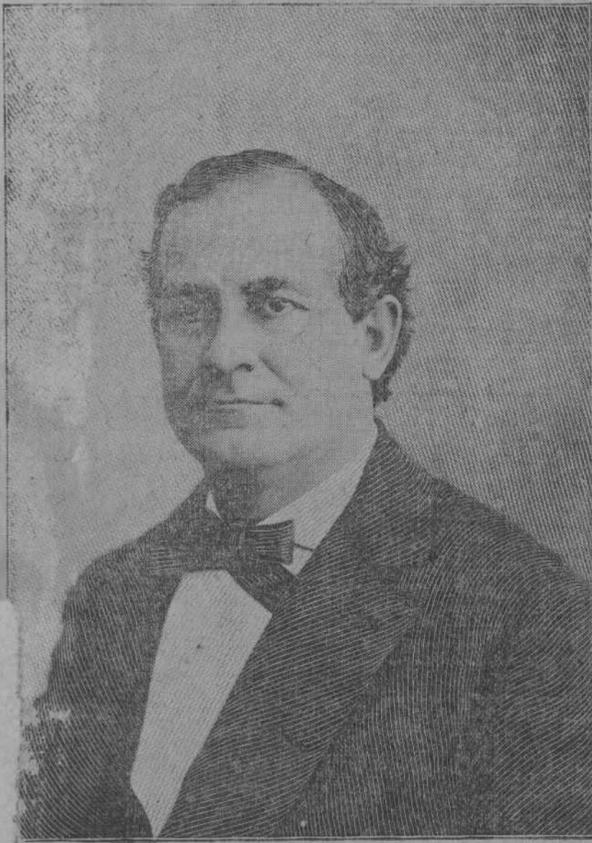


# WILLIAM J. BRYAN ON THE DEMOCRATIC ISSUES, THE NATIONAL FINANCES AND THE PHILIPPINES.

## Democracy's Leader Says to the Journal That Republicans Have at Length Finally Abandoned Their Faith in International Bimetallism and Stand Now for Nothing but Gold—Declares the Country Unjust in Promising Independence to Cuba and Not to the Philippines.

By William J. Bryan.



William Jennings Bryan.

WHILE the President's message covers a large number of subjects, the three questions which excite most interest are the money question, the trust question and the Philippine question. As I expect to comment upon the trusts more at length in a short time, I shall confine myself at this time to the first and last questions mentioned.

The President has placed the money question first in order, and the Republicans in Congress, by taking the matter up at the very beginning of the session, indicate that they regard it as first in importance.

Certainly the money question cannot be dead, when in legislation it takes precedence over a question involving the principles of our government and the rights of millions of people with whom we are at war.

If the President's message can be accepted as representing the sentiment of his party, the Republicans have now dropped the mask of international bimetallism and have adopted the Wall Street ideas of finance without limitation or qualification. Most of the advocates of bimetallism believed the Republican platform promise of international bimetallism to be a delusion and a snare, and for this reason a large number of sincere bimetallists left the Republican party in '96 and have not returned.

### A "HOPE" FOR THE WEST.

On the 6th of June, just before the meeting of the last Republican National Convention, the Chicago Times-Herald, whose editor has been conspicuous among the President's advisers, contained the following editorial:

Any reference to an international agreement is shifty and futile. It deceives nobody, because everybody knows, first, that there is not the slightest possibility of an international agreement at any rate; and, second, that if such an agreement were formally entered into, no government could be bound to abide by it a day longer than its own industrial and commercial interests would appear to warrant.

After the convention had adopted a platform pledging the Republican party to promote an international agreement for the restoration of the free coinage of silver the Times-Herald said:

The qualifying words used by the committee pledging the party to endeavor to promote an international agreement are intended to strengthen the platform from the political point of view, without in any way weakening it as a frank and fearless declaration for the gold standard. As it is and has been the Republican policy to promote international bimetallism, and as such bimetallism is earnestly desired by almost every one in the country of both parties, nothing is lost and something is gained by giving the Western Republicans a ray of hope in the future.

### OPEN FIGHT FOR GOLD MONOMETALLISM LIKELY.

During the campaign the Republican leaders insisted that the Republican party was friendly to bimetallism. Immediately after his inauguration Mr. McKinley sent a commission to Europe to ask aid in the restoration of bimetallism. It was pointed out by Senator Wolcott, when he returned, that Secretary Gage, by advocating the gold standard, had embarrassed the work of the commission, but not until the recent message was sent to Congress has the gold standard been clearly and unequivocally recommended. It indicates that in the next campaign the Republicans will make an open fight for gold monometallism.

