

SWEPT AWAY.

A SERMON ON SOME OF THE SINS
OF OUR LAWMAKERS

WHO HIDE BEHIND
A REFUGE OF LIES.

By REV. MOSES HULL.

*"Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship
with thee, which frameth mischief by law."—*
PSA. XCIV: 20.

CHICAGO:
MOSES HULL & CO.,
29 Chicago Terrace.
1896.

PREFACE.

A worthy production seldom needs an apology for its appearance. This pamphlet contains thoughts which a majority of American citizens need. The substance has been delivered as a discourse on several occasions; never without urgent calls to have it repeated at other points. Many, many times has the request been made that this matter should be handed to the world in pamphlet form. In obedience to this oft-repeated request this *brochure* is in your hands. It is late getting before the public, but it is hoped not too late to do its part toward awakening an interest which will not down until the mischief herein exposed shall have been undone.

This is not written from the stand-

point of a partisan politician, but as a religious duty. If the sacred office of the ministry should prevent its holder from throwing light on the great questions which pertain to man's welfare here as well as hereafter, the sooner the office is renounced by every lover of humanity the better it will be for humanity.

THE AUTHOR.

29 Chicago Terrace, Chicago.

THE REFUGE OF LIES SWEEP AWAY

Text: Isaiah, xxviii: 14-20: "Wherefore hear the word of the Lord, ye so scornful men. . . . Because ye have said, we have made a covenant with death, and with hell we are at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves. . . . Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet; and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding-places. And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then shall ye be trodden down by it. . . . For the bed is shorter than that a man can stretch himself on it; and the covering narrower than that he can wrap himself in it."

Our text is very long, but full of the kind of meat which must now be dealt out by those who would obey the injunction of the apostle: "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

While I do not hold that this text was written especially for the people of the United States, in this year of the Christian Era, I do hold that human nature is much the same in every age and nation; also that man in his selfishness is very short-sighted; that greed often overreaches itself, and causes its possessor to sell his birth-right—his manhood—his future prospects, sometimes, for a very small mess of very poor pottage. This was done in the days of Isaiah, and at Jerusalem, as it is done to-day in the city of Washington; and for the same reason.

The true prophets of every age and nation were fault-finders; they always felt it their duty to tell kings and law-makers of their mistakes; especially was this true of Isaiah and Jeremiah. The "sweet singer of Israel," who was also a prophet, denounced those who "framed mischief by law." See Psa. xciv : 20.

The Clergyman's Duty If the minister, in this Republican form of government, has one duty which stands

out clearer than any other, it is to fit his people to be the best possible American citizens. I make this statement with the full understanding that many of my hearers are already, in their hearts, denouncing the mixing of politics and religion. Really, if religion is what it has been supposed to be, politics would not suffer by having a little of the genuine article mixed into it; whether politics would be greatly benefited or not by being slightly tinctured with religion, it is clearly the duty of the honest minister, as it was the duty of the prophets, to "cry aloud and spare not," when they see a great wrong committed by those in high places, and they see efforts made by those who place themselves before the world as political leaders to further "grind the faces of the poor." Their duty is to "lift up their voices like trumpets," and "show the people their sins."

While a minister has little business, save as a private citizen, with party politics, he certainly should know

something of the genius of our institutions; he should know and instruct the people as to what is for their good; and when he sees that those who have been selected to look after their welfare, by their acts and their votes, are selling them into bankruptcy, and consequent despair and probably to suicide, he should say to each one of these men in power, as another prophet did to a sinner in a high place: "THOU ART THE MAN."

**One Link
in the Chain** There is no end of opportunities for those in power to form a "covenant with death," and an "agreement with hell," to sell the people out for a given sum. Such seldom realize that in these bargains they are selling themselves out, to be delivered only a little later. They are inviting a hailstorm which will surely sweep away their "refuge of lies." They feel perfectly safe, but Moses said: "Be sure your sin will find you out." Their "covenant with death" shall surely be disannulled.

In making shorter beds for the peo-

ple than that a man can stretch himself upon, and making their covers narrower than a man can cover himself with, they are, in the long run, cutting off their own beds and narrowing down their own covers.

