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IMPERIALISM IN AMERICA ITS RISE AND PROGRESS

... BY ...

MRS. SARAH E. V. EMERY

LANSING, MICH.

1893.

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IMPERIALISM

IN AMERICA

ITS RISE AND PROGRESS

BY

MRS. SARAH E. V. EMERY

REVISED EDITION

“Without bloodshed, and rivers of it, there will be no political change of administration.”—*Senator Sharon.*

LANSING, MICH.

1893

DEDICATED
TO THE
"GREAT COMMON PEOPLE"
OF AMERICA
IN MEMORY OF OUR REVOLUTIONARY FATHERS,
WHOSE UNAPPRECIATIVE CHILDREN
HAVE FORGOTTEN THE PRICE OF THEIR
LIBERTIES.

PREFACE.

NEVER in the history of the world have the means for imparting information been conducted on such an extensive and magnificent scale as at the present time; yet never have the masses been more ignorant of their real condition, or more mystified as to the real cause of their afflictions. Distracted by misfortune, blinded by prejudice, disheartened and bewildered, they are an easy prey to the demagogue whose profession it is to mislead and entrap them in political snares. To awaken the people and to direct them in their search for the *real* source of evils that have overtaken them is the aim and object of this little book. The people may always be trusted when left to act from their own intelligent convictions, for the interests of the masses are identical; "an injury to one is the concern of all." But blinded by party prejudice, or unacquainted with the methods of political tricksters, they are easily deceived and led to act or vote in direct opposition to their own interests and judgment. The intelligence of the people is the only safeguard of liberty, and if through these pages one ray of light or hope shall be given to the distressed millions of my country, this labor of love will not be vain.

S. E. V. E.

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CHAPTER I.

THE SITUATION.

THERE is no feature of history more sad, no phase of human nature more dismal, than that innate desire in man's heart to rule over his fellow men. This ambition has been the curse of the world. Its slain are legions. But the battle field is not its only place of carnage. Its holocaust of death has entered every avenue of man's hope and aspiration. It has blighted youth in its morning, smitten manhood in its prime and cursed the hoary head of age. It has driven light from the home, love from the heart, and truth from its citadel. It has touched the lips of innocence and its withering breath has turned to ashes the fruits of joy and peace.

To escape this blighting scourge man has fled to the uttermost parts of the earth. But this demon incarnate has pursued and wrenched from his grasp the half-fledged boon of liberty. To escape this indomitable devil of oppression, our fathers braved the dangers of a trackless main, and the hardships of a new and untried world. But the pursuer followed in their wake, and ere the strains of liberty's song had ceased, the clanking of new chains was wafted to these shores. Years of hardship, toil and suffering followed. Then liberty reared aloft her standard, proclaiming that America was free.

But alas, the hosts of oppression were not destroyed, they were beaten back, but not dismayed, for their purpose was firm. It was their inheritance from the ages. They retired from the conflict but only to gather new strength, and as the torch of liberty seemed about to illumine the world, another onslaught is made upon the forces of freedom. America is the battle ground and our liberties the long sought prize.

For nearly a century this Republic was a standing menace to monarchy, and the crowned heads of the old world trembled as they saw the growth of liberty's tree. For they knew the nations of the earth would eat of its fruits, and that freedom in America meant freedom in the old world. Today they know that Republicanism or Monarchy must go down. These conditions cannot remain co-existent when brought in daily contact with each other. The governments of the world must assume one form or the other, and to overthrow Republicanism in America is to give a new lease of life to the despotisms of the old world. The spirit of imperialism that has arisen in America has not sprung spontaneous from our soil, but has been nursed and fostered through the strategic ministrations of despotic Europe, and today the cohorts of tyranny are watching with satisfaction the wonderful development of their foreign progeny.

It is under these conditions, with Europe's jealous eye upon us and a growing spirit of imperialism rife in this country, that we are confronted by the issues of today. The struggle before us is no common one; it is not nation against nation, nor section against section, but it is a struggle between the liberty-loving patriots of America on one hand and the combined money power of the world on the other.

Reader, we have reached a critical period in our nation's history and the direful prophecies made against us by the friends as well as the enemies of freedom seem about to be fulfilled. When the morning of the twentieth century dawns upon this country, it will either look upon a nation of slaves or a nation of freemen. The transition through which civilization is now passing threatens the life of the grandest Republic the world has ever known. The minions of darkness are arrayed against it. On the one hand is the money power enthroned in Wall and Lombard streets, on the other is struggling humanity enshrined at the hearthstone of the common people! Which will you serve?

CHAPTER II.

CHANGED CONDITIONS.

AS a nation we commenced under circumstances of the most auspicious character and gave promise of a government under which mankind would be exalted to the full measure of earthly blessedness, where the God power in man would be exalted to its highest development. But alas, we have scarcely reached a century's growth and we find ourselves subjected to the domination of a heartless money power which has overwhelmed the country with industrial and financial ruin. With our unbounded resources of wealth and productive energy, aided by mechanical invention the wealth of the country has reached fabulous accumulations, at the same time the masses were never in such a condition of despondency and destitution. Paupers, tramps and anarchists, the legitimate

offspring of concentrated wealth, have filled the country with almshouses, penitentiaries and prisons, while a few millionaires revel in Croecian luxury.

All over the country conservative, impartial men are asking, is not our experiment of self-government a failure? And their anxiety is not without cause, for never in the history of the world has any nation undergone such appalling changes as has ours within the past quarter of a century. From a peaceful, virtuous, patriotic people, we suddenly find ourselves tottering beneath the weight of internal dissensions and reeking with the most loathsome vices. Corruption in high and low places has eaten to the very vitals of our Republic and today the life of this Nation is suspended by a brittle thread which may at any moment be snapped asunder, and we be plunged into a chasm of anarchy more sanguinary perhaps than any that has ever blackened the pages of history. Is there no means by which such a calamity may be averted? Must we be wrecked on the same shoals or stranded on the same oblivious shores where lie Egypt, Babylon and Assyria? Have we studied the history of Greece in vain, or profited nothing by the rise and fall of Rome. But we are told that history repeats itself, that such is the course of national life and that we too will soon be numbered with the dead nations of the world. Reader, has it ever occurred to you that history repeats itself because of "unjust laws," because of "man's inhumanity to man?" The governments of the world have been founded upon unjust principles. The mother element has been excluded, and the laws enacted by men have in their very nature been devoid of that enduring characteristic of mother love which alone gives permanency to human

institutions. Today as we see our country following in the footsteps of the dead nations of the world would it not be wise for us to pause in our mad career, contemplate the situation and ask ourselves how can we avert the calamities by which those nations were overthrown. There is no higher duty devolving upon the American people today than of investigating the causes which have led to the failure of other nations and to use every means in our power to prevent their repetition in this country.

From time immemorial governments have been instituted, nations have risen, flourished, and then ignominiously passed away, and in every case we find the oppression of the masses has been the signal of dissolution. Republics die because the people become indifferent to the boon of liberty, and their children, unmindful of the fact that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," let go their hold upon the principles which underlie self-government, and ere they are aware the boon of freedom is lost to them forever.

From the very inception of our government we find most remarkable evidence of divine favor and recognition. Emerson says "America is another name for opportunity. Our whole history appears like one last effort of divine providence in behalf of the human race." It does seem as if Omnipotent energy had concentrated its forces in the American Republic. The vast extent of our territory, its diversified resources, and climate adapted to every condition of the human race, appear to me a most remarkable evidence of divine favor and recognition. Add to this the wonderful character of the founders of our republic, men born for the emergency and the rapid growth of inventive

genius which has developed a new era in civilization, and what more is necessary to convince the most unthinking mind that we are a peculiar people, chosen to carry out the purposes of the Great All Father. Old institutions were futile, the governments of the old world had failed in their attempts to harmonize their laws with those of Deity. To reconstruct just laws from their corrupt systems seemed an undertaking that staggered even the Almighty, and in his perplexity he opened up a new world, and breathed into man an inventive genius which enabled him to chain the elements and bring them into his service, thus giving him leisure for such intellectual and moral development as would liken him more nearly to the Creator, and make him in word and deed a co-worker with Christ.

It is unnecessary to recount the advantages that have accrued to the American people through the invention of labor-saving machinery, and the fact that America stands first in inventive genius is, no doubt, due to that generous form of government which for four-score years enabled her people to enjoy a degree of peace and prosperity unparalleled in history. Such long continued prosperity of the middle classes afforded them leisure for thought and investigation and as a result of such harmonious conditions free from the harrowing fear of want, the American intellect developed with surprising rapidity. As proof that American ingenuity surpassed all others, we need only to refer to statistics which show that more than one-half the inventions of the nineteenth century emanated from the American brain. E. J. Donold says "Our inventions in agricultural implements, and other labor-saving machinery came before Europe like a divine revelation.

The first great industrial exhibition held in London in 1851 was a proud day for Americans when the yacht *America* was added to the McCormack reaper and other labor-saving inventions. The Thunderer—*The London Times*, in one of its supreme moments, confessed that 'America had carried off all the laurels for utilitarian inventions, that it is for inventions really useful to the whole world. The multitudes were wonderfully impressed, they seemed to think that nothing was impossible for Americans.' No language can express the thrill of joy and hope that vibrated through the hearts of the liberty-loving, down-trodden masses of Europe when they beheld these laurels wreathed about the brow of Liberty and Equality."

Such was the estimation in which America was held by Great Britain and the world in 1851. But suddenly these prosperous conditions were checked; and these inventions which should have added to the ease and comfort of the masses were seized upon by a few piratical leaders, who subserved them to their use in the accumulation of wealth, and in the oppression of the industrial masses.

The founding of our government, contemporaneous with and followed by such wonderful advancement in the mechanic arts betokened a new and beneficent era in civilization, an era of intellectual and moral growth. With the introduction of such extensive labor-saving machinery it was but rational to prophesy a bright future for the great army of wealth producers. Had the philanthropist of the eighteenth century forseen the inventive triumphs of our day he would have hailed it as the millennium dawn, for he would have prophesied the most exalted intellectual and moral conditions

resulting from such beneficent inventions. But contrary to all rational expectations, labor has not been benefited by these wonderful advancements in the mechanic arts. On the contrary have they not rather proved detrimental to the laboring classes, for not only have they placed labor at a discount, but by increasing the power of monopoly, have increased its power to oppress and degrade labor. These inventions have added nothing to the scanty stores of the laboring classes, nor have they lightened by one hour the burden of its toil.

In contemplating these paradoxical conditions we are confronted by the inquiry, "How has such a power for good been perverted from its original channel? By what means have a few score men been enabled thus effectually to subsidize machinery, control labor, and to enslave millions of free-born American citizens?" From a careful study of economic principles we find that in order to control the labor of a people it is only necessary to control the sources from which they derive their subsistence. The primary source of all wealth and subsistence is the land. The mediums of exchange, money and transportation, are secondary considerations as regards mere physical existence, but in the promotion of civilization they are really as essential as the land itself. We find, then, that by controlling money, land, machinery and transportation it is an easy matter to control the labor of a people, and we find by taking advantage of these conditions a very few men are practically controlling this country with its 63,000,000 population. The heritage of freedom bequeathed by our fathers has been bartered away, and the expression "American freedom" is empty and meaningless.

For, boast of our freedom as we may, the government that permits corporate monopolies to absorb the products of labor, leaving but a bare subsistence to the toiling millions, is already stamped with the insignia of royalty. Wealth is power, centralized wealth in any other country than ours is recognized despotism. Mere personal liberty avails nothing so long as legal and political equality are denied, so long as starvation stares men in the face, and the gallows yawn when they protest against such conditions. Slavery reduces labor to a mere subsistence, it matters not whether carried on under the form of wage or chattel slavery. The man who toils from year to year for the bare necessities of life is a slave, whether it be on the cotton plantation of Mississippi or in the cotton factory of Massachusetts, whether he be a black man or a white man, whether he be called a bondman or a freedman. The lash of a southern master could not have goaded more effectually in 1852 than does threatening starvation in 1892.

Poverty was not considered a curse so long as honest labor would lift men out of it, and labor, notwithstanding the curse pronounced upon it, was regarded as a blessing so long as the laborer received a just proportion of the fruits of his toil. But when there is no escape from poverty, and labor yields a bare subsistence or perhaps is denied even the privilege of toil, then revolt arises, and God and nature declare in favor of a revolution.

CHAPTER III.

MONEY VOLUME.