Heretofore all parties have advocated the double standard, differing only as to the means of restoring it. Now it will be a clear cut issue between the double standard and the single gold standard. If the gold standard is accepted by the American people it will only be a question of a short time when silver will be denied legal tender qualities and reduced to the level of subsidiary coinage. Then the increasing volume of debt will be dischargeable in gold alone, and the creditor class will be given a still larger control over the property and livelihood of the debtor and producing classes.

### FEARS GOLD WILL MAKE US SUFFER FROM FOREIGN PANICS.

If we chain ourselves to gold alone our financial system will be disturbed by every panic in the gold using countries of Europe, and our stock of standard money will be subjected to an additional drain every time a new nation adopts the gold standard. Our nation will become more and more dependent upon foreign financiers and less and less able to have an independent American policy on any question.

The President's recommendation that the greenbacks when once redeemed shall only be issued in exchange for gold is a method of retiring them and substituting gold certificates. The plan has all the force and effect of retiring the greenbacks without the candor required for the open method. When the President is compelled by law to redeem greenbacks in gold, and then authorized to issue bonds and buy gold for that purpose, the Treasury will be placed at the mercy of those financiers who have for some years been seeking to drive the Government out of the business of issuing money, in order that they might make a profit out of the issue and control of the paper circulation.

The proposition to increase the privileges of national banks is a part of the gold standard plan. A review of monetary legislation for the last twenty years shows that the advocates of the gold standard, instead of boldly proclaiming and defending their scheme, have moved with slow and stealthy tread, hiding behind one pretence and then another, and never taking the people into their confidence. In the last campaign 99 per cent of the people voted for candidates pledged to the double standard as against the gold standard, and yet the Republican party is endeavoring to make the gold standard permanent.

### GREENBACKS TO BE RETIRED BY INDIRECTION.

In the last campaign neither the Republican platform nor the Republican candidate hinted at the retirement of the

greenbacks, and yet greenbacks are to be retired by indirection, while the national banks, in return for campaign contribution, are to be given authority to organize a paper money trust.

While the President gives to the money question priority in the order of treatment, he devotes far greater space to the Philippine question. The keynote of the President's policy is to be found in the assertion that Providence has brought the Philippines within our jurisdiction. It is to be regretted that the President did not explain whether he received this information direct from the Almighty, or, if at second hand, what Republican endowed with the gift of prophecy has revealed it. As the President himself is responsible for every act upon which authority in the Philippines is based, he ought to be able to defend his course by argument or else give conclusive proof of his inspiration.

The President dictated the terms of the treaty. Why did he provide independence for Cuba and for the cession of the Philippine Islands to the United States? Why did he promise independence to the Cubans and only "benevolent assimilation" to the Filipinos? Congress was in session for nearly three months after the treaty was signed. If he had desired the independence of the Filipinos he could have asked authority to promise it. But instead of asking authority, the influence of the Administration was used to defeat the Bacon resolution.

### A DISTINCTION BETWEEN CUBANS AND FILIPINOS.

According to the resolution of intervention, the people of Cuba "are and of right ought to be free," according to the President's theory, the Filipinos are and of right ought to be subjects. When did Providence point out this distinction between the rights of the Cubans and the rights of the Filipinos?

Must we hold the Philippine Islands permanently because Dewey destroyed a Spanish fleet at Manila? Schley destroyed a Spanish fleet at Santiago, and yet the President promised the Cubans independence. Must we remain permanently in the Philippines because American blood was shed there? American blood was shed at San Juan Hill and at El Caney, and yet the President promised independence to the Cubans.

Must we hold the Philippine Islands permanently because the American flag has been raised over them? The American flag was raised over Havana the 1st of January last, and yet the President has promised to haul it down as soon as the flag of a Cuban Republic is ready to rise in its place. Must we hold the Philippine Islands permanently because the people are not capable of self-government? Admiral Dewey, in communicating with our Government, asserted that the Filipinos are far more capable of self-government than the Cubans, and yet the President has promised independence to the Cubans.

### RIGHTS OF THE GOVERNORS AND THE GOVERNED.

Clay, in defending the right of the people of South America to self-government, administered a telling blow to the doctrine that God made a few to exercise authority and the rest to be servants to the few. He said:

It is the doctrine of thrones that man is too ignorant to govern himself. Their partisans assert his incapacity in reference to all nations. If they cannot command universal assent to the proposition it is then remanded to particular nations, and our pride and our presumption too often make converts of us. I contend that it is to arraign the dispositions of Providence Himself to suppose that He has created beings incapable of governing themselves and to be trampled on by kings. Self-government is the natural government of man.

