland's message, says: "America cannot well stop at the mere repeal of the Sherman act. It is probable that the problem which the United States has to solve may lead, not to bi-metalism, but to more mature and unbiased consideration of the possible uses of silver. As a part of the world's currency the metal cannot be demonetized with safety."

The Times says: "No permanent improvement can be looked for until Congress abandons the sisyphian task of attempting to maintain an artificial ratio between silver and gold."

REPEAL SEEMS CERTAIN.

New York, August 8.—The World's Washington correspondent has polled Congress upon the proposed silver legislation and says that repeal seems sure. One hundred and forty-three representatives favor repeal; eighty-five declare for a substitute and nine will not talk. Twenty-eight senators are for unconditional repeal twenty-two for a substitute and twenty-two will not talk. Three senators declare against the repeal of the Sherman act. Many of the members of both houses who would not talk will undoubtedly vote for repeal. A large number of those who want substitutes are for free coinage or are against the demonetization of silver.

HEATHEN WOMEN

Visit Their Wrangling Civilized Sisters at the World's Fair.

CHICAGO, August 8.—While the board of lady managers of the World's Fair was in the midst of a spirited wrangle this afternoon a delegation of women from the Midway Plaisance walked in. The visiting heathen were Persians, Arabians, Turks and Greeks, and as they entered the room where the board of lady managers was in session the din and confusion that prevailed was startling in the extreme.

Mrs. President Palmer called for them to come upon the rostrum and there presented them in a body to the assembled women of civilized society. Scarcely had they gone when the wrangling was renewed. The rampus still lingered on the dispute between the Ball and Meredith factions. The whole matter was finally ordered expunged from the records.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

For West Virginia, fair, warmer; southerly winds.

For Ohio, warmer, southerly winds; fair Wednesday; light local thunder storms Wednesday night.

For Western Pennsylvania, warmer, variable winds; fair.

THE TEMPERATURE YESTERDAY, as furnished by C. SCHWAPP, druggist, corner Market and Fourteenth streets.

7 a. m. 69 3 p. m. 83

9 a. m. 70 5 p. m. 83

12 m. 70 8 p. m. 81

WINDY AND CLEAR.

BLOOD MAY FLOW.

Armed Men Guarding the Court House at Parsons.

THE TUCKER COUNTY SEAT WAR

Growing Serious and the Situation is Grave.

RUMORS THAT A FINAL ATTEMPT

Will be Made by St. George Citizens to Recapture the County Records Which were Removed by a Body of Parsonsites Last Week—A History of the Trouble—The People Overwhelmingly Voted for Removal. The St. George People Attempt to Prevent it by Legal Means—Bloodshed may yet Result.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

BRETZ, W. VA., August 8.—Another chapter has been added to the Tucker county court house episode. Last night about nine o'clock word was received from St. George that a large crowd was being mustered to forcibly remove the court records from Parsons to St. George. The court house bell was rung for twenty minutes, ringing out the alarm that an attempt should be made to break into the temporary court house and remove the contents. In less than five minutes fully fifty armed men were on the scene ready for action. Work was commenced at once erecting breast works in front of the building across the street and strict orders were given by the captain to use their guns freely if necessary to prevent the destruction of the court house, county papers and private property, as Parsons is now legally the county seat, the bid having been awarded for the removal of the records by the seventh.

Many were armed with rifles, repeaters, old army muskets, hatchets and acid. About one o'clock two successive shots were fired opposite the Parson City hotel, which is a half square from the court house, and almost instantly every armed individual was at his post in the trench back of the breastworks. It proved to be a false alarm. Up to 3 o'clock a. m., the St. George contingent had not put in their appearance. All this time some were doing picket duty while others were sleeping. At 5 nothing serious had occurred, and the guards went to breakfast.

Court is in session to-day at St. George, but nothing can be heard. Judge Hoke of the circuit court has appointed guards at the court house at Parsons to protect records and public property, with the privilege of adding recruits. If the St. George people put in their appearance surely blood will be shed and many will be killed. At present everything is quiet, but trouble is expected to-night after the action of the court is known.

HISTORY OF THE TROUBLE.

How Parsons Was Chosen as the County Seat—Clearly the People's Choice.

To the Editor of the Intelligencer.

Sir:—In reply to a dispatch from Bretz, W. Va., that appeared in the Intelligencer of August 3, relative to the county seat war going on in Tucker county, your correspondent desires to make this matter plain to your readers.

We wish to be understood as taking no sides in this controversy other than that of the people, and here it will be necessary to review briefly the history of the effort to change the county seat from St. George to Parsons. It is understood that Parsons is the central town of the county and on the West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh railroad, convenient to all, while St. George is nearer the border of the county, eight miles from any railroad and inconvenient to four-fifths of the people of the county.

These being facts, it was decided four years ago to hold an election relative to making the proposed change. This was done, and Parsons only lacked sixty votes of receiving three-fifths of the whole number cast in the county. The removal under this election could not be made, and another election was held two years after, this resulting in thirty votes less than the necessary three-fifths in favor of Parsons. Cheered by this approximate victory, another election was ordered to be held last fall, and Parsons was only three votes short of the necessary three-fifths.

It was argued by the friends of removal that the proposition to change the court house to Parsons had not been fully understood by the people at the previous elections. So it was arranged early last spring to hold a special election and on the 28th day of last April the matter was settled, Parsons receiving a large majority over the necessary three-fifths. Not satisfied with the results of this election a move was made to take the honors away from Parsons and bestow them upon Hendricks. Another election was ordered and held the 15th of July and Parsons was transcendently victorious again, her majority being larger than ever before. Surely there can be no mistaking how the will of the people stands in regard to this matter. Five elections having been held, Parsons has received a large majority at the first three and a good majority over the necessary three-fifths at the last two.

In view of this fact the county court at its last session ordered that on the 7th of August the records and appertinances heretofore belonging to the court house at St. George should be moved to the new court house at Parsons, and such would have been done had not the opponents of removal taken another step to still thwart the will of the people in regard to the matter. They applied to Judge Hoke to grant an injunction, *ex parte*, forbidding its removal, but Judge Hoke would not do it.

They then went directly to the supreme court and asked Judge Dent for a writ of certiorari and were about to obtain the same when the people who have so often expressed themselves in regard to this change rose up in their might and said: "We propose to have no minority rule in Tucker county. You propose to carry this thing into the courts and wait years for a decision,