We hear much of the "crime of 1873," as though that was about the only crime our lawmakers had committed against the people. That was a terrible crime, as I shall prove before I take my seat, but it does not stand alone; it is only one link in the chain of criminal legislation which has been going on in this country for the last generation. The past is gone, and I only refer to it to show a few of the attempts of the money power of the world to make "hewers of wood and drawers of water" of the world's producers.

**New Conditions
Make New
Crimes**

The cotton produced by slave power was once king in this country, but after the capitalist had lost the free use of labor to produce their cotton and their corn, they had to try other

schemes, and they set their heads together to devise some plan by which they could own labor without literally owning the laborer. If they could own all labor in exchange for the slave labor, on which they had been compelled to relinquish their hold, they would have been decidedly the gainers in the exchange.

In 1861 Mr. Lincoln entered upon his duties as President of the United States, and a rebellion was inaugurated; the country was without the means to put the rebellion down. No army, no navy, no arms, no ammunition, and no money. What was he to do? He knew that the patriotism of the North could be trusted to do the fighting if only means could be devised to get arms, ammunition, and other necessities for prosecuting the war. For that money was required. How to obtain that money was the great question to be answered.

How Money He first appealed to the
Was Obtained patriotism of the money
 power, but when was that power ever

known to respond to an appeal to its patriotism? The appeal was in vain. The banks would supply no money, but would supply their credit in limited quantities, if the Government would pay them for that favor at the rate of from thirty-six to forty per cent. interest per annum. This the Government could not do; so, as a last resort, Mr. Lincoln called Congress to meet in special session on the eleventh day of July, 1861. That body, after duly deliberating on the matter, decided to try to get along without the aid of the money power; it would issue money directly to the people instead. The duty of "Coining money and regulating the value thereof," was laid down in the Constitution as belonging to Congress.

This congressional decision greatly disappointed the money sharks, who had decided to coin the flesh and blood of the soldiers into money. The result was that the newspapers in the employ of the money monopolists of the United States used barrels of ink in cartoons and ridicule of the idea of the Govern-

ment taking up the banking business. Banking was no business for a great Government; the banks would furnish all the money the Government wanted. With them the banks should govern, but Government should not bank. It was, in their estimation, the duty of the banks to issue the "money and to regulate the value thereof."

What They said so much
Congress Did about the matter that when Congress met in regular session the next December, Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Salmon P. Chase, of Ohio, who was Secretary of the Treasury, both recommended Congress to get up a law by which the bankers could be permitted to furnish a portion of the money with which to carry on the war for the extermination of the rebellion.

The Third House The committee, after
of Congress due deliberation, drew up the "Legal Tender Bill," a law which allowed the Government to issue its own money directly to its creditors. There was also placed in this bill a clause authorizing the Government to

issue interest-bearing bonds to those who wished to furnish money to the Government. This bill seemed to be just the thing needed; it passed the lower House, and went to the Senate; when it went there, the bankers went there also, over three hundred strong. These bankers organized a third House of Congress—a House which it seemed had more power than both the other Houses of Congress combined. They absolutely refused to allow the bill to become a law unless they should first be allowed to load it down with so many amendments that, as Hon. Thaddeus Stevens said, "Its own father could not recognize it."

**The First
Amendment**

The first amendment they attached to the bill was to the effect that the bonds should be sold at their market value, instead of their par value. That means the lowest point to which they could run them in the market. This amendment enabled them to run the bonds down so that they bid some of them in at as low a price as *thirty-five cents on*

the dollar, and many more of them at *forty cents on the dollar*. Who would have believed that honorable United States Senators could have been induced to sell out the Government that they were sworn to protect, so cheap? But the story is not yet half told.

Another

Amendment

The next stab they made was in the shape of an amendment that the interest on these bonds should be paid in coin. That would compel the Government to go to these same bondholders and buy coin at whatever price they chose to demand. There is little doubt but that this whole chain of crimes, which culminated in the crime of 1873, was then in incubation by those who intended to rob the Government and its people. They had already determined that the term coin should mean gold. Thus they compelled the Government to pay sometimes as high as *two hundred and eighty-five cents on the dollar* for gold with which to pay them their interest. Can any one doubt the motive behind this legislation? If this

did not "establish" "The throne of iniquity" and "Frame mischief by law," I would like to know what would do such a thing. And yet I am told that I must not bring these things out, as it would be "political preaching." Why, ladies and gentlemen, it seems to me that if, in such a case, the minister refused to speak out, the very stones in the streets would cry out.

