

COPY.

dup

Baldwinsville, New York.

July 26, 1905.

Hon. Edward F. Dunne,
Mayor of Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Mayor:-

Of course "the big Money Kings" as well as the small Money Courtiers will do all they can to defeat you and every mayor, governor or president when ever and where ever either undertakes to construct or to possess a revenue-producing public utility in the name of a city, state or or nation. This must necessarily be the case until some one in the position of mayor, governor or president "takes the bull by the horns" and goes direct to root out the root — to destroy the source of all vested private rights in public revenues by coining the credit of the city, state or nation and by paying this coined credit out direct for the public works needed by the people.

The Guernsey Market House Plan of Payments, a copy of which is herewith enclosed, shows how a mayor, governor or president can go to work to do things that will be useful, substantial and permanent for the whole people. This booklet suggests a ways and means of payment to buy city trolley lines and to buy or construct anything that the people can construct for their common benefit and for their public conveniences — for mark you, Mayor Dunne! every public revenue-producing work that exists has not only been built by the people's labor and skill but has been paid for, not only once but probably many times, with the people's money — first, with their savings, deposits, insurance and trust funds and credits; and afterwards, with their wages and salaries paid direct by themselves for services received.

The outrage is that savings in Savings Banks, deposits in National Banks and insurance and trust funds have been cunningly seized, monopolized and used by a few thousand of our eighty millions of people for their own greed, grab and graft, and the facts concerning banking and insurance institutions, money and credits have been so distorted that the officers of these institutions are made to appear as the only persons having money and credit to loan, and as the necessary medium through which the people, the city, the state and the nation must always act and be throttled and plundered when ever and where ever any of them wants to construct a work of small or of great importance. As long as these privileged few are allowed to use the savings, deposits, insurance and trust funds and credits of the people just so long will these privileged few plunder, dispossess and exploit every one outside of their own specially and highly privileged selves.

Mayor Dunne is in a position and is backed by a sufficient majority of the voters to forcibly remind the citizens of Chicago that their city is an incorporated Public Trust of and for and by all its citizens and that there are no "vested rights" of a few of its citizens that can be permitted to stand against the vested — against the eternal rights of the many — against the sacred — against the constitutional rights of all the citizens of Chicago; and, that by all that is right, equitable and progressive!! laws that have been made to exploit the producers in favor of the non-producers — laws that give a few the right to put under bonds— under tribute — the many— laws that give to a minority the right to hold the money and to use the credit of the majority — laws that give to a few citizens franchises and privileges greater than their city, their state or their nation exercises are not laws but are

usurpations; and as usurpations they should be treated.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter, dated July 10th, 1905, which has been received by President Roosevelt and referred to and acknowledged by Secretary Shaw. It is sent with this writing because it carefully expresses some ideas that should be emphasised, also, at this time to the Mayor of Chicago.

The Mayor, governor or president who first leads a city, state or nation to coin its own credit and to become the custodian and the investor of the savings, deposits, trust and insurance funds of and for all its citizens must be recognized as the savior of the Anglo Saxon race from its taxes and interest-bearing bondage under the rule of the Shylocks and, also, as the statesman who laid a foundation deep, long and broad, upon which a true Democracy — upon which a nation of, for and by the whole people can be inaugurated, advanced and perfected.

Respectfully,

Albert K. Owen.

Baldwinsville, New York.
August 18, 1905.

Mr. Herbert Cutlet Schuyler,
Editor,
The Maple Leaf,
York, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

Thomas E. Watson is a forceful, clear and brilliant writer on subjects with which he is conversant. When he knows what he wants to say he can write tersely and to the point. However, his editorial in Tom Watson's for August shows that on the money question he is not clear concerning "What is a dollar and how, when and by whom should it be issued". Sad to say a large majority of the orators in the Bryan campaign concerned themselves very little with explanations of "Free Silver" and most of them felt satisfied and amused with themselves after explaining the difference between "Free Silver" and "Free Lunch"—that one was 16 to 1 and that the other was 12 to 2.

Taking it for granted that you, Mr. Schuyler, are making a frank and honest inquiry into the subject, it gives me pleasure to send you copies of "The Guernsey Market House Plan of Payments" and "The Problems of the Hour".