AS before stated, by controlling money, land and transportation it is an easy matter to control the labor of a people. The first step is to gain control of the money; with power to inflate or contract it at pleasure. With this power all other sources of wealth are at the command of the money monger, who by producing a scarcity of his commodity is enabled to seize upon them at such prices as he may dictate.

In order to show the effects which a scarcity of money has on the condition of a people permit me to call your attention to the diminution in our volume of money, commencing with the contraction act of 1866 and continuing to the present time. To illustrate we will compare the condition of the people in the year 1866—when we had the largest per capita circulation—with their present condition, the per capita circulation being reduced according to Senator Plumb to less than one-fifth that of 1866; we will also note a few of the laws that have been enacted during these years and the relation which they bear to the increasing poverty and crime of the country. Before entering upon this comparison we wish to state a premise which can be substantiated, and which we ask you to keep steadily in view. It is this—scarcity of money causes prices to fall, low prices produce poverty and poverty means misery, ignorance, degradation and crime. Now we do

not ask you to accept these premises upon our authority, but we call as a witness John A. Logan, who in a speech made in 1874 in speaking of the depressed condition of the country and the increase of poverty and crime said "This trouble is a money famine and nothing more."

Again W. H. Crawford, secretary United States treasury in 1820, said "All intelligent writers on currency agree that when it is decreasing in amount poverty and misery must prevail."

The United States Monetary Commission, created under the joint resolution of August 15, 1876, consisting of three senators, three members of the House of Representatives, and three financial experts, in their voluminous report make many startling statements similar to the following which may be found on page 50, volume 1.

"The Dark Ages were caused by decreasing money and falling prices; without money civilization could not have had a beginning, and with a diminishing supply it must languish and unless relieved finally perish." Again, page 59 same volume, "If all the debts in this country had been doubled by an act of legislation, it would have been a far less calamity to the debtor and to the country than the increase in their real burden already caused by a contraction in the volume of money.

Allison says "The fall of the Roman Empire, so long ascribed in ignorance to slavery, heathenism, and moral corruption, was in reality brought about by a decline in the gold and silver mines of Spain and Greece." Gold and silver being the principal material used for money by these nations, it followed that when they ceased to work the mines their money volume declined, and with this decline in their money volume came the decline of

civilization. The Dark Ages ensued, and it was not until the discovery of America and the opening up of her vast mines of gold and silver that the light of civilization again dawned upon the world.

Hume says, "Falling prices and misery and destruction are inseparable companions. The disasters of the Dark Ages were caused by decreasing money and falling prices."

James A. Garfield said "Whoever controls the volume of the currency is absolute master of the commerce and industries of the country."

Pliny said "Vast estates ruined Rome." But vast estates are most easily acquired by producing such financial conditions as will enable a few men to control the volume of money. For by controlling the volume of money, with power to inflate or contract it at pleasure, all other sources of wealth are at the command of those upon whom this favor is conferred.

Vast estates ruined Rome, and what is said of Rome may with equal truth be said of every nation of antiquity. Go visit the graveyard of nations and the inscription on every tomb-stone will bear testimony to this sad truth.

Through all history we find that whenever the money of a country from any cause has been diminished in volume that nation has retrograded and its people have been reduced to a condition of abject poverty. As an illustration we find that at the beginning of the Christian era the money of the Roman Empire amounted to eighteen hundred million dollars, but she determined to shrink her volume of money and make the lesser volume of a finer material, or in the language of today she determined to demonetize silver, and adopt a single

gold standard. It required a long time to do this but the road was passed over and the long sought object attained; by the end of the fifth century she had shrunk her volume of money from \$1,800,000,000 to less than \$200,000,000 and the words of Secretary Foster, "We are on a gold basis and there is no occasion for alarm as to the ability of the government maintaining this condition" were as applicable to Rome in her decline as they were to our own country on the memorable day in which they were uttered, August 15, 1891, and the results of the contraction of our money volume are precisely the same as those which followed the contraction policy of ancient Rome. Under this policy, the wealth of our country is being rapidly concentrated in a few hands while the masses are becoming hopeless, homeless and penniless.

When Rome stood mistress of the world eighty-five per cent of her people held title in land, fifteen per cent only were tenants. Then were the foundations of Rome firm as the everlasting hills, her legions were invincible, justice ruled, mercy reigned, home and its sacred relations were exalted, but she made the mistake of the ages, reduced her money volume, and as a result the lands passed out from the hands of the people into the hands of a few millionaires, and when the dirge of civilization went up from Rome two thousand people owned all her land. The historian says "Population dwindled, commerce, art and science disappeared, the assassin's knife, the incendiary's torch made night and day alike hideous, lewdness filled the air, marriage was a nullity, the innocence of childhood was marked with illegitimacy, and to add to the appalling picture, drunkenness in high and low places excelled in enormity and bestiality any-

thing that had ever gone before." When Rome fell the temple of liberty was shattered, intellectual and moral darkness came down upon the world and the night of a thousand years rested upon human souls.

Just the conditions that are seen in this sad picture, are again realized, and just such legislation as brought these conditions upon the nations of antiquity has been re-enacted in our congressional halls. The result—fortunes up to millions in the hands of the few, the masses degraded, hopeless, starving.

Now, in order to substantiate our position, to wit: that a scarcity of money causes prices to fall, and thus produces misery, want and crime, and that the diminution in our money volume has been the means of reducing us from a prosperous to a debt ridden, tax cursed people, we will first show that at the time of our greatest prosperity, we had an immense volume of money in circulation. Second, that as this volume of money was contracted, the prosperity of the people waned, and that the increase of poverty and crime has been in the direct ratio of the decrease in the volume of money.

To prove that the volume of money during this prosperous time was greater than at any other period in our history, we will first present the testimony of John Jay Knox, Ex-Comptroller of the Currency, who, in a speech before the Bankers' Association, at Pittsburg, Pa., Oct., 1887, said "that the indebtedness of the country in August, 1865 was \$2,846,000,000, and that more than three-fifths of that amount was *legal tender*; that is, was circulating medium and constituted so much of our money volume." Three-fifths of \$2,846,000,000 is \$1,707,600,000. Add to this \$146,000,000 National bank notes, and \$58,000,000 notes of *solvent* state banks and

we have an aggregate of \$1,911,600,000. This constituted the *paper* money of the country.

Aside from this paper money there was at least \$100,000,000 of gold, which not only paid duties on imports and interest on the public debt, but circulated to a considerable extent on the Pacific Coast. Hence, from the testimony of Comptroller Knox we have the evidence that near the close of the year 1865 there was more than \$2,000,000,000 of money in circulation.

In addition to this conclusive statement of Comptroller Knox, let us add the testimony of Hugh McCullough, Secretary of United States Treasury, at the time specified, who, in his report for December, 1865, page 15, says, "More than two thousand millions of dollars of the means of the people of the United States have been loaned," and as if to nail the fact that this loan constituted the greater part of the money volume, Comptroller Knox comes forward with the statement (proceedings of Congress, page 21), that of "the huge mountain of our indebtedness more than \$1,500,000,000 was a legal tender," and he adds if temporary loans, certificates of indebtedness and treasury notes should be included, the whole would amount to considerably more than \$1,700,000,000 of legal tender.

Now, bear in mind that there was no gold and silver in circulation among the people, except a small amount of gold on the Pacific coast, and aside from a few millions of state and national bank notes, this vast sum, \$2,000,000,000, consisted of government money, that is, legal tender, issued directly by the government to the people, without the intervention of banks. This government money consisted of United States notes, treasury notes, compound interest notes, fractional currency,

and various other issues, all passing under the general head of greenbacks.

Our population at that time, after the South had been reinstated, was about 35,000,000; consequently at this low estimate we had over \$50 to each man, woman and child in the country. Money was plentiful. What was the result? How did this abundance of money affect the social and industrial condition of the people? Now, I do not ask you to accept my unvarnished, unsubstantiated statement that the country was in a highly prosperous condition, but will again call as a witness Secretary McCullough, who, in his report for December, 1865, page 8, says, "The country as a whole, notwithstanding the ravages of the war and the draught which has been made upon labor, is, by its greatly developed resources, far in advance in real wealth of what it was in 1857, when the last severe financial crisis occurred. The people are now comparatively free from debt.

* * * There is an immense volume of paper money in circulation. * * * It is undoubtedly true that trade is carried on much more largely for cash than was ever the case previous to 1861, and that there is a much greater proper demand for money than there would be if sales were made as heretofore, on credit."

This prosperous condition, however, seems far from satisfactory to the Secretary, for on the next page he deplures the situation in the following language: "There is no fact more manifest than that the plethora of paper money is not only undermining the morals of the people by encouraging waste and extravagance, but is striking at the root of national prosperity by diminishing labor. The evil is not at present beyond the control of legislation. * * * The remedy, and the

only remedy, within the control of Congress, is, in the opinion of the Secretary, to be found in the reduction of the currency."

The remedy prescribed by the Secretary—doubtless under the dictation of Wall Street—was immediately acted upon, as on April 12, following, Congress passed the contraction act.

It is a singular fact that while Secretary McCullough was deploring the loss of morals, statistics show that notwithstanding the demoralizing effects of "an immense volume of paper money," notwithstanding the fact that a "vast body of men had acquired dissolute habits attendant upon army life," there really was less crime in the country in proportion to population than at any previous time in our history. It is also a notable fact that the "remedy" prescribed by Secretary McCullough produced exactly the opposite effect from that anticipated, for, as the volume of money decreased crime increased until today our criminal record is such as to appall the stoutest optimist.

Now, while Secretary McCullough does not say that we had \$2,000,000,000 in circulation, yet, as before stated, he distinctly states that "more than two thousand millions of dollars of the means of the people of the United States have been loaned." In this amount he evidently does not include railroad bonds, which, as shown by his report swell the indebtedness to more than \$2,800,000,000.

The inconsistency of Secretary McCullough in this report is apparent, and awakens distrustful criticism, even from his friends.

On page 9 he says: "The paper circulation of the United States, on the 31st of October last, was substantially as follows:

1. United States notes and fractional currency	-----	\$454,218,038 20
2. Notes of the National banks	-----	185,000,000 00
3. Notes of the State banks, including outstanding issues of State banks converted into National banks	-----	65,000,000 00
		\$704,218,038 20

Notice in this list he does not include the 7-30 and compound interest notes, and yet that he regarded them as money—at least the compound interest notes, and that they were money is proven by his language on page 14, where he says:

“The Secretary therefore respectfully but earnestly recommends:

“*First*, That Congress declare that the compound interest notes shall cease to be a legal tender from the day of their maturity;

“*Second*, That the Secretary be authorized in his discretion to sell bonds of the United States bearing interest at a rate not exceeding six per cent, and redeemable and payable at such periods as may be conducive to the interests of the government, and for the purpose of retiring not only compound interest notes, but the United States notes.”

Now, since these compound interest notes were not due until 1867 and 1868, and as the Secretary admits and calls them legal tender in 1865, what right had he to exclude them from the legal tender volume in 1865?

Plainly he had *no right*. Evidently his sole object was to mislead the people. If these notes were *not* legal tender, why was this recommendation necessary, and if they were legal tender why did not Secretary McCullough state the plain truth to the people, and include them in his enumeration? No one can dispute but that this testimony of Comptroller Knox and Secretary McCullough establishes the fact that we had a

money volume of at least \$2,000,000,000 at the close of the year 1865. McCullough testifies:

First, That the country, notwithstanding the ravages of the war * * * is far in advance in real wealth of what it was in 1857.

Second, The people are comparatively free from debt;

Third, There is an immense volume of paper money in circulation;

Fourth, It is undoubtedly true that trade is carried on more largely for cash than was ever the case previous to 1861;

Is any further evidence necessary to prove that the country was prosperous and the people happy? But we have abundant evidence; for thousands of people are still living who can testify to the general prosperity of the country during the years immediately following the close of the war, and why should there not have been general prosperity?

The people were comparatively free from debt; trade was carried on largely for cash, there was an immense volume of money in circulation; consequently labor was employed at good wages, thousands of people were getting homes, churches were filled to overflowing, schools were flourishing, children of farmers and mechanics were being educated in the arts and sciences, the tramp was an unknown factor in society, and there was less crime in proportion to population than at any previous time in our Nation's history; the soldier too had returned from the army; and the charge so frequently made that "the increase of crime in our country is due to the vice and immorality disseminated by the soldier returning from the army," is as false as it is infamous; and the man or set of men who charge

our social demoralization upon the soldier should be branded as traitors to their country and vile slanderers of their fellow men. Who will dare to say that the men who faced death on a hundred battle fields are the men who swell the tide of crime. Is it not rather the men who defrauded the soldier by paying for his services in depreciated money, men who robbed the widows and orphans of these soldiers, who have demoralized the country and pauperized the people.