**The Back of the
Money Broken**

But this evil legislation did not end here; the mischief did not end until they had crippled the money the Government was to issue so that it would not be able to perform its functions. The next thing they did was to put a clause into the law which would forever disable the money issued from rendering the very help for which it was created. They had placed on the back of every note issued a clause saying, "this money shall be received for all debts, public and private, *except interest on the public debt.*" No wonder honest old Thaddeus Stevens shed tears when he saw how the United States Senate

had crippled his bill. A bill drawn up and passed for the benefit of the people, had been so metamorphosed as to make the people its slaves and the bondholders its only beneficiaries.

One would think by this time the money power had got all it wanted; but, like hell, it is never full. Another clause was inserted which might as well have read: "The soldier, sailor, the farmer and the mechanic shall support the Government, and pay all the expenses of the war."

Untaxed—

These bonds were originally bought with a depreciated currency, but the money power now demanded a law that these bonds shall never be taxed. Thus these criminal law-makers freed these Shylocks from defraying any part of the expense of saving or of running the Government. These bonds were originally bought with a depreciated currency, but the money power now demand a law that the principal as well as the interest on these bonds should be paid in coin. They well knew that

an *ex post facto* law would be declared unconstitutional, so they had an act passed allowing them to change their bonds for new ones payable in coin.

**A Few Links
of the Chain**

One would think this would end the efforts to destroy the producing element in this country, but greed fattens on that on which it feeds. There is one more step, and only one, that can be taken. The greatest steal of all is yet to come; if a law can be passed demonetizing silver, that will make the word "coin" mean gold, and will forever shackle the hands of American labor.

They first added to the public debt by making the interest on the bonds payable in coin. Next they had them sold at the lowest price to which they could run them in the market. Then they had them exempt from taxation. Now they have them changed for new bonds, the principal and interest of which is payable in coin. Then they get silver surreptitiously demonetized in order to thus add another half to the poor man's taxes and to double their

own wealth. I almost feel to ask, did ever such a hellish scheme as this originate out of the supposed infernal regions? If so, then there are meaner men out of Pluto's dominions than any who ever found their way there. If his Satanic Majesty does not invite them to preside in his kingdom, then he will preside over those who had beaten himself in iniquity.

Effect of the Gold Basis System Before I attempt to notice more directly the crime of 1873, let me speak to you of the immediate effect of the gold basis system. Let it be understood, in the first place, that England is a creditor nation, that our debts, public and private—debts which we owe mostly in England—amount to the enormous sum of *thirty-two billions of dollars*; or, perhaps you would understand it better if I were to say *thirty-two thousand million of dollars*. This statement was made by Congressman Walker, in a speech before the House of Representatives. Mr. Walker was one of the gold-bug congressmen, from Massachu-

setts, and he would not, with the facts and figures before him, and more than a hundred men to pick him up on it, tell this if it were not true. I have calculated the debt many times, and I think Mr. Walker left many items out of his calculation. If he had been inclined to falsify, it would have been in the direction of cutting the debt down, rather than in the direction of overstating it.

This indebtedness was payable in gold and silver. Now that silver has been stricken down, gold has all that work to do ; besides that it has to act as the engine which moves all the other commercial transactions of the country. Now, inasmuch as our debts are mostly owing to England, and as England has no silver, I can see why England wants gold and nothing else for money; it will double the volume of her wealth at our expense ; but why a citizen of the United States, unless he is under pay from British syndicates, as Wall Street is to-day, or unless he

has been bereft of reason, should want anything of the kind I cannot tell.

**Financial Panics
Come From
England**

I wonder how many of my hearers know that directly or indirectly

England has brought every financial panic on this country that ever came to it. What a strange fact this is; England is a little island about three thousand miles out in the sea, with less than forty-five millions of people on it; Carlyle said, "mostly fools." How strange it is, that whenever England, from some of her numerous wars, or from any other cause, gets into financial straits, we have a panic in America? Is there any reason in nature? Do our farmers and mechanics all take a few years off, or do they all go on a protracted spree every time England has financial trouble? Neither; we fail with our thousands of hills and our fertile valleys full of horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs; we fail with our granaries bursting with grain.

