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### MODEST CLAIMS OF SILVERITES.

Conservative Estimate of the Standing of the States.

We have on several occasions directed attention to the extravagant claims made by the republicans of states and electoral votes wherewith they expect, or profess that they expect, to land Hanna's man in the white house. The claims have been uniformly so outrageous that argument in connection with them was out of the question; the only way to treat them as they deserved was to laugh at them.

Within the last two or three days, however, the representatives of the free silver democracy have tried their hand at the same business, and they have compiled a list which, from its unmistakable modesty and conservatism, must challenge the respect of the republicans themselves. Here is the roll of states with their electoral votes which they pronounce to be "absolutely safe" for the Bryan and Sewall ticket:

Alabama	11
Arkansas	8
California	9
Colorado	4
Florida	12
Georgia	12
Idaho	3
Kansas	10
Kentucky	13
Louisiana	8
Mississippi	10
Missouri	17
Montana	3
Nebraska	8
Nevada	3
North Carolina	11
North Dakota	4
Oregon	4
South Carolina	8
South Dakota	4
Tennessee	12
Texas	15
Utah	2
Virginia	12
Washington	4
Wyoming	3
Total	203

That is, without exception, the most "likely" list that we have hitherto seen compiled on the free silver side; the states that are claimed in it are, every

### THE VITAL POINT.

Shall We Vote for a Government by Men or a Government by Money?

The American people will soon go to the polls and decide the issues that are now dividing them. The most conspicuous of these issues, the one about which there is more writing and talking than about all others, is the money question. But important as that question is, there is another of incalculably deeper moment to this republic. The supreme issue before the republic is: Shall this nation be ruled by its money or its men?

On the one side we have McKinley, backed by the concentrated wealth of the country. Every trust on which class legislation in the interest of the rich and influential confers the privilege of taxing the masses for private profit; every syndicate that has made, or hopes to make, millions by raiding the treasury of the United States; every combination of capital that sees gain to itself in the contraction of the currency; every rich man who has come to think that the government should be run for the benefit of himself and others like him—every one of these elements is striving for the success of the republican candidate. The accumulated wealth of the country is working by every means, fair and foul, for the election of McKinley.

On the other side we have Bryan, whose only strength is his cause and himself. His appeal is straight to the people on the principles for which he stands. He asks no quarter from the trusts. He defies selfish wealth and challenges it to exert to the utmost its power to corrupt, to coerce and to confuse the issue by controlling the voice of the press. He begs for no man's vote who does not think it best for the country to give it to him. He urges the people to study the questions at issue

HAS IT COME TO THIS?



one of them, strongly bimetallic, and there is not any reason to doubt but that every one of them will help the democratic ticket on its road to victory.

Two things will be observed in the list that are striking. The one thing is that, contrary to all precedents in such cases, a claim is not made for the full 224 votes which constitute a majority of the electoral college vote; and the other thing is that not one of the big states of New York, Ohio, Illinois or Indiana is claimed, although the committee has good reason to believe that all of the three last named will go for Bryan.

The 26 states included in the above table are to be supplemented by the other four states, of Delaware with three votes, Maryland with eight votes, Minnesota with nine votes; and the previous 203 votes which the democratic committee pronounce to be "absolutely safe" for Bryan, swelled by the 26 further votes of the four states just named, which the committee pronounce to be "reasonably certain" for the free silver ticket, will give the 224 votes necessary to elect, with five to spare.

But while the committee give out this list of states and electoral votes as the list on which they expect to win, they do not by long odds convey an intimation, or even squint toward the idea, that these are all the states that the democrats are likely to carry. They contend that the Bryan ticket has a thoroughly good fighting chance in Illinois, Indiana and Michigan, and a poorer chance in Ohio and Iowa. New York, owing to the detestable treachery of Senator Hill, who cold-bloodedly but successfully "queered" the democratic state convention, the committee appears to have abandoned altogether, just as green-eyed politicians like Blackburn and Gorman have done.

But as New York is not necessary to democratic success, its loss may be contemplated with equanimity; the free silver ticket will win in a canter without its assistance.—N. O. Times-Democrat.

No candidate for the presidency was ever maligned as Mr. Bryan has been, but he has not lost his temper and goes right ahead with his effective talks to the people. The slanderers are not accomplishing their object.—N. Y. Journal.

Every time another of those 1890 free coinage letters turns up, poor Maj. McKinley curses the man that invented pen and ink.—Albany Argus.

sue and then vote as their knowledge directs. His is a brave, a frank, a rational, a manly and a truly American appeal.

Bryan speaks for the welfare of the industrious many; McKinley for the welfare of the opulent few.

Is there a thoughtful man in the whole United States who does not know that the greatest danger which is threatening this republic is the steadily growing power of conscienceless money? Does not every thoughtful man feel that unless the grip of wealth upon our government shall be loosened we must ultimately have a republic in name and an oligarchy in fact?

Citizens equally honest differ sincerely on the currency question. Silver men think the single gold standard a potent cause of our industrial distress; gold men think that bimetalism would increase rather than lessen that distress. But honest Americans should be agreed in believing that a presidential election carried by the trusts and syndicates, under the leadership of Mark Hanna, would be immeasurably more disastrous and dishonoring to the United States than the retention or introduction of any monetary system.

Every citizen before he goes to the ballot box will, if he be intelligent and patriotic, ask himself the vital question:

"Shall I vote for government by men, or for government by money?"—N. Y. Journal.

Mr. Hanna began his career as the manager of a political trust by saddling McKinley with his syndicate; he followed this by saddling the republican national convention with McKinley, and crowned his work by saddling the republican party with a crushing load of millionaire finance committees. The defiance of public decency and popular sentiment into which the syndicate boss has led the republican party has never been equaled in the history of politics. The republicans realize their blunder now. They would give much to be rid of their mortgaged candidate and his political receivers.—St. Louis Republic.

The Binghamton Republican quotes an act of 1873 to prove that the silver dollar in our currency has a "gold backing." The silver dollar has been standing up since 1873. Prior to 1873 it stood up, too, but between these two periods it had no standing in the currency. What held up the silver dollar from 1792 to 1893?—Binghamton (N. Y.) Leader.

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