Now bear in mind that this government money, though reported by treasury officers as "government debt," circulated among the people as money, and would have performed all the functions of money as actually as gold and silver, had it not been for the clause instituted by the gold gamblers which excepted it from the payment of import duties and interest on the public debt. That it was this exception clause which depreciated this government money is proven by the fact that the first two issues, amounting to \$60,000,000 did not contain the exception clause, consequently these notes have always been at par with gold. Bear in mind also that a large part of this government money was not an interest bearing obligation; its only expense to the people was that of printing, which was about one per cent. Besides, it was safe and reliable, being backed by the government; and here is where this government money differs from the old continental money, to which the enemies of the greenback so frequently compare it. The continental money had no government back of it; the people were struggling to establish a government, whereas this government money of the sixties had behind it an established government of eighty years' standing, based upon three million square

miles of land, with its untold millions of both developed and undeveloped wealth, and fortified by the patriotism of hundreds of thousands of the most loyal soldiers the world had ever known. Most loyal because their homes were behind them. They were not "hired Hessians," but they were the sons of revolutionary patriots. Besides, when these notes became worn and dilapidated they were returned to the treasury and bright, new, crisp dollars issued in their place.

The people were satisfied with this money, and when a farmer received one of these notes bearing the denomination of ten dollars for ten pounds of wool, or a one hundred dollar note for a load of wheat, he felt amply repaid for his labor; he had no occasion to put the revolver to his brain; suicide seldom occurred, crime of every description was rare. The people were building churches and school-houses instead of prisons, penitentiaries and lunatic asylums. All branches of business were flourishing, and the people were prosperous and happy. Why? Because money was plentiful; they knew that money would pay their debts and taxes, would buy their food and clothing, would educate their children, would pay their traveling expenses. With it they could purchase land, stocks, and even government bonds at the face value of this money; and even when it had so depreciated—or rather, when gold had so appreciated—that it required one dollar in this money to buy forty cents in gold, it would still buy government bonds at face value; that is, \$1,000 in greenbacks, worth only \$400 in gold, would buy a \$1,000 government bond. Then four years after the close of the war Congress passed the credit strengthening act, making this bond, which was worth only \$400 in gold at the time of its

purchase, worth \$1,000 in gold, a gain of sixty cents on every dollar for the man who had invested in bonds, while the property of the man who had invested in real estate was depreciated in a similar ratio.

Besides this government money there was also outstanding more than one billion dollars in government bonds. These really constituted the only obligations of the government. The greenbacks ought never to have been considered any part of the national debt. They had been used to pay the soldier for his service in the army; he had redeemed that money by his sweat, his blood, and even his life. Is not human life sufficient redemption for that which man has created? Then why should this money have been destroyed, and interest-bearing bonds issued in its place—bonds, the interest upon which, like a canker, is forever gnawing at the vitals of honest industry.

CHAPTER IV.

RETROSPECTION AND PROPHECY.

WE have now glanced at the situation of the country in 1866, noted its prosperity and the general progress and contentment of the people. Why should these conditions have been disturbed? Just hearken a moment, reader, while we breathe to you an open secret recorded in the annals of American history. From the foundation of our government there was a determination on the part of some of its founders to establish an Aristocracy instead of a Republican form of government. Alexander Hamilton led this aristocratic faction, while Thomas Jefferson represented

Democracy, pure and simple. For a time in our early history the scales seemed evenly balanced, and the proud bird of freedom drooped its wings in despondency. But the untimely, though perhaps not unpropitious, death of Hamilton threw the balance on the side of human rights, and a free independent Republic was established.

But mark you, the idea of an imperial form of government was never for one moment abandoned and the followers of Hamilton submitted to the inevitable Republic because there was no alternative. Their leader was dead and for a time their hope seemed buried, but it was buried only to await the resurrection of a more auspicious day. And as the country developed in wealth and material resources this slumbering spirit of imperialism gathered strength and determination to seize upon the government at the earliest opportunity. But how could this purpose be most effectually accomplished was a question that for four-score years baffled the skill of the wily aristocrat. At last, however, the opportune moment arrived, for the machinery of civil war speedily developed opportunities which enabled Congress to adopt a system of class legislation, the results of which have already placed insurmountable barriers between labor and monopolistic capital, and have built up social castes which can only thrive on monarchial soil.

Whatever may have been the object of our civil war is not necessary for us at this time to question, but its results are evident, for the most casual observer cannot fail to see that the democratic simplicity of our fathers has given way to an aristocracy of wealth on one hand and a most abject and degrading poverty on the other.

The middle classes are rapidly losing foothold, the line of demarkation between aristocracy and serfdom is becoming more fixed, and a system of land tenantry has sprung up which bids fair to outrival that of the old world.

That such results would follow the corrupt system of financial legislation adopted early in the war was readily foreseen by the prophetic eye of Abraham Lincoln, and his memorable words to his friend, the Hon. J. R. Ellis, will go down in history as a wonderful revelation from Jehovah in these later days: "As a result of the war corporations have been enthroned, and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the republic is destroyed."

That President Lincoln was correct in his convictions is too obvious for contradiction. His apprehension that the money power which had been created by corrupt class legislation would destroy the republic was evidently founded on the fact that Congress had adopted the same financial policy which had enslaved European labor and established its aristocracies of wealth.

"As a result of the war corporations have been enthroned." No person conversant with the principles of political economy will for one moment question the fact that the gigantic corporations which are crushing out the life of industry in this country are the direct and legitimate result of that class legislation which sprang into existence while our country was in the throes of civil war.

‘And an era of corruption in high places will follow.’ Never was the spirit of prophecy more terribly fulfilled. The era of corruption through which we are now passing is paralleled only by that political corruption which preceded the overthrow of every ancient power.

“And the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign.” How? “By working upon the prejudices of the people.” Comment upon this point is unnecessary. No one will dispute that the most unscrupulous means are being used to deceive and mislead the people. Prejudice, ignorance, and appeal to patriotic sentiment are perhaps the most effective agencies employed in the accomplishment of this purpose. There is no lever more powerful than prejudice, and nothing that fires the blood like the word “patriotism.” To the average man disloyalty to country embodies the entire category of crime, and to act in accordance with its best interests in his estimation is a virtue that atones for manifold sins. It is this patriotic pride that nerves the arm of the soldier, that strengthens him in his farewells, and hastens him at the bugle’s call. It is this pride, this innate love of country and of justice to which intriguing politicians have applied the lever of prejudice, resting it upon the immovable fulcrum of ignorance; through these powerful agencies the will of the people has been overthrown and the money power has prolonged its reign until the wealth of the country is aggregated in a few hands, and the republic seems about to be destroyed. But the masses are unconscious of the situation and it is no less pitiable than startling to witness the complacency with which they slumber at the mouth of this smouldering volcano. To the average American there is nothing more obnoxious or absurd

than an intimation that our liberties are being wrested from us, and our democratic institutions are about to be overthrown. We have so long been accustomed to boast of the superiority of our national advantages and institutions, that to cast a reflection upon them is to invite derision, and probably be awarded the opprobrious title of "crank." A celebrated writer says "Political optimism is one of the vices of the American people. There is a popular faith that God takes care of children, fools and the United States. We deem ourselves a chosen people, and incline to the belief that the Almighty stands pledged to our prosperity," and so the people repose in confidence, forgetting that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

History teaches us that liberty is never so endangered as when the people sink into a condition of apathy, and fortify themselves in the assurance of national security.

Never was Rome more confident of her duration than when Augustus was beautifying the "Eternal City," and her attainments in wealth, commerce, culture and power gave her the supremacy of the world. It was at this time that the Pilgrims gave utterance to the prophetic saying: "While stands the Coliseum Rome shall stand; when falls the Coliseum Rome shall fall, and when Rome falls, with it shall fall the world." Yet today the traveler gazes in awe upon the ruins of the Coliseum; the grandeur and greatness of Rome have departed, but the world still moves and humanity still struggles toward the divine image.

It was not until the handwriting on the wall had been interpreted that Belshazzar and his hosts questioned the permanency of Assyria's power.

In the over-heated excitement of the dance parental caution seems folly to the young girl, even though she

may have felt the twinge of disease, but intoxicated with the giddy pleasure of the hour, she whirls through the mazy dance, regardless of the parental admonition and defiant of disease and its consequences. But disease lays its wasting hand upon her and, despite the oft-repeated declaration that she is not sick, death comes and she fills an untimely grave.

So too it is with nations; the people repose in confidence, while their rulers becoming intoxicated with wealth and power forget their obligations to the people, forget that they are entrusted with the sacred responsibility of government, and plunging headlong into the whirlpool of dissipation seek only the gratification of their own selfish and sensual desires. Surrounded by plenty they are deaf to the cry of penury and woe, nor do they heed the warning death-note as it mingles in their bacchanalian revels. Had France listened to the pleadings of her people the disastrous revolution of 1789 might have been averted, but she heeded not the cry of destitution until despair and frenzy seized the people and they determined to overthrow the government. Then the king and nobles listened and would gladly have acceded to their demands, but the cry for bread had been disregarded, and when at last the infuriated people demanded blood it was too late, bread would not satisfy; the spark had been kindled to a sweeping flame that could only be extinguished by the blood of royalty.

Such has been the experience of other nations. Will we profit by their example? Or will we too close our eyes to the light of experience, our ears to the voice of reason, and rush on, madly, blindly to national ruin and death?

It is needless to ignore the fact that we are rapidly drifting towards the whirlpool of national destruction.

True a few men who have succeeded in accumulating vast wealth out of the wrecked fortunes of their fellow men cry prosperity, prosperity. But is it prosperity when the few grow rich and the many grow poor? Is it prosperity that builds palatial mansions while the homes of thousands are being sold under the hammer and their inmates turned destitute upon the world? Is it prosperity that fills graneries and storehouses to overflowing while men, women and children freeze and starve? Or is it prosperity that builds magnificent churches while the saloon and brothel fester beneath their very shadow? With Carlyle I would ask prosperity in what, and progress whither?

More than two thousand years ago Aristotle said "Democracies have almost an irresistible tendency to Plutocracies, and that the existence of opulent families in republics lead naturally in a few years to a craving for ennobling titles and aristocratic distinctions." Now is it not a fact that the accumulation of large fortunes in our country have begotten aristocratic notions and the aping of foreign customs has become a notable and disgusting feature in fashionable circles? What results may we expect from these conditions? Are we ripe for an aristocracy in this country? Wealth, influence and power say *yes*, but the great common people say *no*, and so we find ourselves on the verge of a conflict between the people on one hand, and wealth and power on the other. Today, this government of the people, for the people and by the people is on trial for its life.

More than fifty years ago Carlyle wrote "The Republic west of us will have its trial period, its darkest of all hours. It is traveling the high road to that direful day. And this scourge will not come amid famine's

horrid stride, nor will it come by ordinary punitive judgments. But it will come as a hiatus in statecraft, a murder bungle in policy. It will be when health is intact, crops abundant, and the munificent hand open. Then so-called statesmen will cry over-production, the people will go to the ballot box amid hunger and destitution (but surrounded by the glitter of self-rule), and will ratify (by their ballots) the monstrous falsehood (over-production) uttered by mis-statesmen and vindicated by the same ballot the infamous lie (over-production) will be thrown upon the breeze by servile editors through a corrupt press. And this brings ruin upon his country, serfdom upon himself and oppression upon his children."

Today this prophecy of Carlyle is being fulfilled—"health is intact, crops abundant, and the munificent hand open," and yet ruin is upon the country, serfdom upon the masses, and oppression is being portioned out to our children. The hiatus in statecraft has done its deadly work. Now while we do not believe it possible to overthrow civilization, history teaches us that civilization may be retarded in its progress, and from the lessons of the Dark Ages we learn that it may actually retrograde.

Reader, is it not apparent to you, especially to you of mature years, that we have reached a critical period in our Nation's history? To me this is a most momentous question, for if I read history aright, the industrial condition of the American people today is portentous of a most sanguinary revolution,—a revolution that must altogether overthrow our republican institutions, or plant them forever upon the eternal rock of justice and equality to every human being.

CHAPTER V.

EFFECTS OF CONTRACTION.

WE have already shown that at the close of the war we were weighed down with an enormous public debt, one part of which consisted of interest-bearing bonds. The other part (which never ought to have been regarded as a debt), consisted of government money. Gold and silver were not in general circulation, and aside from this government money there was no other except a few millions of State and National bank notes.