The first and greatest lesson in money is "The Money of Account". As well might a sailor undertake to navigate the ocean without a compass as a person to try and explain "money" without a knowledge of "the money of account". To understand, "what is money"? one must first know "what is a dollar"? also, a Franc, Mark, Peso, Pound-Sterling, Yen, etc. "The money of account" will give the answer to these questions. In "Problems", page 6, you have a short lesson on "The Money of Account". Following this will be found "The World's Money" and "What is a Dollar"; and, in "Guernsey", page 69, there are a few pertinent lines on "Aztec Civilization and Trade". An hour's consideration of these brief pointers prepares one to understand what money is, and, possibly, to appreciate The Guernsey Market House Plan of Payments — of how, when and by whom money should be issued — how secured and how redeemed.

Shakespeare says: "what is the city but the people". The state is the people of that state, and this nation is all the citizens of this nation. This is the first fact to put into one's mind in this connection. The second is like unto it and is well explained by the Duke of Wellington when he said: "Beware, my Lords, lest in legislating in favor of railroads you lose sight of the old English idea of the highway", and water, gas, electricity, telephones, telegraphs, market houses, ferry boats, parcel and baggage express must belong to the people because they are as essentially a part of the common weal as iron highways.

The ways and means of payment proposed in the "Guernsey" keeps these great truths upper-most in mind; and urges that our cities, our states and our nation coin the credit of their respective citizens and issue the same, each in its turn for its own particular revenue-producing conveniences of public necessity. In this way money becomes automatic. Each issue is to be specific and can only be issued to the amount necessary for payment for labor actually rendered for construction, and the services which will be rendered, in turn, by this specific public convenience will cancel or redeem the cash paid for its construction and operation about every four or five years.

If the coined credits of a City, State or Nation that are issued in payment for a revenue-producing public work are made interconvertible with the City, State or Nations 3.65 Bonds then the coined credits will be elastic and for the first time in recorded history there will be a perfect money, automatic and elastic; based upon labor and redeemed by service.

When there chances to be elected a Mayor of a city, a Governor of a state or a President of this nation who is filled with the spirit of a protector and leader of all the citizens, he will coin the credit of his city, state or nation, and build a Market House, a steel-plate-automobile-toll Road, or an eight-steel-track-freight-and-passenger-postal-parcel-highway from Atlantic to Pacific, and the people will be awakened — the people will be delivered from their bondage and this nation will be saved.

Pardon me! there is just one other idea that should be definitely fixed when "money" is being studied. The "Greenback" was issued for war and destruction. The "Greenback" had dead men, dead horses, wasted fields, destroyed homes, burned cities, misery and suffering upon which to base its issue and after all this the "Greenback" was repudiated and disowned by the forces and authorities that issued it. The more destruction the more "Greenbacks"; and yet withal, the "Greenback" saved our Union, and there never was a day in the United States that the holder of a "Greenback" dollar could not get a fifty cent dinner and half a dollar in change for it.

The City's, the State's and the Nation's Coined Credits will be issued only on revenue-producing constructions. These coined credits will bring peace and good will to man. When they are adopted cities, states and nations will take on a new order of things, and higher association, higher culture and higher ideals will quickly follow.

Respectfully,

Albert K. Owen.

P. S.

Enclosed are two letters that should be read with this.

vg
dup

Baldwinsville, New York.
Sept. 21, 1905.

S. Vilas Beckwith,
52 Broadway, New York.

My dear Mr. Beckwith:

Your letter of the 18th. came yesterday as I was starting for Auburn therefore could not answer your questions before to-day.

1. I am well aware that Mr. Stilwell is "short" on Subsidy Bonds. I did the service to get him a concession and Mexican business associates by the aid of which and by whom he has come into the control of Subsidy Bonds and it is due me that he pays me first pro rata, as he agreed, with the Subsidy Bonds he has received or may receive. He had no right to pay the Subsidy Bonds that he first pledged to me to other or others with whom he has made subsequent contracts and obligations.

To go "short" on "stocks" and "bonds" and not to be able to pay according to one's contract is a pretty serious affair, and where creditors force such "plungers" to pay as per contract it often causes them big losses.

When Mr. Stilwell says that he has not received any bonds from the Mexican Government he says what he knows to be false. Mexico pays the bonds due under the concessions that I was instrumental in getting Mr. Stilwell only on the order and to the person or persons whom Mr. Stilwell names. They are all due to him or were due to him before he assigned them or his concession or both to others, and Mexico only knows him in regard to their distribution. The statement is characteristic of Mr. Stilwell.

