

# NATCHITOCHESES POPULIST.

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## HARMONIOUS UNITY.

### AN APPEAL FOR JOINT POLITICAL ACTION.

The National Committee of the Populist, Democratic, and Free Silver Republican Parties Issue Addresses Urging Co-Operation.

Following is the full text of the appeal for harmony, issued recently by Chairman Butler and twenty-five other Populist senators and representatives. Chairmen Jones and Towne of the free silver Democrats and Republicans simultaneously issued similar circulars to the members of their parties. The Populist appeal is as follows:

The conspiracy of gold and monopoly is nearing its culmination. Every advance it has made during the last twenty-five years has been by adroit and stealthy processes. These would have been impossible if it had not had its agents and confederates holding positions of public trust in the legislative, executive and judicial branches of the government. Neither the beneficiaries nor the tools of this conspiracy have any particular politics. In name the last administration was Democratic. The present administration is called Republican, but it has ingloriously practiced and defended the perfidious policies of its predecessors.

At length the selfish and brutal interests behind this conspiracy deem themselves strong enough to dispense with the caution and duplicity hitherto necessary to their success. The administration boldly avows its indorsement of their scheme against the liberty and prosperity of the people. Within a few weeks it has formulated and sent to congress a bill the leading purpose of which is, in the words of the secretary of the treasury: "To commit the country more thoroughly to the gold standard."

This country has, during the past twenty-four years, suffered enough of the blighting effect of the gold standard, so far as fraudulent legislation and executive usurpation have been able to establish it. It is now boldly proposed to legalize what has, been done in defiance of law and to use the power secured by false pretenses from a long suffering and too trustful people to put upon this infamous design the stamp of alleged popular authorization.

In the pursuit of this purpose of committing the country more thoroughly to the gold standard, the plan of this administration, as of the last, is to retire the greenbacks and other non-interest bearing paper money of the government, to issue interest-burdened gold bonds, and to increase the powers, privileges, and profits of national banks. The achievement would turn over the duty of supplying the people's money, the very life-blood of business, to a selfish, heartless, and irresponsible foreign gold syndicate and its American agents and allies.

It must be remembered also that this foreign gold syndicate and its allies have, with the connivance if not the assistance of our government, captured and today control every instrument of commerce in the nation. In framing the constitution our patriotic forefathers, with zealous care and with prophetic wisdom, provided that commerce should be regulated by congress; but this tremendous power has been abdicated by congress in favor of the gold trust and the banking ring. Money is the first great instrument of commerce, but the gold ring, not satisfied with controlling our financial system, has captured the other instruments of commerce, to enable it to keep the gold standard yoke upon our necks, and "to more thoroughly" subjugate our people and dominate our government.

All history teaches that those who have controlled the instruments of commerce in any country have not only controlled the commerce of that nation, but have also controlled and dominated that government. Thus the gold syndicate and its allied monopolies in our country, having seized the great instruments of commerce, have used this tremendous power to discriminate against sections and individuals to destroy competition, to breed business stagnation, and to create "hard times," in the midst of plenty. Thus the organization and maintenance of great industrial trusts have been promoted, which operate to aggravate the evil conditions which gave them birth. Thus they are making millions of paupers to create a few millionaires. The inevitable result must be to convert our government into an oligarchy of sordid wealth!

In the accomplishment of this end these evil influences must shackle opinion and muzzle discussion. They not only subsidize the press and attempt to seat their well-paid attorneys in our legislative halls, on our benches of justice, and in all other departments of government; but wherever college faculties are susceptible to pretended generosity or inverted philanthropy they carefully maneuver for either service or silence.

The divine right of kings is to be succeeded by the divine right of millionaires, who propose to run every-

thing, not only the instruments of commerce and our industrial system, but also as far as possible the pen of the editor, and the voice, if not the intellect, of the university professor. Having succeeded in this the conspirators will not only completely dominate the legislative, executive and judicial branches of our government, but will be solidly entrenched against resistance and retribution.

Briefly stated this is a part of the outrageous scheme. We do not arraign any political party on partisan grounds. We arraign a system and denounce a conspiracy. We condemn individuals and organizations that support this system and aid the conspiracy. A party that is the mouthpiece and agent of this conspiracy is just as dangerous under one name as under another.

In every campaign the gold syndicate and all the allied trusts and monopolies combine. They select the conventions they desire to control; they elect the candidates that they have selected. Of course, they control them after they are elected. Therefore, those who are not their agents and who would not submit to their tyrannous spoliation should strenuously oppose the allied combination of gold and monopoly.