Now, so long as this government money was in circulation money was plentiful and the people prosperous and happy, but under these conditions, with a free, prosperous and independent people, it was impossible to build up an aristocratic form of government. Some measure must be adopted which would reduce the people to a state of dependence. What should it be? The history of nations prove that the most effectual means of reducing a people to a condition of dependence is by reducing their volume of money, because a scarcity of money causes prices to fall, and low prices produce poverty. John Stuart Mill says, "If the whole volume of money were doubled prices would double," and vice versa, if the volume of money was reduced by half, prices would be correspondingly reduced; hence to reduce the volume of money was to reduce the price of labor and its products, and to reduce the price of labor

and its products must necessarily reduce labor to a condition of dependence and servitude.

So long as money was plentiful the people could not be reduced to these conditions, for when money was plentiful prices were high, and when prices were high labor and its products were in good demand. The man with a comfortable home and means of subsistence, out of debt and money at command could not be cowed down and made a miserable, dependent hireling. Consequently, in order to break down this manly, independent American spirit and subdue the masses, it was necessary to take from them the resources out of which their independence grew. To reduce the price of wheat from \$3.00 per bushel to \$1.00 was to reduce the independence of the farmer in precisely the same ratio. His land would not yield any more on account of the reduced prices, consequently he must curtail his expenses. Instead of sending his children to school, the boys must stay at home and take the place of the farm hand, and the farm hand must be turned out to tramp for work. The girls must stay at home and assist the mother in the household vocations, and the "hired girl"—God have mercy and mitigate the woes that have befallen her.

To be sure, if the farmer chanced to be out of debt he could still retain a considerable degree of independence; but woe to him who in the day of contraction is caught with a mortgage over his head, or is in any other way entangled in this unholy financial snare. But even out of debt, he must still deny himself and family many of the advantages and comforts which they had enjoyed while receiving more liberal prices for his products. He fully realized there was a change in his condition,

but he did not understand the cause of the change, and owing to the fact that in curtailing expenses his own cares and responsibilities had been greatly increased, he had but little leisure to investigate the cause; besides, his reading had been mostly from the agricultural and religious press, those papers which James Buell, Secretary of the National Bankers' Association, advised the bankers to sustain; especially, he says, "such of them as will oppose the government issue of money." Now, why did this Secretary of the National Bankers' Association wish to have these particular papers sustained? Why is he so specially solicitous for the welfare of those *agricultural* and *religious* newspapers which opposed this greenback money? What interest had he in the farming and religious community that he should request the bankers to sustain these papers? and what reason had he to suppose that the banks would comply with his request? Let us for a moment consider the situation and analyze the motive that prompted this unwonted solicitude in behalf of certain agricultural and religious newspapers. First, Mr. Buell knew these papers were read by a large and respectable class of community. Second, he wished to do away with this government money—the greenback—in order that the banks might issue the entire volume of paper money; and finally to accomplish this purpose he must poison the minds of the people, must prejudice them against this money issued by the government and bearing the discordant appellation of greenback.

He knew, too that the press was a most powerful agency for molding public opinion, and through this agency he determined to prejudice the people in order that the money power might carry out its design against them,

for to use his own language, "To restore to circulation the government issue of money would be to provide the people with money, and would seriously affect our individual interests as banker and lender."

But *how* would the circulation of the government money provide *the people* with money is the query that rises in the mind of every person seeking the solution of the financial problem. Let us see. While the "immense volume of paper money" was in circulation, money was plentiful, and when money was plentiful prices were high. With \$2,000,000,000 in circulation and 35,000,000 to use it, we had over \$50 per capita, and wheat sold from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per bushel, as a result the farmers who constitute the bulk of population were receiving liberal prices for their produce, and consequently had a good supply of money. In other words they were "provided" with money through the sale of their produce, and were not compelled to solicit "favors" from bankers. In fact, the farmer, to some extent, became a *money loaner*, and thus "seriously affected the individual interests of the banker and lender." It is easy to see how an abundance of money would "seriously affect" the interests of the national banker, therefore it was to his advantage to advocate measures which would produce a scarcity of money. By destroying the government money it would reduce the volume and give the banks control of the paper money of the country. Here you see the real animus of the money power, which was to produce a scarcity of money in order that they might control its volume, for by controlling the volume of money is an easy matter to control the other sources of material wealth, land and transportation; and by controlling money, land and

transportation, the labor of the people may be easily controlled, and to control the labor of a people is to control their liberties.

Now in order to produce a scarcity of money, it was necessary to contract its volume. Accordingly in 1866, right in the midst of unprecedented prosperity Congress passed the contraction act, by which the secretary of the treasury was authorized to call in this government money, destroy it, and its place issue interest-bearing bonds. Great furnaces were erected for the purpose of destruction, and about \$1,400,000,000 of this government money reduced to ashes. Again in 1873—seven years later—Congress passed another act demonetizing silver, that is, destroyed the money quality of silver, and thus produced a further contraction of the currency.

Then came the "money famine," which John A. Logan declared to be the cause of the panic of 1873 which swept over the country like a consuming pestilence; and the statement can be substantiated that our civil war was not one-half so disastrous to the morals and industries of the country as was this panic which blighted the country for the next five years, until 1878, when, through the persistent appeals of the Greenback party, led by Peter Cooper and James B. Weaver, Congress was compelled to partially remonetize silver and stop further destruction of the greenbacks.

We are frequently asked: What did the Greenback party ever do for the country? and the assertion is not unfrequently made, that the party is dead. Here let me say that if the party is dead, its works and its spirit still live. A brief record of its works may be summed up as follows: It saved to the people \$346,000,000 of

greenbacks; it prevented the refunding of a large part of the national debt; it secured the partial remonetization of silver; and twice achieved in the United States Supreme Court the grandest victory in the financial history of the world. These are a few of its works that live, and must continue to live or this nation must cease to exist as a republic. The decision of the supreme court in favor of the greenback, stamped it with an immortal existence, with a vital principle that will only die when liberty dies; and this fact is appreciated by every reform organization of this country, and emphasized in their demand for the abolition of national banks and that the government shall issue the money of the country.

That the money power was successful in its scheme to contract the money volume is proven by the following table, compiled from official sources in 1878, and also published by the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*, a leading Republican paper of Chicago. Although there is a discrepancy between these figures and those given by Comp. Knox and other authorities yet they serve to show the fearful reduction made in the money volume while business and population were rapidly increasing.

YEAR.	CURRENCY.	POP.	PER CAP.
1865 -----	\$1,651,282,373	34,819,531	\$47 42
1866 -----	1,803,702,726	35,537,148	50 76
1867 -----	1,330,414,677	36,269,502	36 68
1868 -----	817,199,773	37,016,949	22 08
1869 -----	750,025,989	37,779,800	19 85
1870 -----	740,039,179	38,558,371	19 19
1871 -----	734,244,774	39,750,073	18 47
1872 -----	736,349,912	40,978,607	17 97
1873 -----	738,291,749	42,245,110	17 48
1874 -----	779,031,589	43,550,756	17 84
1875 -----	778,176,250	44,896,705	17 33
1876 -----	735,358,832	46,284,344	15 89
1877 -----	696,443,394	47,714,829	14 60

From the foregoing we find that in eleven years the money volume had decreased from \$2,000,000,000 (the amount admitted by Comp. Knox to be in circulation in 1865) to less than \$700,000,000, although the business and population of the country had greatly increased during that time. What was the result? Did the people continue "comparatively free from debt?" Did business continue to be done on a cash basis, and did the general prosperity attendant upon such conditions continue? No, the conditions were entirely reversed, the people became overwhelmed with debt, business was mostly done on credit and bankruptcy and ruin pursued the people like a horrible nightmare.

Contraction commenced in 1866, the crash came in 1873, and all the language of man cannot describe the agonies suffered by the American people for the next five years. "Thousands and tens of thousands of people who supposed they had enough of this world's goods for

their declining years, enough for wife and children, suddenly found themselves paupers and vagrants. Business stood still, men stopped digging ore, they stopped felling forests, fires died out of the furnaces; men who had stood in the glare of the forge suddenly found themselves in the glare of despondency. There was no employment for them. The employer could not sell his products. The great factories were closed, the working men demoralized and the roads of the United States were filled with tramps." That we may more fully comprehend the change that took place in the condition of the people with the contraction of the money volume, we will present their condition in 1866 as described by an eminent writer:

"The productive power of the north was strained to its utmost, every wheel was in motion, there was employment for every kind and description of labor. For every mechanic there was a constantly rising market; everybody worked for everybody; everybody wanted to employ somebody else; on every hand fortunes were being made. A wave of wealth swept over the United States. Huts became houses, houses became palaces, tatters became garments, garments became robes. Walls were covered with pictures, floors with carpets and for the first time in the history of the world the poor tasted the luxuries of wealth."

Why might not these conditions have continued, and the poor not only tasted but feasted on the luxury of wealth? Because under such conditions it would have been impossible to establish an aristocracy of wealth.

CHAPTER VI.

THE BOND SYSTEM.

THE history of republics prove that any legislation which tends to root out social democracy will sooner or later destroy political democracy. Governments must necessarily correspond with the social condition of the people who are governed, and any legislation that tends to build up castes in society will inevitably result in monarchical systems.

Daniel Webster said "No matter what your form of government, if the wealth of the country be concentrated in a few hands you have an aristocracy, not a republic."

The most successful method of building up social castes is by compelling a large part of the people to pay tribute to a few. Should this be attempted by a direct tax upon the people the injustice would at once be perceived and an insurrection ensue. To prevent such catastrophes, designing men instituted the scheme of bonding. Please note that the terms bonded and bondage are from the same derivative; consequently when the people are under a bonded debt they are in financial bondage or slavery. There is no slavery so insidious as that of financial slavery, none which reduces the people to such depths of degradation and none to which they submit with such complacency; for their chains under the guise of freedom are unseen, and their clanking is drowned amid the boastful din of "our

liberties." We talk much of "our liberties" and flatter ourselves that we are free because perchance we hold title deeds to a bit of land and call ourselves our own masters. But let us look at the facts in the case. To illustrate: Mr. Jones holds the title deed to his farm; it is mortgaged for one-half its value at the time of purchase, and through the contraction of the currency it has depreciated the other half. The government, through unjust financial legislation, has robbed him of one-half the value of his farm, the mortgagee owns the other half and Mr. Smith owns a bit of paper, the title to his misfortune. Through the contraction of the currency money has been made so scarce that he is compelled to pay ten per cent interest on the mortgage, and the money loaner is the only one who gets any benefit from that extortionate rate of interest.

Again, the government has placed a tariff or tax upon nearly every article of food and clothing which he uses. More than forty per cent of all the money he pays his grocer and dry goods merchant is a tax, a large part of which goes directly into the pocket of the manufacturer, the government receiving no benefit whatever from it, and Mr. Jones and his entire family are obliged to toil early and late to pay the exorbitant rate of interest on his mortgage and the enormous tax upon their food and clothing. On account of the contraction of the currency his farm products have been reduced to a price that barely pays the expense of production. He cannot afford to hire help to do his work and he and his family toil like slaves. His children are denied the privileges of school and grow up in ignorance and discontent. They feel that their father is dealing unjustly by them; the father in turn charges his children with ingratitude,

and while nagging them to desperation and crime continues to vote for the men who have brought these deplorable conditions upon them.

Freedom is the owning of one's own labor. We may hold title deeds to millions of acres, but he who owns our labor owns us, and the system of government that taxes the labor of its people to build up industries that enrich a few is a robber system, and the men who enact laws permitting such robbery are unworthy the honor conferred upon them, and should be relegated to oblivion—or to the gallows—and men and women with *souls* should go into the sanctuary of our government, there to enact laws by which the entire human family might be lifted Godward.

The first requisite of a bond is a debt, and a debt implies interest or tribute to be paid by one party to another. In case of individual debt there is danger that the debtor may fail and the creditor suffer inconvenience, anxiety and perhaps total loss. But if a community or nation becomes responsible for the debt, then the entire wealth of the country is involved and the whole people are compelled to pay tribute or taxes levied for the purpose of paying interest upon the bonds held by a favored few. These bonds are generally exempt from taxation, the holders of them are often foreigners. In that case when the burden of debt becomes so heavy it can no longer be met, the country itself is confiscated, and in case of resistance a war ensues. If the burden of debt has been long and oppressive the people will be found enervated and impoverished; the spirit of liberty will be crushed and they and their country become an easy prey to the avarice of men whom they once termed their benefac-

tors, because they so graciously loaned money to their government.

