

## ENTHUSIASTIC MASS MEETING.

The great meeting at the Theater Wednesday night, July 12th proclaims to the world that of the free coinage of silver on a ratio the people of Utah are solidly in favor of 16 to 1.

The deep interest felt in the financial issues involved was plainly expressed by the presence of thousands of people who assembled in the streets at the Theater, awaiting the opening of the doors for the mass meeting called to convene at 8 o'clock. When that hour arrived, the place was still closed, and the people grew impatient, wondering why they were not admitted. The reason was that a telephone message had been received at the Theater, directing that the doors be not opened until the Norden military band and Held's band arrived, which was at 8:15, when the Theater doors were flung wide apart. Then as many of the vast throng as could crowd into the building were soon within the walls, and in a few minutes standing room was at a premium. There was a large representation of ladies in the audience, which included leading citizens, business and mining men. There were representatives from different parts of the Territory, all the way from Bear Lake to St. George.

The meeting was called to order by A. Hanauer, who announced the purpose to be to pass resolutions on the financial question, to present to Congress in August. The speaker said he was in favor of silver as money, and believed that free coinage would be secured through the efforts now being made by the people of the West.

The call for the meeting was read by A. F. Holden, and Richard Mackintosh nominated Governor Caleb W. West as permanent chairman. The Governor went in with cheers.

Governor West said this unusual assemblage at this season indicated that something unusual interested the people. If ever a condition confronted a people that required their steadiest nerve and manhood, such a one is the people of the West tonight. All civilization was interested in the settlement of values in the present issue. It was a matter of serious contemplation to see on the streets idle and vicious men unwilling to work, but it is a matter of greater solicitude to see the streets crowded with idle men who are good and willing to work that their families may live. This latter is the situation this meeting must consider. Nothing must be done in passion. This is not a party question, but one involving the existence of the community, and there should be naught but honest, earnest, unselfish deliberation. It was not by vehement speech and wild threats, but by earnest words of truth that the people should express their sentiments. The country is not asked to enter an untrodden field, but to protest against the destruction of that which, since civilization dawned, has been a medium of commercial exchange. The West protested against the demonetization of a metal that has served the commercial purposes of the world for centuries. Gold and silver were linked by nature for use together as money. The Creator had placed them together in the earth, and what he had put together let no man

put asunder. The Governor believed that bimetallicism would be established, and the country would soon emerge from its time of financial trial.

Thomas J. Almy was chosen permanent secretary, and on motion of G. M. Scott the chair appointed seven vice presidents as follows: J. J. Daly, A. E. Hyde, G. M. Scott, David Keith, S. A. Merritt, W. E. Hubbard, and J. Q. Packard.

On motion of C. E. Allen a committee of fifteen on resolutions, with C. C. Goodwin as chairman, was appointed as follows: R. Mackintosh, R. C. Chambers, C. E. Allen, A. F. Holden, E. A. Wall, C. E. Stanton, T. G. Weber, W. S. McCormick, F. H. Auerbach, W. F. James, W. H. Dickson, J. R. Walker, J. H. Bacon and A. B. Emery.

A set of resolutions was offered by a Mr. Snyder, and referred to the committee on resolutions. These demanded free coinage, the calling in of all currency of less than the denomination of \$5 and the issuance of silver therefor, a law forbidding banks to issue money, and that no bonds nor interest bearing obligations be issued by the government.

Delegate Jos. L. Rawlins responded to numerous calls. He said the question at issue was a serious one for the whole country. He spoke of the parity of gold and silver at a ratio of 15 or 16 to 1, until 1873, when Congress provided for free coinage of gold but not of silver. He pointed out that the act of Congress was a wrong, and had increased the burdens of the people. In New York they say we are inflationists. But inflation relieves the burdens of those least able to bear them, while contraction increases those burdens. In the west hundreds of millions of dollars are investments, and thousands of working men and their families, rely for prosperity upon silver being used as money. The question for the West congress is not the repeal of the Sherman act, but what shall take its place. Failure of bimetallicism means ruin, therefore this movement of the next must succeed. The Sherman act had not been properly administered. Gold had been paid out under it, instead of silver. He believed that the fight the West was making was for an adequate issue of specie money, and the whole people of the United States would join with them.

The committee of fifteen came in at this point and reported the following resolutions:

The men of Utah, in the face of calamities forced upon us, and in anticipation of the further possible calamities to follow, do here, in solemn mass meeting gathered, proclaim to the world these truths:

The chief use to which mankind, in all ages, has put both gold and silver is money.

The chief demand for both these metals, through all time, has been to serve as a measure of values.

Their respective values have been regulated almost entirely by the recognition of the nations.

Their value, according to the ratio fixed by the nations, did not perceptibly vary for 200 years prior to 1873, and this, regardless of the amount of either metal dug from the mines.

Tracing the world back we can find no time nor place when the metals have perceptibly drawn apart, except through legislation.

Within the past three weeks we have seen one of these metals beaten down, or rather the other appreciated, twenty points, simply by the decree of the agents of one government.

When one of these metals is dishonored, when recognition as a full measure of values and as a perfect metal through which to pay debts, is withdrawn from it, still it loses none of its purchasing power, hence every seeming fall in either of these metals is immediately followed by a corresponding fall in every commodity.

The seeming fall in silver in our country has been followed by a corresponding fall in other commodities, until now the profits have been taken from the producer and the suffering inflicted upon debtors has become intolerable.

Our country is filled with paper evidences which are called money, but under present laws, there is no real money but gold, and as prices are regulated by the amount of real money in circulation among the people, the result is that prices are at a level with those which prevailed before the gold of California and Australia was discovered, and there is congestion, unrest, apprehension and a total want of confidence everywhere, until prudent men feel that the nation is on the brink of financial chaos.

We denounce as untrue the reiterated statements of the eastern press, that the Sherman law, or the Bland law, or any other law since the nefarious one of 1873, is the cause of the present trouble; it was to relieve a similar situation that both the Bland and the Sherman laws were passed; and to grant the prayer for the unconditional repeal of the Sherman law, as demanded by the public sentiment of the east, would be to utterly destroy the values and the business of this intermountain country, and the secondary effect would be to ruin the country at large.

The east is using the wrong that Congress committed in 1873, and which it has ever since refused to atone for, as an excuse for committing another premeditated outrage, and cannot see that all its troubles are due to a policy which has utterly drained the great masses of the country and made it impossible for them to make from the east their accustomed purchases.

The business conditions in Australia, in England, in every land except bimetallic France, are a perfect object lesson of the fallacy of attempting to conduct the swelling business of the world on a single gold basis.

It is an attempt to make, first tenants, then serfs, of the great working hosts of the earth; it is an impeachment of the intelligence of our free people; it is a blow aimed at civilization itself.

As the wrong and loss began with the demonetization of silver, as it was caused by an organized combination of bankers in the old world and in New York city with the intention of making perpetual the debts of nations, states, cities, corporations and private citizens; as it was accomplished in our country without the desire, consent or even knowledge of the people; as it violated every then existing contract, and as its results have been more loss and distress than would accompany and follow such another war as the war of the rebellion, now be it therefore

Resolved, That we most earnestly appeal to Congress, about to meet in extraordinary session, to substitute for the so-called Sherman law, and all other laws relating to silver that for twenty years have encumbered the nation's statute books, a law fully restoring silver, on some ratio with gold, to its old place as a perfect measure of values, as a perfect legal tender for debts.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that as many as possible of the earnest men of Utah go to Washington