The only hope of the enemy is to divide us. Therefore, let us be more united and harmonious than ever, and further let us organize without delay a vigorous campaign in every state and congressional district, county and precinct.

There are but two sides to this mighty and portentous conflict. All of those of whatever party who favor the conspiracy of gold and monopoly, who favor industrial slavery, widespread poverty and national destruction, should be on one side; and all those of whatever party who oppose this deadly design, who love truth and right, who love their country, who love their homes and firesides, and who believe in the sacred principles declared by Jefferson and reasserted by Jackson and Lincoln, should be on the other side. On this side we solidly stand. Then let us, maintaining at all times party integrity, invite the harmonious co-operation of all seeking the same end. The ominous dangers threatening the institutions of the republic make this the highest duty. The line of battle is clearly drawn. We cannot avoid the conflict if we would. Therefore let us appeal to all citizens and to all organizations and parties that oppose this conspiracy—that oppose a government of the trusts, by the trusts, and for the trusts, that oppose and will not submit to the despotism of sordid wealth—to come to the rescue. Patriotism and manhood are not dead. A large part of the American people realize the wrongs and comprehend the dangers, and are ready and anxious to fight this system to the end. The spirit of '76 is abroad in the land and the friends of liberty everywhere are awaiting the patriotic call to fight a common battle against a common foe. Let this be done and we can crush every traitor as did the men of the American revolution; let this be done and we shall drive every Tory to ignominious defeat. Let this be done and we shall re-establish what is almost overthrown: A government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

Signed: Marlon Butler, W. A. Harris, Henry Heitfeld, William V. Allen, R. F. Pettigrew, John C. Bell, J. D. Botkin, Jerry Simpson, W. F. Stroud, W. L. Greene, J. Y. Callahan, E. R. Ridgely, James Gunn, John E. Fowler, C. H. Castle, N. B. McCormick, M. S. Peters, J. E. Kelley, C. A. Barlow, A. C. Shuford, W. D. Vincent, Samuel Maxwell, Freeman Knowles, Charles H. Martin, W. L. Stark and R. D. Sutherland.

**A Great Revolution of Sentiment.**  
The great bulk of the men employed by the Wheeling Iron and Steel company at Benwood, W. Va., are Republicans, as is the case in most of the Wheeling district iron works. Pictures of President McKinley and cartoons representing the opening of the mills as against the opening of the mints were numerous about the plant in the '96 campaign. Since then the men's wages have been cut twice and another cut is pending. During a meeting in the big machine shop recently some of the men in speaking pointed to a picture of President McKinley and spoke smilingly of returned prosperity. Instantly the big picture was pulled down, torn to shreds, and trampled under foot amid a round of cheers.

**Silver Standard and Prosperity.**  
El Mundo, of the City of Mexico, says, reviewing Mr. Bryan's article on Mexico and its present condition: "Mr. Bryan has done justice to the financial work of the government of Mexico. The credit and firmness of the administration, together with the prodigious vitality of the country, have placed us in a very advantageous position among the nations which are marching unhampered to their complete development." The article concludes by emphasizing the determination of Mexico to adhere to the silver standard, "which is bringing prosperity to the country."

## WEALTH AND WAGES.

### HOW RICHES DO NOT REACH THE WORKERS.

As the Wealth of the Monopolistic Employers Increases the Wages of Their Employees Fall to Rise—Life's Labor Lost.

With monopolistic control of the natural sources of wealth, the means of transportation and communication, the medium of exchange and the markets is it any wonder that the trusts which thus command production and exchange should rapidly grow rich and that those who have only their labor to sell should, under such system, find themselves becoming poorer and poorer? Prof. DeLeon makes the actual situation clear in the following dialogue:

Brother Jonathan looks bright and happy, and rubs his hands.

Uncle Sam—What bit of good luck has fallen to you?

B. J.—I am going to Hawaii.

U. S.—Is it that that makes you so happy?

B. J.—Yes; I can't help feeling happy. Here I've been these last seven months without work. That in itself is bad enough. But it wouldn't be so bad if before that I had had good wages, and had been able to lay by something. It happens, though, that before that my wages were so low that I couldn't get along with them, and ran in debt. On top of that I was laid off. Pretty tough, I tell ye. I never went through such hard days.