It was through such a policy that Great Britain obtained possession of Egypt and it is the policy she has adopted to gain possession of this country which she has twice failed to subjugate through open warfare.

In proof of this assertion permit me to cite an incident which occurred a few years since in Iowa. During an exciting campaign, I believe of 1884, that staunch old veteran, Uncle Dan Campbell, spoke at Marshalltown. The next morning he was accosted by a gentleman as follows: "Mr. Campbell I was out to hear your speech last evening. You told more truth than I ever before heard in a political speech, but," he added, "I had no idea that the people were so well posted as to the real situation." He then informed him that he was Dr. Claffin, brother of Victoria Woodhull and Tennie B. Claffin—ladies who speculated heavily in Wall street several years ago, afterward went to England and there married British noblemen. He informed Mr. Campbell that he was in Iowa at that time placing loans for his English brothers-in-law. Said he had placed for them \$1,000,000 in Kansas, \$500,000 in Nebraska and about the same amount in Iowa. Mr. Campbell inquired "When do you expect these mortgages to be paid?" "Never" was the prompt reply, "the people over there don't want them paid and even if they did it would be impossible for your people to pay them." Said he, "The average rate of interest in this country is ten per cent, the average increase of property is three per cent; will you tell me," he significantly added, "how long it will take a three per cent investment to catch a ten per cent mortgage?" Said Mr. Campbell, "What do you

think of a government that compels its people to go to foreign countries to borrow money with which to carry on their business?" The doctor replied "It is infamous and a republic can not long remain a republic that adopts such a policy."

It is by means of this bond and mortgage system that social castes have been built up in this country, the bond-holding class and the interest-paying class, the creditor class and the debtor class, the aristocrat and the slave, while the great independent middle classes have been driven to the wall. The poet has well said:

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay;
Princes and lords may flourish or may fade,
A breath can make them as a breath has made;
But a bold peasantry, their country's pride,
When once destroyed can never be supplied."

Instead of destroying the government money and issuing interest-bearing bonds in its place, Congress should have continued to increase the money volume in the same ratio as the business and population of the country increased.

The greenbacks issued by the government were used to pay the soldier and all other debts of the government except interest to the pet bond-holder and import duties. The people had earned that money. It was legitimate money, and when Congress, at the instigation of bankers, burned \$1,400,000,000 of it, and in its place issued bonds upon which to establish national banks—bonds upon which the people are taxed to pay interest—it committed a wrong against the people, a wrong which can never be righted until the government pays the bonds in the same kind of money with which they were

purchased, and relieves the people from this unholy interest which, like a canker, is forever gnawing at the vitals of honest industry.

The inquiry is often made "Did not Congress exceed the bounds of its authority in establishing this bond system?" In the letter we answer no, but in the spirit and intent of the constitution we emphatically answer *yes*. Article I, Section 8 of that instrument reads,

"Congress shall have power to borrow money on the credit of the United States."

This certainly intended to confer the *power* on Congress to make a bonded debt, provided a *necessity* ever arose demanding its exercise. We will investigate the case and see if our present bonded debt came because of a necessity.

The preamble to the constitution, setting forth the objects for which it was made, says:

"We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution for the United States of America."

This preamble sets forth clearly and fully the objects to be attained by legislation under, and in conformity to, the constitution.

Now, it would seem a self-evident proposition that if some one or all of these objects were not secured by a bonded debt, then Congress transcended the object or authority conferred by the constitution.

The extent of authority conferred on Congress so far as making a bonded debt is: "They shall have power

to borrow money on the credit of the United States." There is no authority for making a *bonded* debt in any other way.

But our bonded debt was not made by borrowing money.

Thus the present bonded debt is unconstitutional.

The very fact of authority in Congress to enact any legislation carries with it a pre-supposed necessity, otherwise Congress would be a source of danger to the people.

It is claimed by many that our bonded debt was made to carry on the war and put down the rebellion and many honest people believe this, but it is not true. The bonded debt was made by converting the government money of various kinds into bonds. This money had been the great instrument, or the successful instrument, in carrying the war to a successful termination. After this had been done—the great work of saving the Union—then, in obedience to Shylock's wishes this money was condemned and burned, like millions of other martyrs, at the stake.

But the bond advocate says, "Did not the government agree to redeem the greenbacks?" Certainly, but turning them into bonds did not redeem them. If the government or Congress found it necessary to redeem them, if there was too much money in circulation, instead of making a bonded debt to load the country down with interest, Congress should have called in the money and destroyed it.

But there never was too much money in circulation. The great cry of inflation was a ruse to reconcile the people to the destruction of their money. How easy it would have been for Congress to call in the money and reduce the volume if there had really been too much.

But the fact is the bonded debt was not made because of necessity; it was done in order to plant a great debt for Shylock to erect a system of national banks upon.

Mr. Hazzard says: "Capitalists will see to it that a great debt is made out of this war."

The object in making a bonded debt was to establish a system of money—banker's money—to be the circulating medium, every dollar of which would draw interest. Thus the people would be compelled to pay interest. They were to have no money unless they did pay interest on it.

They made the bonded debt. They established their national banks. They destroyed two-thirds of the people's money. Every greenback would have been destroyed but the people became alarmed and Congress through the importunities of the old greenback party were compelled to call a halt.

It is now thirty years since the government commenced selling bonds for the ostensible purpose of "preserving the Union." Let us take a look at the situation. Before me is a statement recently made from figures furnished by Senator Beck and proven by government records. As they are of interest to every American citizen we present them entire, asking for them your impartial consideration.

Senator Beck, in a speech delivered in the United States Senate, January 12, 1874, stated that the bondholders had made out of the people, since the first bonds were issued in 1862, up to 1869, at which time the bonds were made payable in coin, over \$1,000,000,000 profit!

The Senator furnished the figures for his statement

and proved them by the government records. Let us see how it was done.

1862—During this year the government sold bonds valued at \$60,982,450, for which it received, however, only \$44,030,640 in gold. That is, the 5.20 bonds were exchangeable for greenbacks, and the greenbacks received were only worth that much in gold to the government. On this transaction the speculators made a profit of \$16,951,801. Besides this, the bond-holder had also received in interest, from 1862 to 1874, when the Senator gave his figures, \$11,187,188, making a clear profit of \$28,139,989 the first year—a clear steal, for which they did not give one cent, not even taxes in return. When you remember that you have had, and have yet to pay these bonds in coin, the full amount of the sixty millions, you will realize the full enormity of the steal.

1863—In this year the government sold bonds to the amount of \$160,987,550. The greenbacks received for them cost the speculators \$101,890,854, for gold was worth then \$1.58 which gave them a net profit of \$59,096,696. Add to this the interest paid them for eleven years, which was \$35,468,017, and they stole from the people that year \$94,555,713, all of which came out of the pockets of the farmers, miners and producers for they alone create all wealth and must eventually pay all debts and expenses.

1864—This year the government sold bonds valued at \$381,292,250, for which it received only—as gold was worth \$2.01—\$139,697,636, or less than one-half of their face value. The money speculators made a profit of \$191,594,613. Add to this interest for ten years, \$114,956,768, and they took from us that year \$306,551,382.

1865—During that year the Government sold bonds to the value of \$279,746,150, for which it received, however, only \$208,213,090. The robbers retained for themselves \$71,532,060. Adding the interest for nine years, \$38,627,307, and they stole in 1865 \$110,159,367. While some of you were offering your life's blood for your country, these cormorants were robbing you and your defenseless wives and children at home.

1866—This year bonds were sold to the value of \$124,914,400, for which we received only \$88,591,773, giving the money sharks a net profit of \$36,332,627. Add to this the interest for eight years, \$17,434,556, and they made out of the people a total of \$53,757,183. While you are studying these figures, dear reader, please continue to remember that all this time, as fast as the government received these greenbacks, it destroyed them, thus contracting our money circulation, taking the life blood out of the nation, and loading it down with an interest-bearing debt.

1867—This year bonds were sold to the value of \$421,469,550, for which the purchasers paid the government only \$303,805,503, giving them a profit of \$118,254,047. Add to this interest paid them for seven years, \$48,671,494, and that year they stole a grand total of \$167,915,741.

1868—This year the government sold bonds valued at \$425,443,800, for which it received, however, only \$312,626,326, leaving a profit to the speculators of \$112,617,497. Add the interest for six years, \$40,542,288, and we find the government gave to the speculators this year \$153,159,765 more of the people's property.

Besides the five per cent bonds, the government sold also, during this time six per cent bonds amounting to

\$195,139,550, for which it received, however, only \$123,957,410, giving away \$72,182,140. Add to this the interest paid them, \$26,115,724, and they made out of the six per cents \$98,298,864.

The following recapitulation of profits will show at a glance the transaction:

	Net Profit.
1862.....	\$28,138,989
1863.....	94,555,713
1864.....	306,551,582
1865.....	110,159,367
1866.....	53,757,183
1867.....	167,915,741
1868.....	153,169,765
On 6 per cent bonds	98,298,864
	<hr/>
Total steal.....	\$1,012,537,204

In this connection permit me to show you from the United States Treasurer's report of 1892 what we have paid in interest on bonds since 1862, up to and including 1891, a total of \$2,481,454,408. This is interest on the people's money which was destroyed. In addition to this interest they have paid the bondholders a clear profit of \$678,561,382, or a total of profits and interest of \$3,160,015,890!

Let us now examine another showing made by the government's own books.

In 1865, when the war was over and when our national debt was or should have been the highest, it was \$2,680,647,869.

In 1866, however, it had increased to \$2,773,236,173, and it did not come down below the figures of 1865 until 1870, when it was, five years after the war, \$2,480,672,427. And in 1891 we still owed \$1,552,140,204.73!

In 1865 it would have required the labor of 1,300,000,000 men one day to pay off the entire debt. Today it would require, to pay what we owe, the labor of 1,552,000,000 men, or the debt is today greater than it ever was so far as our means of paying it are concerned—greater than it was at the close of the war.

But there is yet to mention the greatest swindle.

In the treasurer's report of 1891, page 3, I find how much the government has expended since 1865 for pensions, army and navy, Indians, miscellaneous, and how much we paid each year on our public debt. From this report we learn that we have paid on the public debt since 1865 \$9,696,000,000.

In addition to this we have also paid \$84,000,000 in premiums. Or we have paid a total of

Public debt.....	\$9,696,000,000
Premiums	84,000,000
Interest	2,481,454,408
Net profits.....	678,561,482
Total.....	\$12,940,015,890

Think of it! \$12,940,015,890 on an original debt of 2,680,000,000! And you are today in debt worse than ever.—*Hugo Preyer.*

And yet this mighty incubus which for a quarter of a century has hung like a dread pall over the country is held up before the people as a "sacred contract" too holy to bear the light of investigation.

Such sanctity is equalled only by the godliness of those religious bigots who struck down Dr. Cronin, stripped his lifeless body and then crammed it into a sewer, but the crucifix about his neck remained untouched, *it* was sacred. Religious and political

bigotry go hand in hand. The worshipper of the cross and "contract" do homage to the letter but crucify the spirit of our blessed Lord and Master. Woe unto you hypocrites.

Now, to prove beyond peradventure the unconstitutionality of the bonded debt, we throw the argument into the form of syllogisms.

1. The constitution only authorized Congress to create a bonded debt by *borrowing money*—no other way. Our national bonded debt was not made by borrowing.

2. The constitution limited the legislative power of Congress to such legislation as tended to "form a more perfect union," or "establish justice," or "insure domestic tranquillity," or "provide for the common defense," or "general welfare," or "secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity." But the bonded debt antagonized each and all of these. It did not tend to "form a more perfect Union." Instead of "establishing justice," it is itself a stupendous fraud. Instead of "insuring domestic tranquility," it has introduced chaos—debts, litigations, tramps, failures, strikes, lockouts, and a reign of crime, misery and wretchedness has followed in its track. It added nothing to the "common defense," and instead of securing the "general welfare," it has been a general curse. Instead of securing the "blessings of liberty to us and our posterity," it has already enslaved the toilers, and will, unless suppressed, enslave posterity.

Therefore the national bonded debt is unconstitutional—a stupendous fraud.

CHAPTER VII.

LAND MONOPOLY.

THAT this infernal scheme of bonding the American people was instituted and precipitated upon them by a few designing men does not admit the shadow of a doubt. And it has given them absolute control of the finances of the country, and furnished the foundation for the English system of funding and national banking which is disastrous to the liberties of any people.