Indeed our failures have been of such a nature, and at such times that the

Over-

Production

average political quack doctors have diagnosed the case as being one of over-production. That is, so much of the necessities of life have been produced that thousands of poor people in our mining regions are starving ; we have made so many boots, shoes, hats, and coats that thousands of feet, heads, and backs have to go without. No, ladies and gentlemen, until all want is supplied, there can be no over-production in this country. The only over-production we have ever had here is in knaves who tell these Munchausen stories about over-production, and dupes who swallow such stories. But are not our markets over-supplied with some things, one says. Yes, as long as England can buy our silver at twenty-three or twenty-four ounces to one of gold and take it home and coin it, and then take it to India and buy goods with it at sixteen to one, she is not going to buy our goods. The demonetization of silver effectually keeps our goods out of the markets of the world.

**Is There
Another Cause?** Let us see if there is not another cause than over-production for our financial troubles. Gold has always been a partial basis of our money. Since 1873 it has been the sole money of redemption in this country. We are sadly in debt to England; now nothing but gold will pay that debt; and it can be demonstrated that all that we can produce cannot more than keep up the interest on that debt. When England gets into trouble she sends to us for our gold, and we unload all our golden treasure into her lap; our money becomes scarce and we are compelled to enlarge our debts by issuing a couple of hundred millions of bonds occasionally. All this in times of perfect peace, and when our crops were as good as ever produced. This is the way England and Wall Street is persuading our lawmakers to lift us out of debt. What a refuge of lies!

Now let me inform you that there was a time, from 1860 to 1873, when we as a nation did not use gold as

**Why We Were
Not Bankrupted
in 1866**

money; it had gone up to where we could not use it. During that time England wanted gold, and we sent ours to her as we had done twenty times before, and it did not affect us one particle—not as much as it would to have sent a single bushel of potatoes to England. Do you ask, Why? I answer, when our gold was all gone, our money was all left. Now, when our gold is all gone our money is all gone. The thing some of us want is our silver restored to us as money; then, when England takes our gold we will at least have some money left with which to transact the business of the country.

**What
Carlisle Said**

I now come to a consideration of the particular crime committed against the people when our silver was surreptitiously taken from us, in 1873. That it was a crime against the producers of wealth, it seems to me, no one can doubt. John G. Carlisle, now Secretary of the United States Treasury, when a member of Congress in 1878, said :

"I know that the world's stock of precious metals is none too large, and I see no reason to apprehend that it will ever be so. Mankind will be fortunate indeed if the annual production of gold and silver coin shall keep pace with the annual increase of population, commerce, and industry. According to my views of the subject, the conspiracy which seems to have been formed here and in Europe to destroy by legislation and otherwise from three-sevenths to one-half of the metallic money of the world is the most gigantic crime of this or any other age. The consummation of such a scheme would ultimately entail more misery upon the human race than all the wars, pestilences, and famines that ever occurred in the history of the world.

"The absolute and instantaneous destruction of half the entire movable property of the world, including houses, ships, railroads, and other appliances for carrying on commerce, while it would be felt more sensibly at the moment, would not produce anything like the prolonged distress and disorganization of society that must inevitably result from the permanent annihilation of one-half of the metallic money of the world."

In the same speech from which this is taken he also said:

"The struggle now going on cannot cease, and ought not to cease, until all the industrial interests of this country are fully and finally emancipated from the heartless domination of

syndicates, stock exchanges, and other great combinations of money-grabbers in this country and in Europe. Let us, if we can do no better, pass bill after bill, embodying in each some substantial provision for relief, and send them to the Executive for his approval. If he withholds his signature, and we are unable to secure the necessary vote, here or elsewhere, to enact them into law notwithstanding his veto, let us, as a last resort, suspend the rules and put them into the general appropriation bills, with the distinct understanding that if the people can get no relief the Government can get no money."

Since the present administration came into power Mr. Carlisle has experienced a change of heart, and entered upon his reward. Many men have sold out for less money.