U. S.—But what is it that makes you happy?

B. J.—Now after all this suffering I am going to have good times.

U. S.—Where? How? When?

B. J.—Where? In Hawaii; when? when I get there; how? because I can't miss good wages.

U. S.—Me seems you go too fast. Where have you got that certainty from?

B. J.—Don't you know that President Dole of Hawaii is in the country now?

U. S.—I do.

B. J.—And haven't you read what he said to a labor reporter in Washington?

U. S.—No; I haven't. Life is short; to spend that shortness in reading tomfoolery were too long.

B. J.—(throws his arms up, tips his hat back, and looks wild generally)—Now, there you have it again. Here comes a good man, with good news to the workmen, and you call that tomfoolery. Oh—

U. S.—Give us a rest with your whimperings, and let's see what that "good news to the workmen" is.

B. J.—I have learned the passage by heart; so well did I like it; I can give it to you literally.

U. S.—Do, by all means.

B. J.—He said: "The climate is sub-tropical; that makes the conditions of life easy; then also the planters are rich and growing richer. Taking these two things into consideration there is nothing to prevent white labor from finding at all times profitable employment, work and high wages." There, now!

U. S. raps with his knuckles on B. J.'s forehead.

B. J.—What are you doing?

U. S. (raps again)—Hollow! hollow!

B. J.—What are you at?

U. S.—Poor Jonathan! Because Hawaii has a "sub-tropical climate," and because the planters are rich, therefore you believe you are there sure of work and of high wages?

B. J.—Why not?

U. S.—Man alive, you don't need to go to Hawaii for a sub-tropical climate or for rich employers; we have both right here. Isn't Louisiana's climate sub-tropical enough for you?

B. J.—Well, it is sub-tropical.

U. S.—And has labor there steady and good employment?

B. J.—Darn it, no; it is just the low wages paid down there that our bosses are now giving as a ground for lowering ours up here.

U. S.—Well said. And are the bosses here and in the sub-tropical South not every bit as rich as the bosses in Hawaii?

B. J.—Guess they are richer.

U. S.—And yet that does not insure permanent work or good wages, does it?

B. J. falls into a brown study.

U. S.—Now, Jonathan, you have been working almost a life-time, and still you have not yet got hold of the lesson that your daily experience teaches on wages. You have not yet learned that the wages of the workmen do not depend upon the wealth of their employer, in so far that their wages do not rise with his wealth, but that, on the contrary, the only relation that exists between them is that the richer the employer the poorer the workman—

B. J.—What?

U. S.—Are you better off than twenty years ago?

B. J.—I'm worse off; but—

U. S.—Is your boss richer or poorer?

B. J.—Immensely richer.

U. S.—There you have it. Now the matter is this wise in a nutshell. The

## WAGES OF THE WORKINGMAN DON'T DEPEND UPON THE WEALTH OF THE BOSS OR ON THE CLIMATE.

The wages of the workingman are the price of his labor; the price of all merchandise depends upon the supply and the demand; the more workers there are in a place the larger is the supply, and the lower are the wages. When President Dole tries to get you and other gudeons to go to Hawaii, he does so to raise the supply of labor there and thus lower the wages. If he can get enough such gulls as you to go there you will have the chance to run about without work, and the enjoyment of Hawaii's sub-tropical climate as the only thing to live on.

Let us hope Brother Jonathan will stay at home and use his ballot instead of going to Hawaii where all who are not property owners are disfranchised.

### CURRENT NOTES.

The house by a vote of 143 to 112 unseated Mr. Plowman (Alabama), and gave the seat to Mr. Aldrich. This was the first contested election case decided by the present house against the sitting member.

Abraham Lincoln said: "Thank God we have a system of labor where there can be a strike. Whatever the pressure, there is a point at which the workingman may stop." Which is where President Lincoln differed from the federal courts of today.

An association has been formed in New York city for the public control of franchises, incorporated under the laws of the state. The object of the association is set forth in its platform as follows: 1. All franchises which depend upon exclusive rights in public property should be granted only for public purposes and for limited periods, and should be made to contribute from their value, created by the community, their full share of public expenses, thus relieving personal property, buildings and other improvements from the increasing burden of taxes. 2. Monopoly, the result of special privilege, rather than capital or production, which are the creation of individual effort, should be the primary source of public revenue. 3. The government must control natural monopolies (those public services which, from their nature, do not admit of competition), otherwise these monopolies will control the government. 4. Such public services as are not natural monopolies should be preserved to free and open competition. This is the single tax platform in brief.

When the people govern and plutocracy has been driven from power and banished, Populism will have fulfilled its mission.