2. I never have had any transactions or correspondence with "Messrs. Templer, Doune & Miller", "In 1894, I had dealings with Albert M. Gibson and Templer L. Down, 3 Popes Head Alley, Lombard Street, London C. E. Mr. Down was a solicitor; and I recall both Mr. Down and Mr. Gibson with many pleasant meetings and with many exchanges of letters during the middle nineties. They undertook to finance a railroad concession of which I was the concessionaire and owner. They wanted "Amendments" to it by Mexico, and they paid part of my expenses to go to Mexico to see if I could get the "Amendments" they wished. This I did, and did so quickly that it astonished them. However, they failed to get the contract ~~or~~ or the money they had thought were certain in case I did what they asked me to do, and I lost my concession, my time and my money in consequence; and I had to go and deposit more money, take out another concession and go all over the work again to survey and promote. I have not had any correspondence with either of these gentlemen since 1897. Mr. Gibson died, I think, early in 1898, and when I was last in London, in the summer of 1898, I made a social call on Mr. Down and we talked of our friend, the late Albert M. Gibson and of his noble and sterling qualities. I have not seen or heard of Mr. Down since that call. If this is a movement on his part to hold me up I can only express my surprise. However, it would be the part of a gentlemen, one would think, to let me have some paper or data that would show some obligation on my part. If such exists I do not know of it; but would like to for my wish is to settle any and every obligation that I may have.

I have had dealings with quite a number of persons in my fixed

purpose to get a railroad built to and from Topolobampo and if every one whom I have interested to try and finance my concessions of the past 25 years--if all those who have miscalculated their ability to finance my railroad concessions and who have put me to loss of time and money and concessions in my wish to assist them in doing so are going to hold me up in indirect ways and that too without producing papers to show that they have a claim, we will have for sure a rare exhibit of some interesting business characters and odd ways of attempting to do things.

In regard to Edward H. Watson and Walter S. Watson, No. 1 Madison Avenue, New York City. I know them both but not as a business firm, i.e. I have not had any dealings with them as a business firm. When they were business associates with E. Arden Noblett, No. 1. Nassau St. New York City, I had dealings with Mr. Noblett and through him met them and when they became Noblett's partners they became acquainted with and interested in the business I had put before and which Mr. Noblett undertook or rather said he undertook to finance. Edward Watson must indeed be forced into pretty bad lines to turn something up "to make a strike" with when he has to go back to a "business" association of such a publicly declared rascal, scoundrel and swindler as E. Arden Noblett to get a basis for "a hold up".

My papers with Noblett were in 1897 and '98. He and the Watsons failed in everything that they undertook to do for me. Noblett's whole transaction with me was a deception and a fraud. He had no idea from the first to finance--had no resources, associates or business relations to do anything that required a capitalist. Noblett simply used the railroad concession, which I had at that time, to steal money for himself; and the tangled mess that he and the Watsons made of my clean, straight, business proposition together with the affairs of others entrusted to them was notorious--and Noblett was published as "the Wall Street Swindler" and the Watsons were spoken of as his dupes--his cats paws; and it was the rascality, swindling and attempt robbery of the Watsons by Noblett that first showed up his villainy not only to ruin me but others of his patrons.

I assisted the Watsons to bring Noblett to the eye of the law, and eventually, Noblett was tried and was put into the penitentiary for 8 or 8 1/2 years and is now there, I believe. All papers between me and Noblett and Watsons were by common consent cancelled at the time the Noblett & Watsons partnership was dissolved, and I demanded and received from Noblett, in the presence and by the order of the Watsons, my concession and a bundle of tied up papers which purported to be all papers that I had loaned or that had passed between Noblett & Watsons and myself. Everything between us was there and then ended and from that day to this day I have not had a line or word direct from Walter or Edward Watson in regard to those papers. Noblett confessed to the Watsons and in part to me that he had from the start made false statements about his financial status, that he had not had any capitalists interested to organize a railroad company upon my concession, that he was a liar, thief and fraud and he begged for forgiveness, and promised to do better if let off.

