

HYPOCRISY OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY
ON THE SILVER QUESTION.

The Republican platform "commends the wise and patriotic steps already taken by our government to secure an international conference to adopt such measures as will insure a parity of value between gold and silver for use as money throughout the country."

To begin with, the object of the conference is an absurdity and its accomplishment an impossibility. There has never yet been a time when such parity has existed and there never will be, and the pretense of a purpose to come to an agreement that will insure such parity is a sham and a fraud. It is an insult to the intelligence of the American people, by whom it is well known that money is not a natural product, but a creation of law. As Henri Cernuschi, French delegate to the international conference of 1881, well observes:

The value which gold and silver might have as merchandise, if no legislation adopted them as monetary masses, is not a constituent element in the value of money.

So likewise the adoption of any material whatever by legislation, as a material of which money shall be composed, and the impression of the sovereign authority of the government upon it makes it money without regard to its character or its mercantile value. If there is a single fact that has been settled by political economists and by the courts it is this.

But admitting for the sake of the argument all that is claimed concerning the importance of an international agreement, what the prospect of obtaining it?

There have been two international conferences of precisely the same character and ostensibly for precisely the same purpose within the past few years, the latter one in 1881, and from the proceedings of this conference we may judge of the chances of accomplishing the ostensible purpose of the next one.

At the very beginning of the conference the delegates made declarations of the authority with which they were invested, and of the object of their attendance, and in these several declarations we may find indications of the sentiment of foreign countries upon the subject of bi-metalism which will enable us to judge of the probability that the proposed conference will agree to any proposition for an "international bi-metallic standard."

DECLARATION OF DELEGATES FROM GERMANY.
We recognize, without reserve, that a rehabilitation of silver is to be desired, and that it might be attained by the re-establishment of the free coinage of silver in a certain number of the most populous states represented at this conference, if these states to this end should adopt as a basis a fixed relation between the value of gold and that of silver. Nevertheless, Germany, whose monetary reform is already so far advanced, and whose general monetary situation does not seem to call for a change of system so vast in scope, does not find herself in a position, so far as she is concerned, to concede to the free coinage of silver. Her delegates, therefore, are not able to subscribe to a proposition looking to such action.

DECLARATION OF DELEGATES FROM BRITISH INDIA.

The government of British India, in sending delegates to the conference, is not to be regarded as having, by this fact, admitted the adoption of the principle of bi-metalism in the British Indies; and in order that it may be free from responsibility for the conclusions which may be reached by the conference, the delegates

are not authorized to take part in the votes of that body.

DECLARATION OF THE DELEGATE FROM CANADA.

I am instructed by the government of Her Britannic Majesty to state, on behalf of the government of Canada, that, while it will give the most respectful consideration to the conclusions of the conference, the government of Canada desires to reserve perfect freedom of action in respect to such conclusions.

I am further instructed to state that, while authorized to vote on the questions submitted to the conference, such action must not be considered as prejudicing the future action of Canada.

DECLARATION OF THE DELEGATE FROM DENMARK.

As the Danish government has no intention of abandoning the single gold standard introduced into the country a few years ago, I have received instructions on the part of my government to abstain from all discussion of the manner (*quo modo*) by which the bi-metallic system could be regulated.

DECLARATION OF THE DELEGATE FROM PORTUGAL.

The Portuguese government, in accepting the cordial invitation of France and of the United States of America to be represented at this conference, desired while fulfilling a duty of international courtesy, to give these two governments a proof in all respects deserved, of consideration and deference, but it frankly stated to them that the Portuguese monetary system now in force would not allow of its entrance into the bi-metallic union now contemplated.

To this declaration, which I am instructed to make to the conference, I must add that the Portuguese government intends to reserve to itself, most especially, the ultimate determination and the fullest liberty of action concerning the conclusions which the monetary conference may adopt.

DECLARATION OF THE DELEGATE FROM RUSSIA.

The Russian government reserves to itself entirely its right to opinion upon this whole matter, and in nothing renounces its liberty of action by reason of any resolution of the conference.

So far as concerns any personal position in the midst of this assembly, I cannot do better than repeat what has just been said on his own behalf by my honorable colleague, the representative of Portugal.

DECLARATION OF THE DELEGATE FROM GREECE.

The delegate of Greece, in presence of the declarations made by the honorable delegates of England, of Russia, of Portugal, etc., considers it his duty also to declare that, in his capacity of representative of a state which has adopted mono-metalism, he would not be able to join in any measure which might lead to a change in this system.

DECLARATION OF DELEGATES FROM AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Our attitude will be chiefly one of friendly reserve; and while taking, *ad referendum*, the results of our deliberations, we are not able to enter into any engagement upon any particular point. And, further, if any one of us should think proper to take part in the discussion, it would only be to express his personal opinions.

DECLARATION OF THE DELEGATE FROM SWEDEN.

My government, while reserving entire liberty of action upon the subject of its monetary system, has given permission to its delegate to take part in the discussions of the conference.

DECLARATION OF THE DELEGATE FROM NORWAY.

You are aware, gentlemen, that the Scandinavian countries have a monetary union based upon the single standard of gold; my government reserves all its rights, but has given me entire freedom to take part in any discussions, saving only my obligation to report to it finally.

