

tions are wearing out and the improvements are going to ruin, as the renter, unless he is paid for his labor, will not take any pride in improving his place. The crops here, which are principally cotton and corn, are looking well. The acreage of cotton being much greater than last year, it is thought by many that the price will be much less.

Upon entering the neighborhood of Laws Hill some three weeks ago we found the people to be very liberal in their religious views, and as it seemed to us were waiting for us, consequently we were received with open arms, and since that time we have held twelve meetings with them, part of them being held in private houses, each being well attended with an average of about thirty.

We have been greatly blessed of the Lord and have tried in our humble way to explain His precious truths in simplicity, and at each meeting more friends were gained, and today the whole neighborhood are our friends, with hopes of some conversions in the near future.

We find that singing the songs of Zion is one great help to us in allaying prejudice and making friends of the people. Elder Pardoe having had some training under Prof. Stephens in the Tabernacle choir, affords very good singing for our meetings; and it is the means of bringing many out who otherwise would not come. Our advice to the young men who are expecting calls for missions is, learn to sing the Latter-day Saints' hymns for you will find it a great help to you in your labors.

The work of the Lord is progressing. New fields are being opened up continually, mountains of prejudice are being removed daily, and we can see wherein the prediction of our beloved President Woodruff, made at the dedication of the Salt Lake Temple, is being fulfilled.

Your paper is highly appreciated by the Elders, Saints and friends.

WM. PARDOE,
O. L. HAIGHT.

THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

CHICAGO, July 8.—The platform submitted by the majority of the committee on resolutions is as follows:

We, the Democrats of the United States in national convention assembled, do reaffirm our allegiance to those great essential principles of justice and liberty upon which our institutions are founded and which the Democratic party has advocated from Jefferson's time to our own—freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of conscience, the preservation of personal rights, the equality of all citizens before the law, and the faithful observance of constitutional limitations.

During all these years the Democratic party has resisted the tendency of selfish interests to the centralization of governmental power, and steadfastly maintained the integrity of the dual scheme of government as established by the founders of this republic of republics. Under its guidance and teaching the great principle of local self-government has found its best expression in the maintenance of the rights of the States and its assertion of

the necessity of confining the general government to the exercise of the powers granted by the Constitution of the United States.

Recognizing that the money question is paramount to all others at this time, we invite attention to the fact that the Federal Constitution names silver and gold together as the money metals of the United States, and that the first coinage law passed by Congress under the Constitution made the silver dollar the monetary unit of value and admitted gold to free coinage at a ratio based upon the silver dollar unit.

We declare that the act of 1873, demonetizing silver without the knowledge or approval of the American people, has resulted in the appreciation of gold and a corresponding fall in the prices of commodities produced by the people; a heavy increase in the burden of taxation and of all debts, public and private; the enrichment of the money-lending class at home and abroad; prostration of industry and impoverishment of the people.

We are unalterably opposed to monometallism, which has locked fast the prosperity of an industrial people in the paralysis of hard times. Gold monometallism is a British policy and its adoption has brought other nations into financial servitude to London. It is not only un-American but anti-American, and it can be fastened on the United States only by the sinking of that spirit and love of liberty which proclaimed our political independence in 1776 and won it in the war of the Revolution.

We demand the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation. We demand that the standard silver dollar shall be full legal tender, equally with gold, for all debts, public and private, and we favor such legislation as will prevent for the future the demonetization of any kind of legal tender money by private contract.

We are opposed to the policy and practice of surrendering to the holders of the obligations of the United States the option reserved by law to the government of redeeming such obligations in either silver coin or gold coin. We are opposed to the issuing of interest-bearing bonds of the United States in times of peace, and condemn the trafficking with banking syndicates which, in exchange for bonds at an enormous profit to themselves, supply the Federal treasury with gold to maintain the policy of gold monometallism.

Congress alone has the power to coin and issue money, and President Jackson declared that this power could not be delegated to corporations or individuals. We therefore demand that the power to issue notes to circulate as money shall be taken from the national banks, and that all paper money shall be issued directly by the treasury department, be redeemable in coin and receivable for all debts, public and private.

We hold that tariff duties should be levied for the purpose of revenue, such duties to be so imposed as to operate throughout the country and not discriminate between class or section,

and that taxation should be limited to the needs of the government, honestly and economically administered. We denounce as disturbing to business the Republican threat to restore the McKinley law, which has been twice condemned by the people in national elections, and which, enacted under the false plea of protection to home industries, proved a prolific breeder of trusts and monopolies, enriched the few at the expense of the many, restricted trade and deprived the producers of the great American staples of access to their natural markets. Until the money question is settled we are opposed to any agitation for further changes in our tariff laws, except such as are necessary to make up the deficit in revenue caused by the adverse decision of the Supreme court on the income tax. But for this decision by the Supreme court there would be no deficit in the revenue passed by a Democratic Congress, in strict pursuance of the uniform decisions of that court for nearly one hundred years, that court having under that decision sustained constitutional objections to its enactment which has been overruled by the ablest judges who have ever sat on that bench.

We declare that it is the duty of Congress to use all the constitutional power which remains after that decision, or which may come from its reversal by the court, as it may prefer to be constituted, so that the burdens of taxation may equally and impartially be divided, to the end that wealth may bear its due proportion of the expenses of the government.

We hold that the most efficient way of protecting American labor is to prevent the importation of foreign pauper labor to compete with it in the home market, and that the value of the home market to our American farmers and artisans is greatly reduced by a vicious monetary system which depresses the prices of their products below the cost of production, and thus deprives them of the means of purchasing the products of our home manufacturing.

The absorption of wealth by the few, the consolidation of our leading railway systems and the formation of trusts and pools require a strict control by the Federal government of these arteries of commerce. We demand the enlargement of the powers of the interstate commerce commission and such restrictions and guarantees to the control of railroads as will protect the people from robbery and oppression.

We denounce the profligate waste of the money wrung from the people by oppressive taxation, and the lavish appropriations of recent Republican Congresses, which have kept taxes high, while the laborer that pays them is unemployed and the products of the people's toil are depressed in price until they no longer repay the cost of production. We demand a return to that simplicity and economy which best befits a democratic government, and a reduction in the number of useless offices, the salaries of which drain the substance of the people.

We denounce arbitrary interference by federal authorities in local affairs as a violation of the Constitution of the United States and a crime against the free institutions, and we