The Farmer's Interest in Free Coinage.

In the discussion of this question in town, village, camp, home, and Congress even, the interest of ten millions living on the farms of America seem to be somewhat overlooked. They have been from their landing on Plymouth Rock to this time a brave, intelligent, liberty-loving people. In the battles of the Revolution and of the Civil War they were the nation's support and dependence.

This question is big enough to, and does, touch the welfare and happiness of every class in America. We protect the manufacturer by tariff legislation, organized labor to a degree, but not enough, by national and state legislation; but the farmer and his best interests can only be promoted by legislation concerning the money of the country. From 1873 to this time the government has not only failed to provide for him good legislation, but has directed all national legislation against him. By legislation it has tightened the chains about him; and by executive action of officials it is driving them.

In 1873, with silver at $1.29 and wheat at $1.47 per bushel, with cotton and other farm products in proportion, the farmers of America were prosperous, contented and happy. From that time to this the decline has been continuous and gradual, until wheat, cotton and other products are reduced in price below the actual cost of production to the farmer, and because their exports are sold on silver money markets of the world.

Second—The farmer, with the miner and laborer, is a borrower of money, the same kind and from the same source — England and Eastern American cities. They are also interested in the depreciating as well as the purchasing power of the dollar. By fiction expressing the value of the so-called honest gold dollar has been appreciated while the farmer's hands, in some cases 20, 30, even 60 per cent, not by specific act making so, but by legislation as effectively assuring that result by bolling down and destroying the price of every commodity of produce and labor. To gold coiner is a time because to the borrower the most dishonest dollar coined by our government. To repay the $500 dollar mortgage that 200 bushels of wheat would buy then, take 400 bushels of wheat to buy now the gold with which to replace the money and cancel the mortgage. Ex-Secretary Sherman touch on that to legislate business will return a profit beyond a fair per cent for of interest and taxes on the investment. Providence (the poor) scarcely save from insolvency, when added to that an increase of 20 to 50 per cent of the value of the principal in the hands of the borrower. Under those conditions the borrower, honest most cases is discouraged and his arm weakened.

Third—The farmer and laborer can procure loans only when the gold dollar is dear. When it is begging investment in the western farm and home, they are then induced to borrow to buy the mortgaging of acres, build or repair the house of sticks to the lords. Pay only a time. Gold is called in. It has so appreciated that the old loan cannot be extended or a new one placed at any rate of interest. The honest gold coiner must be paid even at the price of the increased lands and improved buildings and increased acreage together with the original home. This is not imagination. It is the value of court records all over the agricultural states. Court records cannot be impeached and are therefore better than sworn testimony. They turn on the lights. They make statistics.

I have at my desk a weekly publication of a newspaper published in a good county of one of the very best agricultural states in the Union and of the date of Aug. 17th, 1893, in which there are published 21 notices of sale of lands under mortgage foreclosure. There are five other papers published in the same county that continue each near the same number. That is not an isolated instance. It is a condition obtaining in many of the good, even the best, agricultural states in America. That condition has existed to a similar degree for three or four years last past. Multiply that result by the number of counties in a state and you can approximate the result. In New Hampshire, Maryland and Virginia, even in the shadow of our boasted nation's capital, are unmitigated and abandoned farms, farms that are begging purchasers at prices below the first cost of the improvements made on them, and in a condition made so by legislation.

The farms of America, west and east, are rapidly drifting from the farmers who made them and might be retained in the hands of speculators that in many cases are composed of the men who control the books of the leader and the legislation of both borrower and lender. It has been America's pride and boast that its people were home-owners. In England but 1 in 25, Scotland 1 in 30 and Ireland but 1 in 70 own their homes. They have come to America to secure liberty and home. This wholesale drifting of homes from their owners ought to appeal to the patriotism of every American heart. The unmatched bravery of American on every battle field has been because to every war they drew the sinew and strengthened the muscle in defense of the humble and happy homes of the home statesmen by the oak planted by the pioneer, and emphasized by the wife planted and tended by the loving hands of wife and child? Let them pass from the ownership of those who have them into speculators and syndicates, the tenantries become tenants only to them by unjust legislation, and the eagle's alarm will sound to vote for revolutionists of our nation in future years of peril.

In every agricultural and mining state and territory in the Union a population of happy, noble pioneers have expended their energies and economies their means in converting the barren fields of the agricultural states into rich fields of grain and lovely gardens of flowers, and in the discovery and development of mines of silver, in the production of that silver that been prohibited from use as coined as money; that with gold was made money by the Constitution and laws of the United States; that was plotted by the silver lord in the creation of our world to about equal quantities with gold; that put it into my side in the mountain gulch, imbedded it together in the same granite rock, and intersperses it along the same mountain streams. It has been separated only by man, by legislation in defiance of the laws of God and man, and for the purpose of wrecking one-tenth of the best element of the American people.

Not satisfied with vicious legislation, fraud has been openly practiced in injury through executive officers of the government. For instance, the secretary of the treasury has paid bonds in gold alone, that by law and express resolution of both houses of Congress should have been paid in silver. The act of March 14th, 1891, provides and declares that the faith of the United States was as much pledged to the payment of silver coin or bullion as the value of all the interest-bearing obligations of the United States, except in the case where the law authorizing the issue of such obligations has expressly provided that the same might be paid in other currency than gold or silver. Nine years thereafter, on Jan. 26th, 1878, the following resolution was passed by the Senate and concurred in by the House: "That all bonds of the United States issued under any act of Congress (excepting in those bonds issued under the act of July 14th, 1870) payable in coin, principal and interest, at the option of the government, in silver dollars of the United States; and that to restore to its mints such silver coin as a legal tender in payment of said bonds, principal and interest, is not in violation of the public faith nor in derogation of the rights of the public creditor."

