

They justified their course by saying the party had left them, and they were not leaving the principles of the party. They said Secretary Carlisle, representing the Cleveland administration, in his Nashville speech, was the first to come out for a single gold standard. The Republican party had come to the Democratic administration in a new departure. Cannon and Dubois severely criticised the inconsistency of the indictment against President Cleveland while adopting the cardinal principle of Cleveland's administration.

At 8:10 the full committee adopted the platform as a whole and decided to report it to the convention at 8 p. m. tonight. The silver members retired for conference and the platform was therefore adopted as a whole unanimously on a viva voce vote.

TO THE PEOPLE.

ST. LOUIS, June 19.—The silver men continued in conference today and report that they have the signatures of twenty-six delegates to their declaration of independence which sets forth their principles and recommends that all parties and organizations opposed to the gold standard support Teller for President. There is a strong effort being made to get delegates who did not withdraw from the convention to sign this appeal. There has been a conference with the representatives of the Populists and the Bimetallic league to get them to endorse Teller and make such a strong fusion against the gold standard as to induce the Democratic national convention also to endorse Teller.

The silver bolters have been conferring during the night and day with ex-Governor Francis and members of the Democratic national committee relative to their action. They have no assurance from the Democratic managers but have been invited to send their representatives to the Democratic national convention at Chicago next month to confer with the party.

The silver men say they are willing to co-operate wherever they can consistently do so to defeat the gold standard and are not seeking to press Teller so much as they are to secure relief from the power of the gold men. The silver men will continue their conference tonight and tomorrow and keep up the work till all the national conventions have been held, with a view of perfecting a general fusion.

The silver conferees claim that they have not yet more than half the signatures that were promised. There is a difference of opinion among the silver delegates. Some who denounce the gold standard are not in favor of independent movement.

THE ADDRESS.

To the People of the United States:

Obedying the call of duty, and justified by the common citizenship of this Republic, we address this communication to the people and the forthcoming conventions of the United States. In doing so we claim no authority or right other than that which belongs to every man to express personal convictions; but we respectfully solicit the co-operation of all who believe that the time has come for a return to the simpler and more direct method of

naming men for national service than has obtained in recent years.

Political party organization is necessary, because without it the individual voter is dumb, but the party is only the means, not the end; it is the voice and not the sense. As the world advances to this wonderful epoch of intellectual development and physical improvement there is a constant requirement for better things. The individual feels that requirement and heeds it or fails in life's endeavor. Parties must also obey the same law. It follows, therefore, that the moment a party shall choose to stand still or retrograde it also becomes inefficient to achieve the end to which the people are necessarily destined. There is no sanctity in mere party name, and the mark of decay is set on individual strength in the nation when the absolute rule of political organization coerces men from the truth for the sake of expediency and establishes insincere submission to partisan rule for the sake of power.

Recognizing the value and the splendid achievements of political parties in this country, as elsewhere, we are yet constrained to believe that for more than twenty years no one of them has been entirely sufficient for the needs of the people. The great trend to better things resting in the heart and purpose of all men, has been stayed during the latter part of this generation by the failure of parties to express in their achievements the highest hope and aspirations of the mass of the people who constitute the parties. And there has been growing in this country, swelling with each recurrence of national elections, a great mass of independent thinkers and voters, which failing within itself to control, has gravitated between the two great parties. Since 1872 (excepting possibly the election of 1876) the pendulum has swung from side to side with each four years. In 1872 the Republican party elected the President; in 1876 the Democracy claimed the election; in 1880 the Republican party elected; in 1884 the Democracy elected; in 1888 the Republicans elected; in 1892 the Democrats elected; in 1896 (until within a few weeks) it has been conceded that the Republicans would elect. What has been the cause of this mighty oscillation of a mass which this year has probably obtained controlling proportions, every man can answer to himself. If he has been an observer; if he has had interests that were affected; if he has felt a hope to see greater justice done and has seen that hope blighted; if he knows that the general dissatisfaction has arisen from the fact that party promises made were broken to the people by party performance, he knows that as soon as the election was over and successful candidates installed, they became the servants of the party and the advocates of a narrow and non-progressive policy within which alone there seemed to be an assurance of selfish safety and partisan approval. During all this period we have lacked a great constructive administration. No new social truth has been put forward in an effective way. While in all the departments of physical life there have been developments and achievements of ease and comfort to the lav-

ored of mankind; in the still greater and more important domain of social reform, we have stood still or retrograded.

It is not that the people have not felt the stirrings of determination, that this inaction has endured, but because of the rule of party which has largely controlled men in and out of office. It has been a source of reproach to any man that he should dare to renounce allegiance to organization. Men have been expected to submit their views to the dictation of conventions, although it is common knowledge that conventions have been swayed to views and declarations not the most approved by the mass of people, nor progressive for their welfare.

We do not arrogate to ourselves one iota more of intelligence, patriotism or courage than is possessed by other of our fellow citizens. But we feel that the time has come for the performance of a duty to the country; and for our part, though we shall stand alone, we will make an endeavor in the direction of that duty. Parties may outlive their usefulness; that truth never becomes obsolete. Every generation of freemen has the right to affirm the truths of past knowledge and present acquirements; and if the enforcement of these truths shall make necessary a departure from party organization, the people have the right and will exercise it until all parties shall return to the truth or new parties shall be created to effect it into law.

If the voices which have sounded to us from every state in this Union are an indication of the real feeling this year is the appointed time for the people to assert themselves through such mediums as may give best promise of the achievement of justice. But whether we are mistaken or not concerning the general sentiment in the United States, we have not mistaken our own duty in withdrawing from the Republican convention, feeling that it is better to be right and with the minority in apparent defeat than to be wrong with the majority in apparent triumph. We hold that in the great work of social evolution in this country monetary reform stands as the first requisite. No policy, however promising of good results, can take its place. Continuation during the next four years upon the present financial system will bring down upon the American people that cloud of impending evil to avert which should be the first thought of statesmen and the first prayer of patriots.

Our very institutions are at stake. Today, with the rapidly increasing population, with widely swelling demands, the base of our money is relatively contracting; and the people are passing into a servitude all the more dangerous because it is not physically apparent. The nation itself, as to other nations, is losing the sturdy courage which could make it defiant in the face of injustice and internal wrong.

Prices never will cease falling under the single gold standard. The restoration of bimetalism by this country will double the basis of our money system. In time it will double the stock of primary money of the world—will stop falling prices and steadily elevate them until they will regain their nor-