The Ohio
Legislature

The same year that Mr. Carlisle made the speech from which the above is taken, the Ohio Legislature, in joint session, passed the following resolution, and sent it to the United States Senate by Senator Stanley Matthews :

"*Resolved*, by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That common honesty to the taxpayer, the letter and spirit of the contract under which the great body of its indebtedness

was assumed by the United States, and the true financial wisdom, each and all demand the restoration of the silver dollar to its former value as lawful money."

Surreptitiously
Done

I said this mischief was surreptitiously done.

No argument that I can make will make this point plainer than it was made by Senator D. W. Voorhees, of Indiana. He said :

"The silver dollar is peculiarly the laboring man's dollar, as far as he may desire specie. . . . Throughout all the financial panics that have assailed this country, no man has been bold enough to strike it down; no man has ever dared to whisper a contemplated assault upon it, and when the 12th of February, 1873, approached, the day of doom to the American dollar, the dollar of our fathers, how silent was the work of the enemy. Not a sound; not a word; no note of warning to the American people that their favorite coin was about to be destroyed as money; that the greatest financial revolution of modern times was in contemplation, and about to be accomplished against their highest and dearest rights. The taxpayers of the United States were no more notified or consulted on this momentous measure than the slaves on a Southern plantation before the war, when their master made up his mind to increase their task, or to change them from a corn to a cotton field. Never since the founda-

tion of the Government has a law of such vital and tremendous import, or, indeed, of any importance at all, crawled into our statute books, so furtively and noiselessly as this. Its enactment there was as completely unknown to the people, and, indeed, to four-fifths of Congress itself, as the presence of a burglar in the house at midnight to the sleeping inmates. This was rendered possible, partly because the clandestine movement was so utterly unexpected, and partly from the nature of the bill in which it occurred. The silver dollar of American history was demonetized in an act entitled "An act revising and amending the laws relative to the mints, assay officers, and coinage of the United States."

I could fill a large volume with similar quotations, but this must suffice for the present. The truth is, this nefarious act was put into a bill where it did not belong, and was smuggled through without more than three members of Congress knowing it; and even the President of the United States did not know for two years after he had signed the bill that it took our silver from us.

I have now used as much time and space as I can spare to show up the particular crimes of our lawmakers, in

aiding the money-mongers of the world to make "hewers of wood and drawers of water" of American wealth-producers. I will now pass to a brief review of the stock arguments of these criminals and their attorneys, to justify the crime of robbing the people of their silver money.

**Cheap
Money**

The first excuse for this crime is that silver was and is a cheap money, and this was done in the interest of the "dear people" who wanted good money. How strange it is that not one of the "dear people" ever found this out, and therefore not one person in the United States ever asked for the demonetization of silver. What willing servants of the people these rascals were, to make laws for them entirely uncalled for except by rich syndicates in this and other countries!

It is true that the thing desired by those who have money to sell, is dear money, but those who have little or no money would like to get it in a cheap and easy market. Cannot any one

see that the cheap-money argument is made for the one who deals in money—of one who has money to sell? The person or syndicate who has money to sell is like the one who has wheat or anything else to sell, he wants to get all he can for it. The farmer does not sell money; he deals in wheat, hay, butter, eggs, and other farm produce; he wants and needs a good price for them, but a dear dollar means a great amount of these articles in every dollar. That means that he must part with his crops, and the mechanic must part with his labor for fewer of the banker's dollars.

**How Slaves
Are Made**

If those who deal in money can make money so dear that they can get ten pounds of butter for a dollar, then they have made slaves of butter-makers, and placed themselves where they can eat butter on both sides of their bread. But butter-makers, like other folks, are obliged to have money with which to pay debts and taxes, neither of which went down as the price of money

went up. While he has to put ten pounds of butter into every dollar he gets, it will be very lucky for him if he can save enough of his own butter to put on one side of his bread. The same is true of anything else which the farmer or the mechanic produces. But the farmers and mechanics are in debt ; it is said that ninety-six men out of every one hundred in the United States are in debt ; and that over nine millions of the farms in America were under mortgage, at the time this bill was passed. Now, by making the money dear, our law-making power has forced the poor debtor to pay the rich creditor twice as much as he agreed to pay.