DECLARATION OF THE DELEGATE FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

My instructions impose upon me the duty, a duty which I shall be only too happy to perform, of furnishing you with all the information you may desire concerning the laws and the monetary system of England.

They do not permit me to vote upon the propositions which may be submitted to you.

These are the countries that have been invited to participate in the international conference now proposed by President Harrison, and approved by the Minneapolis convention, and to which conference we are asked to look for a final settlement of the silver question. President Harrison and the Republican party know very well that these nations have not receded from the position taken in the conference of 1881. They know very well that the proposed conference

will not be authorized by the governments represented to change the monetary systems that now prevail. They know very well that bi-metalism will not be agreed to. It is not designed that such will be the result of the conference. It is simply designed to provide a grand junketing expedition for a few pet politicians who will be wined and dined at the expense of the people, while the real point in view is to postpone consideration of the issue at home and fool the people through another presidential campaign. Silver will never be remonetized until it is done by the People's party. No other party contemplates anything of the kind.

THAT FARCE CONVENTION.

The much advertised convention of the unterrified Democratic kickers which met on the 21st, at Herrington, Kan., was a great disappointment to them, as well as their Republican abettors. It did not pan out as those promoters hoped it would. The good people of Herrington had made great preparations, and consequently were very much disappointed.

The newspaper men present nearly made a majority. Even the delegates from the Fifth congressional district did not share the sentiment of the promoters, but expressed themselves as satisfied with the action of the Democratic state convention.

When the multitude of considerably less than one hundred, including the brass band and newspaper men, assembled in the opera house, they were inflicted with the thread-bare speeches of those well known patriots, A. A. Harris, attorney for the Missouri Pacific railway; J. G. Lowe, attorney for the Rock Island railway; Judge Humphrey, late of the state railway commission, and Judge Emery, state house commissioner, who informed the masses (?) present that they were disfranchised and sold out by the other Democrats, who were traitors, etc., and as a result predicted a Republican victory.

The convention having assembled felt in duty bound to do something, so with great unanimity it nominated a banker of Herrington for congress in the Fifth district. It is believed he will receive the entire vote of the kicking patriots, who number less than 100 in the district.

THE ENSANGUINED UNDER-GARMENT.

Republican editors and stump speakers are making the bloody shirt one of their chief subjects of discussion this early in the campaign. This was anticipated and desired by the People's party. It is the only party that, since the war, has had the courage to declare, by its acts, that the war is over, and that sectional prejudices shall no longer dominate the politics of the country. We are glad to see the Republican party give this matter the prominence it does, because it is proposed to make a final finish of it in Kansas this year. It will be buried in the same political grave with the remnant of the defunct Republican party. The two will go down together as fitting companions in death, as they have been inseparable friends in life.

TO THE ATCHISON "CHAMPION."

In your issue of July 10 you have an insulting and cruel reference to Mrs. Lease, in which you call into question her veracity relative to the fact that her father and brother sacrificed their lives in the service of the United States government in the late war. Her father enlisted as a private in the One Hundred and Forty-seventh New York volunteers, was taken prisoner at the battle of the Wilderness, and died at Andersonville. The records of the New York volunteers are not in the State Historical rooms of this city, and hence we cannot verify this statement just now. We will do so, however, hereafter. The records of the Pennsylvania volunteers, however, are here, and on page 140, of volume 1, you will find that Patrick Henry Clyens, the elder brother of Mrs. Lease, and a member of the famous "Bucktail" regiment of Pennsylvania, was killed at the battle of Fredericksburg December 13, 1862.

In another column we publish an open letter to you upon this subject from Mrs. Lease. It appears that in your extreme anxiety to injure her reputation you have hastened to publish these cruel statements without making an effort to verify them. We desire to ask you if this is to be your system of conducting a campaign? The *Champion* under its former management has aimed to be truthful and just. Is the change of management to change the character of the paper? Is personal abuse, falsehood and misrepresentation to take the place in the *Champion* of fact and of argument? Will you have the fairness and the honesty to retract the cruel words uttered in your issue of the 10th? Is it not enough that a father and brother should die for their country, and that they should be lost to their families forever, without the daughter and sister being taunted with falsehood because she dares to refer to her sacrifice and loss? For shame upon such politics. It is an everlasting disgrace to our country. It is revolting to every principle of manhood. Will you tell your readers the facts and do this noble woman justice?

BUSINESS NOTICE.

The announcement in another column will explain the consolidation of THE ADVOCATE AND TOPEKA TRIBUNE.

THE ADVOCATE AND TOPEKA TRIBUNE will be sent to subscribers of both papers until their time expires, and those who have paid for both papers will be given full credit for the amounts due them from both, so that the time of their subscription will be extended accordingly.

Advertisers will be treated in the same manner, except that the rate charged for space will be increased in accordance with the circulation. Further notice to advertisers will be given by circular.

IT IS PAID FOR.

Parties who receive THE ADVOCATE and who have not subscribed for it, need have no fears about taking it from the office. THE ADVOCATE is never sent to anybody with a view of asking pay for it afterwards. It is paid for if you receive it.