I was present when Recorder Coff sentenced Noblett. The Recorder with his hand on a large closely tied package of "business" papers--a package of papers I think quite eight or ten inches high--and looking at Noblett he said something like this: "I have examined these papers. Every

One of them shows evidence of some act of yours to defraud and swindle some man or woman who has entrusted to you some business which you have said you would assist him or her to do. In my many years on this bench I have yet to have before me a prisoner who has been proven to have been ~~so~~ uniformly corrupt as you".

The "his-third interest paper" which E. H. Watson evidently has must be some paper or memorandum that he has fished out of the Noblett left-over swindles, and at best relates to Noblett and associates financing and building a railroad under my concession of 1897-'98. That was the concession which Noblett and Watsons, by false statements and assurances as to their money in hand and money associates, lost for me. I have not had a concession since that one. I have had a contract for a concession, and Noblett & Watson entered into written agreement to put up the necessary moneys to secure that concession and to build the railroad that it covered. It was in connection with this last attempt of Noblett & Watsons to play the part of capitalists that Noblett exposed his "bluff game" and that the Watsons and he went to law and that I demanded back and received my papers--all of every description, as then demanded by me as I and the Watsons then thought. In proof of this--that every thing between the Noblett & Watsons and myself had ended, E. H. Watson after this told me that he had in the bank \$25,000 and money that would be necessary to pay all expenses to close the contract with Creel and secure the concession for my long fought for railroad--that we could then get associates, finance and build the road ourselves. Now he went about this and failed--how he closely followed in the teachings of his former partner Noblett--how he misstated his resources, deceived and finally ruined me in all my railroad work of 28 years of painstaking and anxious labors let my letter of July 7 in reply to his of July 3, 1900, give an introductory glance.

7
in
a
man
of
my
kind
of

Edward Watson never replied to my letter of July 7 by word or pen. And to show that his "strike" is entirely an after-birth, he and I met at the last trial of Noblett. We were both witnesses against Noblett. Watson wanted a chance again to make some money--said that by a fortunate transaction he had just made \$50,000 would like to invest it in Topolo-bampo lands. I told him that Mrs. Owen was buying Pacific City Site and had yet \$10,000 to pay to close the sale and that I wanted to form a company to take this interest and to develop the whole property. This led up to an agreement, May 28, 1901, by Owen-Darnell and Watson. These "two of a kind" were given three months to raise the necessary money and close the organization. My experience with Darnell & Watson was much like what I experienced with Noblett & Watsons--all was deception, misstatement and bluff from the start to my loss of time and money and nothing but bad associations and a very disagreeable ending--when they both had to admit, as Noblett had done before, that they had nothing to start with and that their verbal as well as their written statements of their progress, from time to time, were absolutely false and without foundation. They asked for a renewal of the contract. I would not grant it; and when it became firmly fixed upon their minds that I would not have any further dealings with either of them, words were exchanged that I had hoped would end my ever seeing or hearing of either again; and I have not spoken a word or written a line to either since. My letter of June 30th, 1905, to John Scott Esq. and which I read you when I was last in New York City, recalls some of the escapades and false doings of these fellows. But it is sufficient for me to say here that certain persons have told me that both Darnell and Watson have since told them that they own half of Pacific

City Site and all of whatever concessions or contracts that I have and that they were going to, ^{do} this and that even to putting me in jail. And now if you read, Watson's last letter to me, which you have, you will see the lie given to his and Darnell's statement that they own half of Pacific City Site by Watsons asking me to let him have another trial to become interested in the lands on Topolobampo harbor, and this too after his stating that Stilwell said he had no contract with me and therefore he (Watson) would like me to join him to blackmail Stilwell and make him make a contract with us both. Just how this was to be done I have not the least idea, and it is not my proposition I need not care to guess.

as/

3. The Stilwell letter of March 12 and his contract of April 21, 1900 show that I had performed my service for him for which he agreed to pay. So well pleased--so enthusiastically ^{happy} was he at what I was doing for him when I was closing the details in Mexico City which would surely get the concession that he was crazy to get, he wrote a "memorandum" of what he would pay me and it was over a third if not a half more in value than what the contract now calls for.

happy/

His lawyer, whom you quote, at least, disposes of Down's and Watson's claims, if they had any, for this lawyer thinks that I did not have even a "valid" consideration" to sell, and yet Down and Watson evidently suppose that I had concessions to burn, and that I sold one or two or more to Stilwell; and this is far from the case--very far to my loss and discomfiture and the necessity for this letter.