After more than a century of contention for the rights of man, our nation, under the leadership of the Republican party, is asked to turn its face back toward the barbarous doctrine that might makes right.

The President says that it does not seem desirable for him to recommend at this time a "specific and final form of government for the Philippine Islands." He, however, describes in detail the government established in the island of Negros—says that it is a notable beginning and points to it as being deserving of special consideration. He says that the people of that island adopted a constitution looking to the establishment of a popular government, but that it was impossible to guarantee to the people of Negros that the Constitution of the United States would be the ultimate form of their government, because such a question was, under the treaty, left to Congress.

### GOVERNMENT OF NEGROS UNLIKE HOME GOVERNMENT.

The government now in operation there is a military government, instituted by military authority and presided over by a military governor, who is in turn under the military governor of the Philippine Islands, who in turn acts under the direct authority of the President. As the military governor appoints judges and other officers and has a final veto on all legislation, subject only to the will of the military governor of the whole Philippine Islands, it is evident that we are giving the people of Negros not such a government as we enjoy, but such a government as we think they ought to have.

The flag does not mean in the Philippines what it means in the United States. Here it stands for self-government; there for military despotism. If this is the form of government for people who, according to the President, "unreservedly proclaimed allegiance to the United States," what is to be the liberty guaranteed to those who have resisted our sovereignty?

The President says that the future government of the Philippine Islands rests with Congress, and adds that "few graver responsibilities have ever been confided to us." Certainly few graver questions have ever fallen to us for solution.

If Congress undertakes the permanent government of the Philippine Islands it will enter upon the work which Parliament undertook for the American colonies and the Spanish Cortez for Cuba. If Congress attempts to carry the flag beyond the limits of the Constitution and to govern subject peoples by arbitrary power, it will mark an epoch in American history and a departure from the doctrines set forth in the Declaration of Independence.

### FORCING A DOCTRINE ON A WEAKER PEOPLE.

Before we invest this new doctrine with the sanctity of a divine command we should examine the credentials of those who assume to speak with authority from above. If our forefathers relied upon the aid of Jehovah when they resisted the doctrine of taxation without representation, who shall say that the same unchangeable God leads us to force the same odious doctrine upon a distant people simply because they are inferior to us in civilization and weaker in physical strength?

The President says that the islands "are ours by every title of law and equity." Does he rely upon a title secured by conquest, or upon a title secured by purchase from a Spanish monarch to whose rebellious subjects we ourselves furnished arms? If governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, how can we acquire title to a people by force or by purchase?

The President says that if we desert the Filipinos "we leave them at once to anarchy and finally to barbarism." The Bacon resolution declared that we would first establish a stable government and then turn that government over to the inhabitants.

Would the President assume the people incapable of taking care of themselves if their plains and valleys were not rich and inviting?

Has not covetousness always resorted to some plausible pretext for the employment of force?

The President insists that we could not protect them from outside interference without involving our Government in great danger. Have we not protected the republics of Central and South America from outside interference?

We must deal with the Philippine question according to American principles or cease to be a moral factor in the progress of the world.

#### RUSH OF PHOTOGRAPHERS TO SOUTH AFRICA.

London, Dec. 16.—The most commonplace photographs of places and people in South Africa are bringing abnormal prices from the picture takers. In one instance a picture of a dead soldier for the picture of a dead soldier. The rush of photographers not content with or financed by any of the past without precedent. An amateur photographer now in Ladysmith has expended nearly \$1,000 to date, and has not yet taken a single picture. He has a man of means and has transported to Ladysmith a most expensive cinematograph. He calculates upon fame and money as the result of the war pictures he will take of the risk of his life. He has a camera from Lewis, man of leisure, and devoted amateur photographer for the front immediately the war was proclaimed, and the prospect of their going in the face of their ambition to take out-of-war pictures.

#### BOSS BARBERS WANT THE STATE TO STOP CHEAP MEN.

Will Ask Legislature for Board of Examiners and Compulsory Certificates for All. If the bill which is to be introduced at the next session of the Legislature by the boss barbers of the State be enacted, the time has come when a man can enter the barber's chair confident of not being operated upon by apprentices. This bill will not only do away with the cheap barbers, but will improve the sanitary condition of the shops. There will be no danger of being shaved with soap and brushes that are not absolutely clean. The man who shaves you must have served at least three years apprenticeship and have been examined by a State Board, composed of men who have served five years at their trade, and who are thoroughly competent. There will be no political influence by which a man obtains a certificate, and if he fails to comply with the law a fine and imprisonment will result. One thing in this State which has been more detrimental to the barber business than any other is the barber colleges. The so-called barbers that they turn out every year know little about the practical side of the business.