We like high wheat prices as well as the Republicans; better, probably, as Populists have more wheat to sell than Republicans. That is why we all shall object to the low price at which wheat will sell next fall, and every succeeding fall when there are no great crop failures, as long as we suffer from the single gold standard.

In the meantime, 4-cent cotton for the farmers of the south, together with high prices for trust-produced cotton fabrics and reduced wages for the cotton mill operatives, are fair samples of the workings of the present financial policy. There will have to be a change in this policy before many years have passed.

### "Getting Out of Debt."

Perhaps the most attractive feature of the "sound" money theory is the proposal to "get this country out of debt."

How do the able financiers of the Republican party propose to get this nation out of debt? Simply by redeeming all of its non-interest-bearing notes with interest-bearing obligations. The theory is beautiful in its ingenious simplicity.

What would be thought of the business ability of a merchant who, having creditors perfectly satisfied with his notes of hand, bearing no interest, should say: "Gentlemen, it is true you are finding no fault with my notes, and are, indeed, anxious to get more of them, although they bear no interest, yet I have resolved to call all of those notes in and to give you interest-bearing paper, which I agree to redeem, or which my children or great grandchildren will redeem in gold?"

Such a course of conduct would be considered foolish, unnecessary and unbusinesslike. But it is exactly such a course as that which is advocated by the gold clique, who wish to retire government paper by refunding it in interest-bearing gold bonds.

Every dollar of United States money is just as good for all purposes in this country as every other dollar, and 100 cents in gold will buy no more than 100 cents in silver, or in paper. Who is it, then who wants gold? The man who deals in money alone, the gold speculator, the exporter and the bondholder.

These are the men who have evolved the brilliant theory of paying a debt by making it larger.—Chicago Dispatch.

## HARD FOR POOR MEN.

### OLD SOLON CHASE OF MAINE TELLS WHY.

An Era of Cheapness is Undermining Everything—Whoever Buys Property Gets Stuck—More Money and Enlarged Consumption the Solution.

'Tis a hard winter for poor men.

Under the effect of the "existing gold standard," restricted consumption has become so intensified that there are twice too many cotton mills to meet the present demands for consumption. The calico kings have paid their debts in rising money and sold their goods in a falling market until it is claimed their mills pay no dividends. The cut in wages comes at a time when there ought to be a rise in wages to meet the increased cost of living that comes from a bread famine abroad.

An era of cheapness is undermining the industries of the country. The producer has no confidence in his own product. The merchant buys only to supply present wants. Consumers are curtailing their purchases in every possible direction, and money lenders have hard work to find solvent borrowers.

Productive property that employs labor was never so cheap, but whoever buys it gets stuck. Farms in New England can be bought for one-half of what would be considered a fair insurance value of the buildings, but whoever buys one of these cheap farms and makes two blades grow where there was but one before doesn't get 40 cents a day for his labor. The small manufacturing industries have ceased to pay dividends long ago. Now it is claimed that the millions invested in the cotton mills of New England are paying no dividends.

How a cut in wages will help the calico kings no mortal man can see. What good will it do to block the market with goods that cannot be sold at the cost of production with cut down wages. The most of the goods that now go into consumption come from bankrupt stocks.

The "existing gold standard" has brought the cotton mills of New England where under existing conditions it seems that restricted production is a necessity. The strikers who refuse to travel longer the road that leads to wooden shoes and barley bread are restricting production, while the manufacturers propose to continue production and diminish consumption by cutting down wages. It would seem that the strikers show more sense than the manufacturers. Why not shut down the cotton mills and let some of the goods on hand go into consumption with a fair profit to the merchant. The bankrupt stocks that now block the market work injury to the manufacturers, the wage workers, the merchants, and indirectly to the consumer.

All our industries, the saw mills, the shoe shops, the woolen mills, the paper mills, the brick yards, the lime kilns, are resting on the same volcano that broke loose in the cotton mills.

The prosperity that was promised by opening the mills has not come. If we should open the mints what would be the effect? The existing single gold standard would vanish in a night as the ice goes out of a river. Silver would be primary money in competition with gold as it stood throughout the ages until 1873. There would be plenty of legal tender dollars of less purchasing power than the present equivalent of gold. When the law is repealed that has enhanced the value of gold the gold dollar won't buy so much calico as now. The appreciation of gold (which has been a wolf in sheep's clothing for a decade), would stop. The dollar of today would be as good as the dollar of tomorrow and may be a little mite better. Property would rise and business men who are now on the brink of bankruptcy would become solvent borrowers instead of the market blocked with bankrupt stocks; goods would go into consumption with a fair margin of profit to the producer. Productive property that is now shunned would be sought after. All our currency would go into circulation. There would be no profit in hoarding money, but there would be profit in spending money. Producers who are now paying their taxes from the savings of more prosperous times or from their capital would pay their taxes from their profits. The working man would buy two pair of overalls where he buys one pair now, and his wife would buy two calico gowns where she buys one now. Enlarged consumption is the solution of the problem that now confronts the cotton mills of New England as regards both operators and operatives.