If a debt of one dollar is contracted when butter is fifty cents a pound, two pounds of butter will pay the debt. Now, make money so dear that butter is only ten cents a pound, and it takes five times as much butter to pay the debt. Our national debt, for the most part, was contracted when wheat was from one dollar to two dollars per

bushel ; now the amount of money has been reduced, in order to make it dear, until, in the West, wheat is selling at from twenty to thirty-five cents per bushel ; does the reader see how much more wheat it would take to pay that debt now? Thus we enrich the money owners. At this rate it is doubtful whether there can be wheat enough raised in this country to keep up the interest on our debts. No, what the common people want is cheap money.

**Silver was
Not Cheap**

It is a mistake to say that silver was, at that time, cheap. France was, and had been for many years coining it at the rate of fifteen and a half to one ; that made silver higher than gold ; the result was, it could not be kept in this country at all. We struck silver down when we had none ; and, therefore, when it could by no possibility have been doing any harm. France and other nations were, by such arguments, as abound with the money power, persuaded to follow the example of the United States, and the result was that

gold went up; and that, compared with gold, silver and everything else dropped down to near half their former price.

**How to Make
Beef Cheap**

It was as if the nations were to unanimously adopt laws that beef should no longer be used as an article of food. The result would be a great increase in the price of mutton and pork, while beef cattle would fail to find a market at ten cents per hundred pounds. Now let there be an almost universal cry made for governments to take the embargo off of beef as food, and the result would be that those who are making their fortunes out of the extra price of mutton and pork would raise an immense cry against cheap food. The cases are precisely similar.

The Fifty-Cent-

Dollar Argument How many eloquent discourses we hear against the fifty-cent dollar. Not long since a gentleman was sent to a great gathering at which I happened to be present, to harangue groups of men on that subject. As if to clinch his final argument, he pulled out a handful of

American coined silver dollars, and said: "There, gentlemen, I suppose you call these dollars, but they are not; ten of them are worth less than six dollars." I ventured to ask him if he had ten of them. He answered in the affirmative. I said: "Here is a five-dollar gold-piece; please let me have eight of them for it; we will divide the profits on this speculation." It is needless to say that he had lost all of his disposition to speculate. I then offered to help him out a little on his worthless silver, by trading him my five-dollar gold-piece for six of his silver dollars, but he was not in a trading mood.

**Let Them
Dump**

Many are in mortal terror for fear that we will be made a dumping-ground for all the silver in the world. My fear is that we will not. I say, let them dump. Why will all the silver be sent to this country? Will the nations give it to us? How kind! I hardly expected such good fortune. I am glad, for we shall need much more silver than our mines will yield. "But," says the victim of

this *silverophobia*, "they will not give it to us." Is that so? Then, please tell us how they are going to get it dumped here? "Why, they will exchange it for what we may have to sell." Ah, that why? Then I understand your fear to be that we shall find a market for our commodities? I supposed that that, above all things, was what we wanted!

How strange, that these people will talk of over-production, and in the next breath be overcome with fear that we shall find a market for our over-produced goods, and have at the same time a surplusage of goods and of money! Individually I could stand a slight increase of both; and I think I have a few neighbors who are afflicted with the same disease. We are now supposed to have too much of everything except money; when we get silver we are to have too much money, and everything else. We are to die of over-production of money and of everything that money will buy. What a terrible fate!

Does the gold-bug hold his gold so close to his eyes as to prevent his seeing that the very flood of silver which he fears is to sweep like a besom of destruction over us from other nations would at once and forever settle that hundred-years'-old quarrel over the tariff question? I have no great fear of too great a foreign market.

Enrich

Silver Owners The next objection to free silver that we hear is, that free silver would enrich the owners of silver mines. Well, I hope it would assist them some. But, please tell us how it would do that if the silver dollar is worth but fifty cents? Silver cannot be successfully mined at present prices. Suppose it does enrich them? Which is better, to enrich silver owners at home or silver bullion buyers away from home? Does the objector know that our present policy is enriching foreign silver owners at our expense? Does he know that it is closing British doors against our goods?