#### ELEVENTH WARD BANK SUES LORILLARD BROTHERS.

Pierre and Louis Are Made Defendants in an Action Against Jacob for \$50,000. A suit has been brought in the Supreme Court by the Eleventh Ward Bank against Pierre and Louis Lorillard to recover \$50,000 which, it is alleged, is due from Jacob Lorillard's estate to the bank. In 1890 the bank took a claim from Jacob Lorillard for \$50,000, which it assigned to George E. Wood, who brought a suit in which he recovered judgment for the amount due, with costs, the total amount being \$55,000. Jacob Lorillard, the defendant, in 1897, and again in 1898, paid \$1,000 of the judgment. This left a balance of \$54,000, and as Wood was unable to collect it he assigned his claim back to the bank. Women to Build Opera House. The women of East Hampton and Baldwin, L. I., who have done much in improving their villages, have a rival in their sisters at Hempstead, who, as the Hempstead Women's Club, propose to build an opera house to contain besides an entertainment hall, rooms, for the different societies in the village.

#### BROKE INTO JAIL BY BREAKING A WINDOW.

In despair because he was unable to obtain work, Dennis O'Brien deliberately put his right fist through a \$100 plate glass window of Otto Oettinger's drug store, No. 61 South Eighth street, Williamsburg, at midnight yesterday. Then he folded his arms and awaited arrest. The crash of glass had aroused the druggist, and he found the show window and the Christmas display of perfumery in a bad wreck. The noise had also brought Policeman Star, of the Clymer street station. He asked O'Brien why he had broken the window. "I did it because I wanted to be arrested. I'm of no use to anybody," he said. O'Brien's right wrist was bleeding. He was taken to the police station, where he became so weak from his injury that a hurry call for an ambulance was sent to the Eastern District Hospital. After the man's injuries were bandaged he was held on the charge of malicious mischief.

#### SAILOR WRITES TO WIFE WHO THOUGHT HIM DEAD.

Jacob Hendrickson, of Woodbury, N. J., is Coming Home After a Narrow Escape on Sinking Schooner. Jacob Hendrickson, of Woodbury, N. J., who was believed to have been lost at sea, is alive and well, his wife, who had believed him dead, having received a letter from him saying he was coming home. Hendrickson sailed from Philadelphia for Canada October 9 on the schooner H. and J. Blenderman. On the return trip the vessel encountered a gale off St. John, N. B., November 12. The ship was partly dismantled and began to leak. At last, with eight feet of water in the hold, order was given to abandon the schooner. The shipwrecked men were 400 miles from land. After drifting for thirty-six hours they were rescued by the steamship Hestia, bound for Glasgow. Three nights afterward they were called on to help the crew of the Hestia, which was in danger of foundering, but succeeded in reaching Glasgow. The Blenderman foundered.

#### WILL RESUME WORK IN ABANDONED COPPER MINES.

Pay Ore Said to Be Plentiful in North Arlington, N. J., Running 9 Per Cent. After remaining idle for more than a generation the old copper mines at North Arlington, N. J., are about to be worked again by a mining company of which Dr. M. Keith, the mining expert, is manager. Operations have been carried on with more or less secrecy for a month, getting the mines pumped free of water and the debris accumulated during the last thirty years. Specimens of the ore assayed by Dr. Keith, are found to carry 25 per cent of copper, and the mass of ore, which is plentiful, runs as high as 9 per cent. This, it is said, is rich enough to give excellent returns, and plans for the construction of reduction works and rolling mills now are under way. When these are completed the buildings will be erected on the plateau which forms the top of the hill over the mines.

#### PETRIFIED BODY OF A WOMAN FOUND IN A WELL.

A Canton (Ohio) Curiosity Is Apparently of Red Granite—Difficult to Cut. Canton, Ohio, Dec. 16.—While digging a well in a marsh bit of ground in the South End, the petrified body of a strong and well-developed woman was unearthed. A piece weighing about fifty pounds in the lower portion of the trunk, and the thighs. The fragments are as perfect as could be made, by the most skilled clay modeler. Many persons have examined the parts of the body, and it is alleged that the petrification is a real one. It may have been that of an early inhabitant which was buried within the ground and covered in later years by many feet of earth. The body has the appearance of a reddish granite. A steel tool will scratch the stone. Civil Service Examination Jan. 9. The United States Civil Service Commission, January 9, 10 and 11, will conduct examinations for an architectural and structural steel draughtsman and a designer for the Supervising Architect's Office.