### SOLON CHASE.

#### Another Fallacy.

Lincoln said: "You can't fool all the people all the time," but I am about persuaded that he was mistaken.—Bige Eddy.

We suppose that the necessary corollary of the good Mr. Hanna's argument ("God reigns," etc.) is that if he had been defeated the Republican party would have been a cold, unpleasant corpse, and God would have resigned.—Stockton Mail.

## NOT A GOLDBUG.

Abraham Lincoln Did not Favor the Gold Monopoly.

When the writer of this article came to Washington in the winter of 1864-'65 as senator from the new state of Nevada, he was received by President Lincoln in the most cordial manner. Mr. Lincoln said:

"I am glad to see you here, representing the new mining state of Nevada. I have watched with solicitude the development of the mines of gold and silver in the west during all the time we have been taxing the resources of the country to the last extremity to prosecute the war. The fact that when the output of gold appeared to be declining the great silver mines of Nevada were discovered seemed Providential. The people can hardly realize the great support which the mines of the west have already been to the credit of the United States, and I believe we may reasonably anticipate from the development which is taking place in that region that our mines will not only continue to furnish a basis of credit, but will greatly relieve the burdens of the people in paying off the national debt."

When we contrast the real views and sentiments of Mr. Lincoln with regard to the use of both gold and silver as money and his kindly efforts to assist in developing the gold and silver mines of the west we are shocked to read the orations delivered on his birthday. It is assumed that he was a friend of Wall and Lombard streets, and in favor of destroying silver money and reducing the world to the single gold standard under the false pretense of maintaining the credit of the country. It is painful to contrast the sentiments constantly expressed by the leaders of the Republican party and the gold press towards the mining regions of the west.

When Lincoln was president the miners of the west were treated with kindness and consideration in every part of the country. No one then denounced silver miners as robbers, attempting to get something for nothing; no one then said that they were "silver barons," attempting to swindle the government. The fact that the goldites have found it necessary to abuse and slander the pioneers of the west can only be accounted for by that element in human nature which leads men who have wronged their neighbors to speak ill of them to justify the wrong. The miners of the west need have no hope that the goldites of Wall and Lombard streets will forgive them for the injury done them. We must remember the Spanish proverb, which is as true now as it was when first uttered, that no man ever forgives another for the injuries he has inflicted upon him. William M. Stewart.

### Why Wait Ye?

I looked across the countless gone,  
And saw upon the fading shores of time  
The wrecks of things that were. I saw  
A dawn—  
A vision of a coming, better clime—  
Break on those shores. I saw arise  
sublime,  
Above those wrecks, the dream of the  
to be.  
I saw, from its long career of crime,  
The human race, still struggling to be  
free.  
Strive up into thy light, divinest liberty.

### II.

I saw the present; and the insolent  
few  
Ruling the millions with a rod of  
gold,  
I saw the millions tolling 'neath the  
blue,  
Kissing the rod that smote them;  
wealth untold  
Piling up, though it crushed them;  
till they sold  
Their rights, their very souls, for leave  
to toil:  
Until I cried, "My God, must we be-  
hold  
This thing forever? Hast for these no  
smile?  
And for Thy poor on earth waits there  
no better isle?"

### III.

O, ye who wet your crust with sweat  
and tears;  
O, ye, who toil and suffer and are  
strong,  
Ye unto whom the thorny side appears  
Along life's pathway; ye who have  
borne wrong,  
Piled on by tyrant hands, and suf-  
fered long;  
Ye toilers of the earth, to you I speak,  
To you whose names have scarce ap-  
peared in song,  
As though too vile; why wait ye? Rise  
and break  
The chains that round you clank and  
bind and gall. Awake!

—J. A. EDGERTON.

### Proving It.

With half the mills of New England shut up, because the workman will not work for reduced pay, the Republican newspapers of that plutocracy-cursed country are busy demonstrating that a high tariff is a good thing and the single gold-standard a better.—Ignatius Donnelly.