In spite of the law's demands, in defiance of law and solemn resolution, they have continued the payment in gold only. If the secretary of the treasury had exercised the discretion given by the law, and bought silver bullion and coined it into silver dollars, and paid it to the bondholder according to law, according to contract, according to the resolution of congress, silver would today be practically and to all intents and effects remonetized. Two values, for 1 million of American farmers and 1 million bondholders in the streets of London, New York or anywhere crying for money, and that voice would not be answered anywhere by clubs or railroad pile!

To the cry for bread, Americans will not accept stones. For five years they have listened to the voice of political conventions promising relief on that they, for in each case the voice of the convention has been Jacob's sweet voice, while the hand of legislative and executive officials has been the hairy hand of Esau. American history affords no case of claim-jumping or American freemen. The contest always stops before being forced. They are snapping now all over the land and no power on earth will ever be able to rivet them. The heart of the American people is honest, patient, conservative and in favor of this question, and while their voice is being raised so loudly, it is the voice of demand, not relief. They are awakening and calmly reviewing the situation in which they are surrounded. They are thinking as to the best methods of relief. They do not know exactly the method to be pursued but most are decided action. They must not see [illegible] organized force. They must not [illegible] to turn a [illegible] platform [illegible] crazed or cranks on detailed statements of ethics. Direct action on a platform of free silver, and the election of all officials by direct vote of the people allowing no man in the government to get beyond hearing of the voice of the people or beyond their power to recall him by the ballot, ought to be best. Such an organization now exists and has twice adopted a national platform, and at each convention, St. Louis and Omaha, they were so true to the interests of the people on these questions as the needle to the north pole. The health of life has been breathed into their platform declaration by the voices and votes of their representatives in Congress. They have proven true to the interests of their constituents. While their votes have shown the force of one option in the wilderness to "make the paths straight," they have made straight paths as they went on and in before the people whom they represent.

Would it not be better to unite our forces with the party formed on these lines by the farmers of the agricultural states, who have crystallized their views into national platform in full accord with the interests of labor and their views on vital questions?

One weakness, under any conditions, to divide forces, thereby aiding the opposition retain what it now has and save a remedy to all interests of West and South.

The money changers can not be driven out of the temple as Christ drove them in His time by words and scourges, but it can be done by the same modern and improved methods as the latter. We can not divide forces and win any success in this battle. I have always lived in a strictly agricultural country and most of my life on the farm and the views I have taken are from that standpoint. I am very certain that I am right in my conclusion, and very much desire to see concert of action by all classes affected by this legislation. Very respectfully submitted.

J. E. CORNAN.

Let Us Proceed Jointly.

Editor Deseret News:

I observe that many of the friends of silver seem disposed to jump to the conclusion that the Democrats in Congress, especially in the House of Representatives, having passed the bill repealing the purchasing clause of the Sherman law, will rest there and do nothing toward carrying out the silver plank in the Democratic platform. I see that Congressman [illegible] and others, at least of those who are quite prominent—continue to talk about abandoning the old political parties.

For my part, although an ardent advocate of silver as money, and perhaps quite as little direct interest in it as most persons, it appears to me to be the reasonable to talk about a reorganization of parties.

The Senate may not receive, and the bill may sell in that body, or should it pass and receive the sanction of the President, it may not be enacted by the government, the free coinage of silver may pass a bill for the monetization of that metal.

I can hardly believe that a majority of the members of Congress will [illegible] on the subject of free silver [illegible] parties at least. I have no doubt even in Democrats to believe they will act.

The President asked Congress to repeal the purchasing clause of the act of 1890 should Congress, after complying, wish his repeal, and made no pledge that should pass, as we see the coinage of silver, they will also acquiesce with the Presidential request, and doubtless with him the responsibility of increase—I mean they will do so and it looks as though they may.

Therefore, at our men, Democrats especially, let us pause and think before a step will be taken. Perhaps I will be well with silver and with the country.

H. D. JOHNSON.

The University of Utah.

The normal and mining schools of the University of Utah have been both greatly advanced since last year. The facilities of instruction in those departments have been strengthened by recent appointments of persons from elsewhere and from our own Territory, who have done excellent work in the best universities of the east.

Those most closely connected with the normal work are Professor Sloan, Miss Cummings, B. A., Miss Mae Bennett, B. E., A. E. Brickenhead, B. A., and, in the training school, Miss Ross and Miss Nebeker, all now valued experts.

In the mining school, the faculty is instructing students to give close attention and excellent opportunities to students. Professor Montgomery, Dr. Talmage, Professor Kingsbury, Assistant Professor Merrill, and Instructor Noel are most closely connected with the work of this department.

The normal school, as now equipped, offers great advantages to young men and women who desire to become thorough and efficient teachers, and from the present standing of the mining school it can be truly said that a young man need go elsewhere to obtain a thorough knowledge of the fundamental science of mining.

The scientific arts and letters courses have a well-better portrait for than to merit.

The University is advancing rapidly in public appreciation, and the good work that the institution is doing for the students is [illegible] Academy, Corporate University, University of Utah, [illegible] Nation.

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