Does he know that it is a fact that England comes over here and buys our

How England Gets Rich silver at the rate of twenty-three and twenty-four ounces for one ounce of British gold, then she takes that gold home and coins it into money, or into fine bare, and sells it to her Indian subjects at the rate of sixteen to one? Thus she makes the difference of between sixteen and twenty-four off of us, and, at the same time, with her silver, taken out of our own mines, she buys her bread and meat of India. Here we give to rich British merchants the difference between sixteen and twenty-four, and at the same time we are sending them elsewhere for wheat, rice, and cotton, while we fail to find a market. The result is, we send knaves out to preach to fools about over-production. The only over-production this country has ever known is that of the knaves who bring about this state of affairs, and then send others out to talk over-production nonsense to the people; and an over-production of fools who will swallow such wholesale falsehoods.

**Who Will
Be Enriched?**

This talk is all done for fear we will put a few dollars into the pocket of a neighbor who happens to own an interest in a silver mine. Now, let us ask how will the silver mine owner be enriched by this operation? The answer is, that he will take his silver to the mint and get it coined. But he cannot take it to the mint until it is mined and smelted; and he cannot get that done without paying the miner and the smelter. Those miners and smelters would, perhaps, be tramps if this work were not furnished them. Then it follows that this work will lessen the number of tramps by so much. What would these otherwise tramps do with their money? They would, perhaps, clothe and feed themselves and their families, and build homes for them; that would furnish a job for the cloth-maker, the boot and the hat maker; it would also add to the farmer's "home market" for his produce. Thus this silver would furnish an answer to the cry of over-production, and

somebody besides the mine owner would be made happy. Let us try it and test the result.

Will it Drive The next fear of silver
Gold Away? is, that it will drive gold
out of our country. I think not. How much gold is there in the country? Can the objector tell us how to keep gold in the country now? I would like for him to hit upon some plan by which it can be done. Now, gold leaves us so rapidly and so permanently that we are compelled to issue interest-bearing bonds every year or two to call gold back into the country. Now, if it is necessary to keep gold in this country, I submit that we will be under the necessity of trying some other plan than the one thus far adopted. I never thought it desirable to keep gold in the country. The thing we want is, that when gold goes out of the country, it shall leave its equivalent—its *quid pro quo*—in its place.

But, is it true that silver drives gold out of the country? I think not. Sta-

tistics show that in 1878, when the Bland silver law went into effect, our stock of gold was only *one hundred and eighteen million dollars*. As silver dollars became more plentiful gold came out of its hiding-places, and the predictions of gold-mongers, as in other instances, proved false. The supply of gold increased, until in 1890 there was in the United States Treasury *six hundred and sixty-five millions of gold*. In 1891, Mr. Foster, the Secretary of the United States Treasury, suspended the coinage of silver, and began the redemption of Government bonds in gold. That policy has been kept up until to-day. Everybody knows the result.

Won't Go
Abroad

We next hear it objected that our silver won't go abroad. Well, suppose that is true. I have heard this objection stated by persons who, judging from their appearance, were, like myself, sadly in need of a little money that would go at home. For my part, as yet I have needed very little money to

spend in foreign countries. What I sadly need is money that will support my family, pay railroad fares, hotel bills, and taxes.

Does the one who urges this objection know that the people of the United States spend one dollar at home for every four cents they spend abroad?—that at most only four people in a hundred need money that will go abroad? Now I decidedly prefer that a small modicum of the legislation of this country shall be for the benefit of the ninety-six per cent. of the people, and not all of it for the benefit of the four per cent. who are rich enough to get along without it. Again I ask, does the one who uses this objection know that as long as the United States will take the balance of trade between herself and other countries in silver dollars, that will guarantee our money in every part of the world?

When people go abroad they do not travel on United States money; they travel on bills of exchange; on wheat which may be in the Chicago elevators,

or on pork which may be in the packing-house.

**Shall We Wait for
Other Nations** The enemy of free silver, finding his objections all met, next asks for delay. This is merely an act of diplomacy, as every moment of delay enables the English and Wall Street combination to fasten their poisonous fangs more firmly in the quivering flesh of the wealth-producing classes.