With the money of the country under their control it was an easy matter for them to seize upon the other sources of our material wealth, land and transportation, and the inroads made upon our public domain by these modern banditti confirm the assertion that they lost no time in making the most of their opportunities. For no sooner had these desperadoes obtained control of the finances of the country than they pressed forward in their scheme to rob the people of their lands.

As introductory to this scheme, and as if to prepare the minds of the people to receive it with complacency, the *New York Times* of August 12, 1877, in referring to the hard lot of the farmer, said: "There seems to be but one remedy. * * * It is a change of ownership of the soil, and the creation of a class of land-owners on one side, and of tenant farmers on the other, something similar in both cases to what has long existed, and now exists, in the older countries of Europe. Those farmers who are land poor must sell and become

tenants in place of owners of the soil. The hoarded idle capital must be invested in these lands. * * * The farmer will then be relieved of the burden of a bad investment on which he now makes no interest, and his money will be placed where it will do the most good. He (the tenant farmer) will at once be lifted from poverty to financial ease. * * * Everything seems ripe for the change. Half the farms in the country are ready to be sold, * * * and hundreds can now be bought for less than their value twenty or thirty years ago. * * * Few farmers can hope to provide their sons with farms of their own. * * * But to stock a rented farm is not so difficult a matter for a father intent on starting his son in life." He further says: "When farm lands are so held * * * then will begin a new era in American agriculture, and one that seems to be very desirable."

A change of ownership of the soil! Do you hear that young man? You who have just come in possession of a grand old farm, one upon which your father, your grandfather and your great grandfather lived and loved and toiled, every inch of which is hallowed by sacred memories that stir the soul and inspire you to a life worthy the nobility of your sturdy ancestry.

"A change of ownership of the soil." "Those farmers must sell and become tenants in place of owners of the soil." Do you hear that, you men of middle life? You who a score of years ago took the advice of honest old Horace, bade farewell to the scenes of your boyhood and with her who loved you more than father, mother and childhood home, cast your lot in the wilds of the great west, where through sunshine and storm you have labored to build up a home for the little family that

should come to you, and where you had hoped the sunset of old age might find you calmly reposing.

“A change of ownership of the soil!” “The hoarded idle capital of the country must be invested in these lands.” Do you hear that old man? Will not your venerable head and tottering steps spare the pangs of that remorseless change? and must the last feeble remnant of your life be embittered by this clutching hand of greed? It was you who felled the forest. It was you who built the cottage, dugged the well and hung the oaken bucket, it was your hand that planted the orchard; the hand of your wife now cold beneath the sod that placed the rosebush by the door, and it is your babe that sleeps beneath the white slab under the pine tree.

For three-score years you have come in and gone out of these doors; every plat of grass, every tree, every shrub, the walks, the fences, the gates, the garden, all, *all* have been baptized and rebaptized by your industry and devotion. Here your children first saw the light; here they learned to lisp the holy name of father, mother; here they grew to a noble man and womanhood. Here you welcomed the brides of your sons. Here the marriage feast was spread and you listened to the vow that gave a new name and a new life to the daughters who had brought so much of sunshine to your home. Here too you wept over the cold clay of your first born, and it was here that a well spring of faith burst forth in your soul, a faith that has illumined your earthly path and filled with radiance the home beyond. The spot is hallowed and the ties that bind you to it are linked to the innermost recesses of your soul. But alas, the relentless mortgage has fastened its grip upon this sacred

spot. It knows no hallowed ties, no sacred memories. It heeds not the pleadings of poverty, nor the trembling voice of age. "*The hoarded idle capital must be invested in these lands,*" and all tender ties, fond hopes and sacred memories must be laid upon its altar of greed.

"He (the tenant farmer) will be lifted from poverty to financial ease." * * * "Then will begin a new era in American agriculture and one that seems very desirable." Do you see the plot—to make this scheme appear so attractive that one almost sighs to be relieved of his earthly possessions that he may enter into the felicitous joys of tenant farming. Insult added to injury. It has been said that the James brothers could commit a robbery or perform a murder with such elegance and dispatch that they really thought it complimentary to the person upon whom they performed these ceremonies. The *New York Times* too seems to think the man highly favored who is robbed of his land and can then have the privilege of working it on shares. By such process "he will be lifted to financial ease." So says the *New York Times*, the mouth-piece of the money power.

But how well the money power has succeeded in its scheme, is best attested by the fact that we already have a million and a half of tenant farmers and every day adds to their wretched numbers. It is startling to contemplate the rapidity with which the lands of this country are passing into the hands of a very small percentage of the people. Already vast tracts of our tillable land have been seized upon and grants covering an area of country larger than nine states like Ohio have been issued to land syndicates and railroad corporations. Here are some startling figures:

	Acres.
Total area of land in the United States including Alaska	2,292,086,547
Land not available:	
Alaska	369,529,600
Military and Indian reservations	157,000,000
Mountains, lakes, rivers, etc	476,467,577
Total unavailable	1,002,997,177
Available remaining	1,289,089,370
In farms	687,906,375
Owned by railroads	172,816,000
Owned by aliens	61,900,000
Owned by speculators	20,500,000
	953,122,375
Land remaining	335,966,995

“In this is included the area of all the cities and villages, which would materially lessen the amount.”

Here, again, we see repeated the same old story of land monopoly which for centuries has been practiced upon the people, and which has been one of the chief destroyers of nations.

Thirty years ago we sang:

“Come from every nation, don't be alarmed.
Uncle Sam is rich enough to give us all a farm.”

But alas, while we were singing the arch enemy of freedom—our ancient foe—was spreading the snare into which prosperous Uncle Sam was led by a few of his avaricious children.

Land being the basic principle of all wealth it follows that whenever the land of a country has passed

into the hands of a few of its people the death knell of that nation's liberty is sounded, for the few who control the land control the labor of the many whose subsistence is derived therefrom, and *he who controls the labor of a people controls their liberties*. The strongest tie of human nature, that which brings a man closest to God, is his love for family and home, but when the sanctity of that home is violated by the importunities of an imperious landlord, and a man finds himself and all he holds dear at the mercy of a frowning master, liable in any moment of misfortune to be thrust out upon a cold, unfriendly world—then it is that the wellsprings of reverence for an omnipotent Father cease to flow, the ties of affection for his family grow weak, before that all-absorbing calamity of starvation and degradation.

A few years ago the *Chicago Tribune* said: "As soon as socialists get homes of their own, and acquire property they become conservative and drop out of socialism. It (socialism) can make no impression on Americans or americanized working men who have homes of their own."

Aye, there's the secret. Homes for the homeless! As truly as there is a God in heaven there is no attribute of the soul more steadfast than the love of home. It is a man's fortress, his strong tower; no matter how roughly the tempests of life may buffet him, he remains steadfast so long as his eye is fixed on that blessed haven—home. And there is nothing that so degrades a man in his own estimation, so warps and dwarfs and cripples his manhood as the feeling that on all God's footstool there is not one spot that he may call his *home*.

Herbert Spencer being once asked "What feature of

the American people impressed him most forcibly," replied "Their indifference to their liberty." It is a peculiarity and a serious defect of human nature that we do not appreciate the blessings we possess; especially is this true of that which comes to us without effort on our part. We accept as a matter of fact the inheritance of our fathers, we do not consider the conditions to which we would be reduced without them, and if to retain them requires exertion on our part, we are apt to permit their decline and finally lose them altogether. Such has been the history of republics. The liberties achieved by one generation have been held in sacred trust by the next, but each succeeding generation has become less appreciative of the boon and finally permitted the fires of liberty to die upon their very altars.

It would seem that the experience of other nations might be accepted by the law-makers of today, and that our grand civilization might enter the twentieth century in the full splendor of its rising glory. But as we contemplate the conditions of the civilized nations of the world and especially the political situation of our own country, we may well tremble for our civilization and contemplate with horror the fate that threatens our Republic.

CHAPTER VIII.

DESIGNS OF THE MONEY POWER.

TH**ERE** is no more mistaken idea among men than that the overthrow of nations is brought about through special dispensation. We have been educated into a belief that the calamities which befall us in this life are visitations of Divine providence, that they are

the will of God and that meek submission on our part is evidence of high Christian character. Not only does this view savor strongly of blasphemy against the eternal principle of good, but it betrays a disposition to shirk responsibility, and by taking advantage of their credulity, crafty, designing men have been enabled to hold entire nations in the most servile subjection. Josephus says of Moses: "Now when once he had brought them (the people) to submit in religion, he easily persuaded them to submit in all other things." Human nature has not changed materially since the days of Moses.

There is and always has been a class of men who seem to think the Almighty excepted them from the curse pronounced upon the human race, and that it is their special prerogative to eat their bread by the sweat of somebody else's brow. Accordingly their chief study is to devise means by which they may obtain possession of what others have earned. Brave men accomplish this by means of physical prowess and valor, but cowards conceal themselves behind a barricade of law. The former are called savages, but the latter from their spoils often contribute liberally to the support of churches and are styled Christians; by so doing they virtually shut the mouth of the preacher against their iniquities, and he unwittingly—not intentionally, but unconsciously—aids and abets them by preaching about the "divine right of kings," and by teaching the people "to be submissive to the powers that be." The injunction of Paul for "servants to obey their masters" and of our Savior to "render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's," was sound practical advise to a people who had no redress through the ballot and no means for carrying on successful warfare. But were Christ with

with us today doubtless his injunction would be "vote as you pray" and pray that this iniquitous legislation be wiped out root and branch.

There is nothing more futile, base or blasphemous than the habit of charging our misfortunes upon God. It is folly to argue that the depressed industrial conditions of today are dispensations of providence. Reader, the disasters that have overtaken us in this close of the nineteenth century are the direct *dispensation of a heartless money power*. You may argue that this money power is an instrument in the hands of God, but would it not be more appropriate to argue that it is an agent in the hands of Satanic majesty? And is it not your duty as a Christian to put forth every energy to aid in the overthrow of his kingdom? Neither are the conditions of today accidental. They are the cool deliberate plottings of the money power of the world against our free institutions. In proof of our position we will present the testimony of some of their most notable witnesses. But we first call your attention to the declaration of Sir John Lubbock, made about the middle of the present century. viz., that "the money power of the world was making an effort by means of reduced wages to fasten a rule upon the masses and place them upon a footing more degrading and dependent than have ever been known in history."

A few years later the prophetic eye of Abraham Lincoln saw the approaching danger, and gave expression to it in his message to Congress in 1861. These memorable words may be found in Barrett's Life of Lincoln, pages 309 and 310, and as the friends of reform are frequently charged with mutilating them in such a manner

as to distort their meaning, also because it is so difficult to find the work in question in any of our public libraries, I will here present verbatim that part of the message which must have been designed to put the people on guard of their threatened liberties:

Monarchy itself is sometimes hinted at as a possible refuge from the power of the people.

In my present position I could scarcely be justified were I to omit raising a warning voice against this approach of returning despotism.

It is not needed nor fitting here that a general argument should be made in favor of popular institutions; but there is one point, with its connections, not so hackneyed as most others, to which I ask a brief attention. It is the effort to place *capital* on an equal footing with, if not above *labor*, in the structure of government. It is assumed that labor is available only in connection with capital—that nobody labors unless somebody else, owning capital, somehow by the use of it, induces him to labor. This assumed, it is next considered whether it is best that capital shall *hire* laborers, and thus induce them to work by their own consent, or *buy* them, and drive them to it without their consent. Having proceeded so far, it is naturally concluded that all laborers are either *hired* laborers, or what we call slaves. And further, it is assumed that whoever is once a hired laborer is fixed in that condition for life.

Now, there is no such relation between capital and labor as assumed; nor is there any such thing as a free man being fixed for life in the condition of a hired laborer. Both these assumptions are false, and all inferences from them are groundless.

Labor is prior to and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital, and deserves much the higher consideration. Capital has its rights, which are as worthy of protection as any other rights. Nor is it denied that there is, and probably always will be, a relation between labor and capital producing mutual benefits. The error is in assuming that the whole labor of community exists within that relation. A few men own capital, and that few avoid labor themselves, and with their capital hire or buy another few to labor for them. A large majority belong to neither class—neither work for others nor have others working for them. In most of the southern

States a majority of the whole people, of all colors, are neither slaves nor masters, while in the northern a large majority are neither hirers nor hired. Men, with their families—wives, sons and daughters—work for themselves, on their farms, in their houses, and in their shops, taking the whole product to themselves, and asking no favors of capital, on the one hand, nor of hired laborers or slaves on the other. It is not forgotten that a considerable number of persons mingle their own labor with capital—that is, they labor with their own hands, and also buy or hire others to labor for them; but this is only a mixed and not a distinct class. No principle stated is disturbed by the existence of this mixed class.

