OPPOSED TO EXPANSION

Colonel W. J. Bryan Talks at a Reception Tendered to Him at Lincoln.

HE REPLIES TO McKINLEY'S QUERY.

Women's Democratic League Welcomes the Silver Leader—He Gets an Ovation at the Oliver Theater.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 23.—Col. Wm. J. Bryan returned to Lincoln this afternoon and was tonight tendered a reception at the Oliver theater by the Women's Democratic league. The house was crowded and Col. Bryan received an ovation. He was introduced by Col. Hascall, who formally welcomed his home and complimented him for his patriotism in enlisting in the army.

After thanking his friends for their kind welcome and compliments, the ex-member of the regiment, he pledged his recognition as follows: "I did for months of peace in the army and resigned in order to take part in a fight. I am as much interested in the peace of the United States as I am in the peace of Cuba, and should I be mistaken in judging, as we called upon us to meet more important problems in the United States than the chaos which confronted our army in Cuba.

"Some of these problems were under discussion before hostilities began and some before Dewey's fight, upon the result of the war. Let me improve this, my first opportunity, to assure you that my sympathies are with the people of the United States as I am in the people