"Yes," they will say, "we believe in free silver as much as you do, only let us wait for other nations to unite with us in the matter." I answer, the only way to get a union of nations on this matter is to force it. England has no silver in her mines; besides that, she is the creditor nation; she lives on the interest-money she draws from other nations. She has all the gold in the world cornered; she knows that it is impossible for her to corner the silver. About when do you suppose England would become willing to voluntarily loosen her grip on the throats of her victims by giving them

a chance to pay a debt with one bushel of wheat which it now takes two to pay? Rest assured that she will never make money of a metal which she must purchase from foreign nations until she is compelled to do so.

Shall America, with her over seventy millions of people, with her four millions of square miles of the best farms in the world, with more mineral wealth than any other nation on the globe, and with her republican form of government, bow before the effete monarchies of the old world and beg of them to let her coin her own money?

Shall America, who has proved herself capable of self-government, who has and needs no kings or emperors, thus confess herself unable to regulate her own financial affairs? Never. We have conquered England a few times, now shall we allow her diplomats, through Wall Street, to make slaves of American laborers?

England boasts of being "the sun which lights and heats the nations"; France, of being "the moon which

governs the national tides"; but Benjamin Franklin said: "The United States is the Joshua which commanded the sun and moon to stand still, and they obeyed him."

Let us, as a republican form of government, not try to keep the wine of republicanism in these old monarchical bottles. We are independent, let us set an example which the nations must follow. Thus will the nations bring their glory and honor unto our republic.

More time must not be spent in examining objections to the use of silver as money. I would like now to inquire after some of the results of the great legislative crime of 1873. "Coin" tersely stated the matter before his "Financial School," as follows:

Results of the
Crime of 1873

"It is commonly known as *the crime of 1873*.
A crime because it has confiscated millions of dollars' worth of property. A crime because it has made thousands of paupers. A crime because it has made tens of thousands of tramps. A crime because it has made thousands

of suicides. A crime because it has brought tears to strong men's eyes, and hunger and want to widows and orphans. A crime because it is destroying the honest yeomanry of the land, the bulwark of the nation. A crime because it has brought this once great republic to the verge of ruin, where it is now in imminent danger of tottering to its fall."

**A Few
Items**

The following items I think no one will dispute :

1. The cutting off of our silver money gave us falling prices, and doubled the purchasing power of the rich man's gold. Thus, as United States Senator Allen G. Thurman said in 1878, farms in Ohio now worth one hundred dollars an acre cannot be sold for forty dollars per acre. This prophecy proved true, not only of Ohio farms, but of farms in every State in the Union.

2. This crime has doubled the poor man's debts, interest, and taxes. A United States Senator said that this

act injured only the debtor class. That is to say, it injured only ninety-five out of every hundred. It now requires twice as much of the products of the farm or of the work-shop to pay debts and taxes as before.

3. In proportion as it has raised the price of the rich man's gold it has decreased the producer's revenue. The prophecy of Allen G. Thurman has more than been fulfilled.

4. It was prophecied that when the purchasing clause of the silver law was repealed, the outflow of gold from this country would be stopped; prosperity would return to our country; everybody would be employed and at good wages; and the financial millenium would burst upon the world. Time has proved that Jesus was correct in his warning against false prophets that were to arise.

**What Silver Does
In Other Coun-
tries**

In conclusion, permit me to say that prosperity has followed the free use of silver in every country in the world. Did any one ever hear of

more prosperity than followed France immediately after the Franco-Prussian war? France had silver and used it freely at a parity of fifteen and a half to one. She paid her immense war fine in a very few years, and got rich in the act. Germany received the fine and nearly bankrupted herself in the act of its reception. I have documents in my possession now—documents enough to keep me reading more than an hour—to prove that every silver country in the world, other things being equal, is prospering to-day. The Argentine Republic is building factories and setting its idle men to work; and, as a result, its people are prosperous and happy. Japan, too, another silver country, is enjoying a period of unprecedented prosperity. Its cotton mills in 1894 declared dividends as high as eighteen per cent. At the same time sixty-three cotton mills in Oldham, the same year, run at a loss of nearly three million dollars.

Japan buys her cotton of China, because she can pay for it there with

silver, and thus China is reaping a financial harvest which otherwise would come to America.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I have too briefly outlined what I would like, had I the time, and you the patience to listen, to say much more fully than I have here said. If this will set you to reading and investigating, as is the duty of every American citizen, then I shall feel that I have my reward.