Again, as has already been said, there is not, of necessity, any such thing as the free hired laborer being fixed to that condition for life. Many independent men everywhere in these states, a few years back in their lives, were hired laborers. The prudent, penurious beginner in the world, labors for wages awhile, saves a surplus with which to buy tools or land for himself, then labors on his own account another while, and at length hires another new beginner to help him. This is the just and generous and prosperous system, which opens the way to all—gives hope to all, and consequent energy, and progress, and improvement of condition to all. No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty; none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned. Let them beware of surrendering a political power which they already possess, and which, if surrendered, will surely be used to close the door of advancement against such as they, and to fix new disabilities and burdens upon them, till all of liberty shall be lost.—Joseph H. Barrett's *Life of Lincoln*, published by Moore, Wilstach & Baldwin, New York and Cincinnati, 1865.

I believe no reform paper, or any other paper, could make better use of its columns than by publishing the above entire.

Abraham Lincoln was the friend of the people. Had he occupied the presidential chair another term it is more than probable the designs of the money power would have been thwarted. They understood it, he could not be made a tool to carry out their hellish pur-

poses. To accomplish their designs it was necessary to remove the obstacle that stood a frowning giant in their path.

Reader, there is more unwritten than written history, but when the light of eternity illumines those mysterious pages there will be some startling revelations.

In farther proof of our position, also to show the determination of the money power and the necessity of removing any opposing element, permit me to call your attention to a remarkable periodical which made its appearance in this country soon after the close of our civil war. The bond system was not yet perfected, and there was danger that the people might awaken to their condition and repudiate the debt, or at least demand the payment of the bonds in the same kind of money (greenbacks) with which they had been purchased. Besides it was desirable to further the interests of the bond holding class by enhancing the value of their bonds, and still more by perpetuating them. Fearing and dreading the power of an enraged people when once convinced of the atrocities that had been perpetrated against them, nothing was left undone to prevent such an uprising and secure such legislation as would firmly establish their claim against the government. Having failed to secure the passage of the credit-strengthening act, in their desperation they commenced the publication of a weekly newspaper, openly advocating an imperial form of government. The publication of this paper was commenced early in 1868, prior to the election of General Grant, and discontinued soon after his inauguration. Obviously there was no farther need of such a paper, as President Grant had pledged himself to carry out their long sought scheme, and fourteen

days after his inauguration he approved the credit-strengthening act, which added millions to the bond interest. This paper advocating an imperial government was published at No. 37 Mercer street, New York. It was called *The Imperialist*. Its figure-head was an imperial crown, its motto, "The empire is peace, let us have peace." It was published by the Imperial Publishing Co., but was an anonymous sheet, no name of editor, proprietor or correspondent appearing on its pages. Among its advertisements was one of the banking firm of Morton, Bliss & Co. If rumor makes no mistake Levi P. Morton was the senior member of the firm that gave its patronage to this traitorous sheet.

Doubtless some of my older readers will remember *The Imperialist*. It is as vivid in my mind as the story of the crucifixion. It came to my fathers house for nearly three months, and was discussed in his family with the most lively and apprehensive interest. After about three months he ordered it discontinued; he would not countenance such a traitorous sheet, nor permit his house to be desecrated by its presence. The prospectus says:

"Though unannounced, this journal is not unexpected. The platform of *The Imperialist* is revolutionary; its object is to prepare the American people for a revolution that is as desirable as it is inevitable."

Here is its creed, as stated by itself in every number:

"We believe Democracy to be a failure."

"We believe, in short, that Democracy means lawlessness, corruption, insecurity to person and property, robbery of the public creditors, and civil war; that the empire means law, order, security, public faith and peace."

"We believe the national faith, if left in the keeping of the populace, will be sullied by the sure repudiation of the national debt, and that an imperial government can alone secure and protect the rights of national creditors."

"We believe that an imperial government, in its paternal relation to the people, will care equally for all citizens, and, while guaranteeing security to the rights of capital, will jealously protect the interests of the industrial classes."

"We believe that but a small percentage of the American people can be considered fit, by character or education, for the unrestricted exercise of self-government."

This organ in its issue of May 22, 1869, of the movement which it represented, said:

"A majority of its earnest sympathizers and zealous supporters at the North cast their ballots with the Republican party."

Again speaking of the "Grand Army of the Republic," it says:

"The public has no true idea of the immense power which this organization could wield should its services be called for. This silent, unnoticed army, 400,000 strong, garrisons the entire North. It can take the field at an hour's notice, and what possible force could be raised to resist it should the "long roll" once be beaten from Maine to Minnesota?"

Now who were these Imperialists claiming the Republican party and the Grand Army of the Republic as allies and co-workers in the scheme to overthrow this government unless they could obtain such financial legislation as they desired? Were they myths or men?

After an existence of less than one year the publication of the *Imperialist* was discontinued—for the reason, the closing editorial said, that owing to the prejudice of the people and their love for their false idol—the constitution—the Imperial party could accomplish its

objects better through the organizations of the Republican party and the Grand Army of the Republic.

Has not the financial legislation of Congress during these past twenty years been exactly in accord with the demands of the imperialists. What matter that the ballot has not been "wrested" from the hands of the working classes so long as they vote to tax themselves without limit for the sole benefit of those who fix their wages and compel them to pay tribute.

The above statements may be confirmed by calling upon Col. Jesse Harper of Danville, Ill., who is in possession of several copies of *The Imperialist*.

No sooner had the money power established the bond system and entrenched its agents in official positions, than it assumes a defiant attitude and boldly announces its designs against the people. The following from the pen of Senator Sharon, published in his own organ, the *Nevada Chronicle*, is conclusive evidence of the determination of the money power to rob and enslave the toiling masses. Listen, oh my countrymen, to your impending doom:

"We need a stronger Government. The wealth of the country demands it. Without capital and the capitalists our government would not be worth a fig. The capital of the country demands protection; its rights are as sacred as the rights of the pauper, who are continually prating about the encroachment of capital and against centralization. *We have tried Grant and we know him to be the man for the place above all others.* He has nerve. As president he would be commander-in-chief of the army and navy, and when the communistic tramps of the country raised mobs to tear up railroad tracks and to sack cities on the sham cry of 'bread or blood,' he would not hesitate to turn loose upon them canister and grape. *The wealth of the country has to bear the burdens of the Government, and it shall control it.* The people are becoming educated up to this theory rapidly, and the

sooner this theory is recognized in the constitution and laws the better it will be for the people.

" *Without bloodshed and rivers of it there will be no political change of administration.* The moneyed interests of the country for self-preservation *must sustain the Republican party.* The railroads, the banks, the manufacturers, the heavy importers, and all classes of business in which millions are invested, will maintain the supremacy of the Republican party. Democratic success would be bankruptcy to them. *To avert fearful bloodshed a strong central Government should be established as soon as possible.*"

In further proof of the desperate designs of the money power, I would cite you to the dynamite plot in Kansas, the object of which was to make it appear that the office of the *Non-Conformist* was headquarters for anarchy in that State and that the Vincent Brothers were leaders in a movement to wreck the government. Through diabolic schemes which had been concocted the purpose was to arouse public indignation against these young men, and raise a mob which in the midst of the excitement should rush to their homes, drag them out and hang them. But, through some unseen agency the dynamite exploded while yet in the hands of the murderous conspirators.*

We would also refer you to the burning of Kirwin, Kansas, and later to the foul murder of Col. Sam. Wood, of Woodsdale, Kansas.

But all these atrocities are strictly in accordance with the desperate teachings of Senator Ingalls who in speaking of political tactics said: "It is lawful to deceive the adversary, to hire Hessians, to purchase mercenaries, to mutilate, to kill and to destroy." Also with the sentiments expressed by Wm. H. Seward, who, while acting

* For farther particulars in regard to this plot apply to H. and L. Vincent Indianapolis, Ind., care of *Non-Conformist*.

Secretary of State, in a conversation with Lord Lyon, said: "My Lord, I can touch a bell on my right hand, and order the arrest of a citizen of Ohio. I can touch a bell again and order the imprisonment of a citizen of New York, and no power on earth except that of the President can release them. Can the Queen of England do so much?"

In striking contrast with this despotic spirit we add the words of Wm. Pitt, Prime Minister of England: "The poorest man in his cottage may bid defiance to all the power of the crown. It may be frail, its roof may shake, the wind may blow through it, the storm may enter, the rain may enter, but the king of England cannot enter. All his power dare not cross the threshold of that ruined tenement."

But the long-sought object of the money power is being rapidly attained; the depressed condition of the people today is but the footprint of the juggernaut.

The goal is nearly reached, but with it comes the penalty, as evinced by the reply of a noted millionaire who, when asked why he did not build a palatial mansion, replied "I don't want a house that will be so easily found when the hungry fellows break loose." Is not this a fearful sentence for a man to pronounce upon himself?

Is it not a virtual acknowledgment that the people are ensnared, and does it not express the expectation that when at last finding themselves hedged in on every side, goaded to desperation they will "break loose" and in their mad fury repeat the horrors of the French Revolution.

In further confirmation of our position, the *Chicago Daily Press* recently published a dispatch from Wall

Street, dated March 21, 1892, in which the capitalists, after setting forth the conditions of the country, instruct their henchmen in the course to be pursued in the following language:

We must proceed with caution and guard well every move made, for the lower orders of the people are already showing signs of restless commotion. Prudence will therefore dictate a policy of apparent yielding to the popular will—until all of our plans are so far consummated that we can declare our designs without fear of any organized resistance. The Farmers' Alliance and Knights of Labor organizations in the United States should be carefully watched by our trusted men, and we must take immediate steps to either control these organizations in our interests, or to disrupt them. At the coming Omaha convention, to be held July 4, our men must attend and direct its movements, else there will be set on foot such antagonism to our designs as may require force to overcome. This, at the present time, would be premature; we are not yet ready for such a crisis. Capital must protect itself in every possible manner, through combination and legislation. The courts must be called to our aid, debts must be collected, bonds and mortgages foreclosed as rapidly as possible. When, through process of law, the common people have lost their homes, they will be more tractable and easily governed—through the influence of the strong arm of government—applied by a central power of imperial wealth under the control of leading financiers. A people without homes will not quarrel with their rulers. History repeats itself in regular circles; this truth is well known among our principal men now engaged in forming an imperialism of capital to govern the world. While they are doing this, the people must be kept in a condition of political antagonism. The question of tariff reform must be urged through the organization known as the Democratic party. And the question of protection, with reciprocity, must be forced to public view through the Republican party. By thus dividing the voters we can get them to expend their energies in fighting each other over questions of no importance to us, except as tethers to lead the common herd.

Thus, by discreet action, we can secure all that has been so generously planned, and thus far successfully accomplished.

CHAPTER IX.

THE COMING STRUGGLE.

IT is useless to deny the fact that capital purposely enslaved labor and it is no less obvious that there is a settled determination to enforce and continue this condition of wage slavery. It is in the interest of capital to disguise its hostile position towards labor, for so long as the warfare can be carried on through political parties it is less dangerous to capital, and the desired results are peaceably obtained. The end sought is to secure the election of men who will not antagonize the scheme by which capital plunders the people. The capitalist draws no party lines, with him it is simply the election of the man who will not oppose his measures.

Such being the case capital will continue to control legislation until labor learns to boycott both the old parties. The money power is composed of the leaders of both of these parties, and however much they may feign to differ politically, their moneyed interests are identical. The real struggle is not between the political parties but between capital and labor, and in order to antagonize the forces of labor, it is enlisted in the ranks of the old parties which are constantly held in the attitude of combatants.

Seeing the conditions to which the masses are being reduced through this subtle policy, the liberty-loving people of the country, inspired by the spirit of our revolu-

tionary fathers, are attempting to thwart the purposes of the money power and rescue the liberties of the people from their grasp. To accomplish this they have peacefully organized, hoping to avert the evils through an intelligent ballot. But the money power is determined in its purpose, and is jealously guarding every avenue of escape. To postpone the judgments that must follow their corrupt policy they attempt to palliate the people and persuade organized labor to "keep out of politics." Thus far labor has largely acceded to their persuasions. What are the results? Is it labor or is it corporate monopoly that is making such enormous strides over this country? What are the conditions today? We find labor not only reduced to a miserable pittance, but actually begging for the privilege to toil. On the other hand capital is consolidating "It has already seized the reins of state and national legislation. It purchases legislators as a meat corner purchases cattle. It controls elections by buying votes in market as openly as a shop-keeper buys an article of trade. It dictates the price we shall pay for the bread we eat, the clothes we wear, the price we shall receive for our produce, and the wages we receive for our work." In truth we can do nothing, wear nothing, get nothing, go nowhere, without touching the hat and bending the knee to this imperious master—capital. Rich men invest in offices as they do in horses and yachts, and men are elected to the senate and appointed to the cabinet simply because they are millionaires, and in many cases they are utterly destitute of honesty, ability or morality.

These conditions cannot long continue. The people are growing restive under their rapidly increasing burdens, while the money power grows desperate at their

threatening attitude. The war of the rebellion wiped out chattel slavery, but out of its ashes has sprung a more gigantic system of wage slavery, founded on a system of monopolies and trusts—a mammon god—whose purpose is to consolidate the corporations, seize the powers of government and declare an empire.

CHAPTER X.

CONCLUSION.

Reader, we are on the eve of a deadly conflict. A conflict between the centralized wealth of the world on one hand and the toiling masses on the other. To us—the enfranchised and *once free* people of America—the down-trodden masses of the world are looking for their emancipation, shall we disappoint them?

There are but two methods of deciding this momentous question.

Peacefully by the ballot, or through the terrible instrumentalities of war. It is for the voting millions of the country to decide which method shall prevail. To settle this question by intelligent ballot is to settle it in favor of “the great common people” but in the alternative of war, wealth and power hold the vantage ground. It is a struggle for the supremacy of wealth on one hand, and the liberties of the people on the other. The conflict is at hand; there is no alternative—the crisis must be met. With whom do you cast your lot?

DECLARATION OF CONDITIONS.

[Adopted by the People's Party at Omaha, July 4, 1892.]

Assembled upon the one hundred and sixteenth anniversary of the declaration of independence, the people's party of America, in their first national convention, invoking upon their action the blessing of Almighty God, puts forth in the name and on behalf of the people of this country the following preamble and declaration of principles:

The conditions which surround us justify our coöperation; we meet in the midst of a nation brought to the verge of moral, political and material ruin. Corruption dominates the ballot box, the legislature, the congress, and touches even the ermine of the bench. The people are demoralized, most of the States have been compelled to isolate the voters at the polling places to prevent universal intimidation or bribery. The newspapers are largely subsidized or muzzled, public opinion silenced; business prostrated; our homes covered with mortgages; labor impoverished; and the land concentrating in the hands of the capitalists. The urban workmen are denied the right of organization for self-protection; imported pauperized labor beats down their wages; a hireling standing army, unrecognized by our laws, is established to shoot them down, and they are rapidly degenerating into European conditions. The fruit of the toil of millions are boldly stolen to build up colossal fortunes for a few, unprecedented in the history of mankind; and the possessors of these, in turn, despise the republic and endanger liberty. From the same prolific womb of governmental injustice we breed the two great classes—tramps and millionaires.

The national power to create monopoly enriches bondholders; a vast public debt, payable in legal tender currency, has been funded into gold-bearing bonds, thereby adding millions to the burdens of the people.

Silver, which has been accepted as coin since the dawn of history, has been demonetized to add to the purchasing power of gold by decreasing the value of all forms of property as well as human labor, and the supply of currency is purposely abridged to fatten usurers, bankrupt enterprise and enslave industry. A vast conspiracy against mankind has been organized on the two continents, and it is rapidly taking possession of the world. If not met and overthrown at once, it forebodes terrible social convulsions, the destruction of civilization, or the establishment of despotism. We have witnessed for more than a quarter of a century the struggles of the two great political parties for power and plunder, while grievous wrongs have been inflicted upon the suffering people. We charge that the controlling influences dominating both these parties have permitted the extending dreadful conditions to develop without serious effort to prevent or restrain them. Neither do they now promise us any substantial reform. They have agreed together to ignore in the coming campaign every issue but one. They promise to drown the outcries of plundered people with the uproar of a sham battle over the tariff, so that capitalists, corporations, national banks, rings, trusts, watered stock, the demonetization of silver and the oppressions of the usurers may all be lost sight of. They propose to sacrifice our homes, lives and children on the altar of mammon; to destroy the multitude in order to secure corruption funds from the millionaires.

Assembled on the anniversary of the birthday of the nation, and filled with the spirit of the grand generation who established

our independence, we seek to restore the government of the republic to the hands of the "plain people" with whose class it originated. We assert our purposes to be identical with the purposes of the national constitution, to form a more perfect union, and establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity.

We declare that this country can only endure as a free government while built upon the the love of the whole people for each other and for the nation, that it cannot be pinned together by bayonets, that the civil war is over, and that every passion and resentment which grew out of it must die with it, and that we must be in fact as we are in name, one united brotherhood of free men.

Our country finds its future confronted with conditions for which there is no precedent in the history of the world. We pledge ourselves that if given power we will labor to correct these evils by wise and reasonable legislation in accordance with the terms of our platform.

We believe that the powers of government—in other words, of the people—should be expanded (as in the case of the postal service) as rapidly and as far as the good sense of an intelligent people and the teachings of experience shall justify, to the end that oppression, injustice and poverty shall eventually cease in the land.

While our sympathies as a party of reform are naturally on the side of every proposition which will tend to make men intelligent, virtuous and temperate, we nevertheless regard these questions—important as they are—as secondary to the issues now pressing for solution, and upon which not only our individual prosperity but the very existence of free institutions depend; and we ask all men to first help us to determine whether we are to have a republic to

administrate, before we differ as to the conditions upon which it is to be administered; believing that the forces of reform this day organized will never cease to move forward until every wrong is remedied and equal rights and equal privileges securely established for all the men and women of this country.

PLATFORM OF PRINCIPLES.

We declare that the union of the labor forces of the United States this day consummated shall be permanent and perpetual; may its spirit enter into all hearts for the salvation of the republic and the uplifting of mankind.

2. Wealth belongs to him who creates it, and every dollar taken from industry without an equivalent, is robbery. "If any will not work neither shall he eat." The interests of rural and civic labor are the same; their enemies are identical.

3. We believe that the time has come when the railroad corporations will either own the people or the people must own the railroads, and should the government enter upon the work of owning and managing all roads, we should favor an amendment to the constitution by which all persons engaged in the government service shall be placed under a civil service regulation of the most rigid character, so as to prevent the increase of the power of the national administration, by the use of such additional government employés.

FINANCE.

We demand a national currency, safe, sound, and flexible, issued by the general government only, a full legal tender for all debts, public and private, and that without the issue of banking corporations; a just, equitable and efficient means of distribu-

tion direct to the people, at a tax not to exceed two per cent per annum, to be provided as set forth in the sub-treasury plan of the Farmers' Alliance, or a better system; also by payments in discharge of its obligations for public improvements.

We demand free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1.

We demand that the amount of circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

We demand a graduated income tax.

We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all State and national revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government economically and honestly administered.

We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people, and to facilitate exchange.

TRANSPORTATION.

Transportation being a means of exchange, and a public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interests of the people.

The telegraph, telephone, like the postoffice system, being a necessity for the transmission of news, should be owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

LAND.

The land, including all the natural resources of wealth, is the heritage of the people, and should not be monopolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited. All land now held by railways and other corporations in excess of their actual needs, and all lands now owned by aliens, should be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

MICHIGAN PROHIBITION PLATFORM.

The prohibitionists of Michigan, in state convention assembled, acknowledging Almighty God as the source of all true government, earnestly endorse the platform of the national prohibition party adopted at Cincinnati; and in addition thereto present the following declaration of principles:

1. WHEREAS, Many young men whose habits are not formed, and who have anxious parents deeply interested in their welfare, enlist in the service of the State, and attend the annual encampment of our State troops, we believe it to be the duty of our State authorities to surround all young men in such service with moral influences. We therefore regard with the utmost abhorrence the act of our State government, in providing for the sale of intoxicating liquors to the troops while in the service of the State. Akin to this is the equally burning disgrace of permitting the debauching of the youth of our State and nation, in attendance at our State educational institutions, by the refusal of both republican and democratic legislatures to protect them from the open saloon and brothels at the very doors of these institutions. We call upon all voters to help in ousting from power parties who, by permitting such outrages, have proven themselves traitors to the best home and moral interests of the State.

2. We arraign for public condemnation the truckling utterances of the democratic and republican national platforms on the liquor question. The "anti-sumptuary" declaration of one, and the expression of "sympathy" for "temperance" by the other are equally unmeaning, and designedly misleading; serving only to show the utter weakness of such old organizations when in the firm grasp of a great political principle on which those who sup-

port them are irreconcilably divided. It is equally apparent that the newly launched craft, the so-called people's party, after numerous fruitless attempts to indorse prohibition as an issue, is already fatally stranded on this rock.

3. We repudiate the principle of local option as a humiliating and degrading compromise with wrong, and a base subterfuge, used by the dominant parties in league with the saloon power, to quiet an awakening public conscience and retain the temperance voters in rural districts without alienating the slum votes of the cities.

4. The money of the country should be gold, silver and paper, and be issued by the general government only, and in sufficient quantities to meet the demands of business, and give full opportunity for the employment of labor. To this end an increase in the volume of money is demanded, and no individual or corporation should be allowed to make any profit through its issue. It should be made a legal tender for the payment of all debts, public and private. Its volume should be fixed at a definite sum per capita, and made to increase with our increase of population.

5. The right of suffrage should be granted to all citizens regardless of sex. No person should hereafter be given the ballot who is unable to read and write the official language of our country.

6. We insist upon the right of the State to require that all of its youth be educated in the common branches in the English language, and that all schools, public and private, shall be under State inspection and supervision, and that no public aid shall be granted to any educational institution not maintained by the State.

7. We favor, and when we come into power will establish, a practical and efficient reform of the civil service based upon the merit system.

8. All pay for public service should be by reasonable salaries and not by fees, and where fees are exacted they should be covered into the public treasury.

9. The granting of passes by railroads to public officers should be prohibited, and their acceptance should be made a misdemeanor.

10. Property covered by delinquent taxes after ample time for redemption should revert to the State, and not be sold to speculators.

11. We favor a graduated income tax.

TESTIMONIALS.

OFFICE OF DR. ALBERT FULLER, }
KIRWIN, KANSAS December 10, 1888. }

The little book, "Seven Financial Conspiracies," by Mrs. S. E. V. Emery, is a warning voice. It reveals the destructive tendency of corrupt legislation in our country. It should be carefully read and well considered by every American citizen. CORRUPTIONISTS may HISS at it, but HISTORY will HONOR the WOMAN who WROTE it.

ALBERT FULLER, M. D.

I learned more in relation to the financial history of our country during the past thirty years, by reading carefully Mrs. S. E. V. Emery's "Seven Financial Conspiracies," than I had ever known before. I advise every voter to lay aside prejudice and read this wonderful little book.

JOHN P. ST. JOHN,
Ex-Governor of Kansas.

HEADQUARTERS UNION LABOR PARTY, }
CHETOPA, KANSAS, November 24, 1888. }

Mrs. S. E. V. Emery, Lansing, Michigan:

MY DEAR MADAM—I believe the little book, "Seven Financial Conspiracies," of which we distributed 50,000 copies, is entitled to more credit than all else in making Kansas the Banner Union Labor State. It has caused more men, both Democrat and Republican, to investigate the financial legislation of the country, than any other document of its size ever brought before the reading public.

Very truly yours,
JOHN W. BREIDENTHAL,
Chairman State Central Committee.

No pamphlet published has struck such terrible and effective blows as has this one. The two hundred and twentieth thousand is ready to be sent out. It goes right back to the root of these great evils and shows, in a manner that will convince, how the servility of the people is being brought about by deep laid and foul conspiracies which have been carried out, and are now daily gnawing at the vitals of the Republic.—*Non Conformist, Winfield, Kansas.*

In my estimation you are fully entitled to the first premium for a work adapted for general circulation among the masses. You have done your work well; God bless you.—J. M. CALKINS.

Your little book has come to me like a revelation from the ever living God.—LEON LEWIS.

Errors of Our Monetary System.

—Mary E. H.

Scientific Exposure of the Workings of Usury.

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Wealth of the United States - - - - - \$65,000,000

Indebtedness - - - - - 35,000,000

The people pay the interest.



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