What I did for Stilwell can be briefly summed up: I showed him the importance of a railroad from Kansas City to Topolobampo, via. Presidio del Norte, as I had shown to the Kansas City fathers, Dec. 1-3, 1888. (See The Kansas City Journal, Monday, Dec. 3, 1888 which published my map and railroad line and argument; also, see The Times, Dec. 1, 1888, and "A New Railway Project" The Kansas City Star, Dec. 3, 1888). I convinced Mr. Stilwell that Topolobampo harbor was the best for a railroad terminus on the Pacific that existed in Mexico. I showed him the line I had selected over the Sierra Madre and that it was only 8,300 ft. high and not difficult to reach from either the West or East. I introduced and made him a business associate with the man of greatest importance to get and to hold a concession to build the railroad that he is now building, that there is to be found in or out of Mexico; I had that gentlemen to become the Vice President of Mr. Stilwell's organization; to introduce him to the Governor of Chihuahua, and to President Diaz, and to give him the concession for which I had the contract for but could not secure owing to Watson's posing as a capitalist when he was quite the reverse. I did more than this, I came to New York City and got the Chihuahua Pacific Railroad Company to co-operate with Mr. Creel to give Stilwell all the advantages that I had been especially arranging for myself and to get for him all that was possible under the circumstances from the Mexican Government and from the States of Chihuahua and Sinaloa to aid Mr. Stilwell to build the railroad from Topolobampo to Presidio del Norte. It was my maps, prospectuses, photographs and data that cemented Stilwell's business relations, probably, with his Kansas and St. Louis City backers, and it is my surveys and reports that have guided his locations and have aided him in getting his money here and elsewhere. There is more to say on this point, but we will say no more now.

m/

Respectfully,

Albert K. Owen

Translation.

Higuera de Zaragoza, Oct. 20th, 1905.

Mr. José M. Ortiz.:

I am greatly interested in the promotion of the land Company around Topolobampo and it is for this reason that I expressed my disappointment for Mr. Owen having not arranged matters yet.

As soon as these tracks of land may come into the hands of one Company, including those owned by Owen I [#] am ready to enter in possession of Los Tastes ditch which is now worth to The Sinaloa Sugar Company half a million dollars from water rights alone. This Company has no title and I have in my possession all the documents to prove that Owen was and is yet the owner of the ditch. I believe this is of interest to ponder about.

Yours etc.

(Signed) José Hampl.

José Hampl has my power of attorney in the case of Los Tastes ditch. A. K. Owen.

New York City,

October 24, 1905.

Mr. Arthur Brisbane,
New York Journal.

Dear Mr. Brisbane:

After we elect the big five--- Hearst-Ford-Stokes-Shearn-Seabury--- we will then be up against the greatest issue of all issues the issue of who shall issue the currency to pay for the gas plant, new sub-ways and other municipal utilities that the people should and must have.

Introductory to this subject, to which the people's attention must be riveted later on, there is enclosed a recent letter to President Roosevelt showing how and why the nation's credit should be coined and not bonded.

No matter what New York City does in the way of getting her citizens surrounded with right environments the City can never do anything that will be permanently good and substantial before the City coins its own credit and pays it out through its own treasury and sub-treasuries for services and materials received to construct revenue-producing works of public utility. Every gas plant, water supply, sub-way, ferry boat, market house, etc., that New York City may construct and operate which is paid for with City bonds in exchange for bank-credit notes will add to the cost of the work done two, three, six or more times, in proportion as the bonds

are long or short timed, and consequently will heap interest-bearing burdens or tributes upon citizens who have been for centuries legislated unnecessarily into bondage and throttled at every turn by excessive taxes which have been without mercy exacted from them.

It would be funny --- it would be ridiculously absurd did it not reflect upon our sanity and were it not fraught with such deplorable delays, bad and inadequate constructions and degradations to see our great, billionaire, old Father Knickerbocker, who has been in recent years receiving over one hundred million dollars from direct taxes, licenses and leases and who has been for a century regardless of consequences giving away without a question or a condition every conceivable kind of revenue-producing franchise, going hat in hand, broken in spirit and humble, to ask that his bonds --- that his big-non-current-interest-bearing-notes be accepted in exchange for the small-current-non-interest-bearing-notes of a clique of exchange manipulators who have cunningly contrived, by hook and by crook, to become the custodians and the investors of other people's deposits and the monopolists of the credits of our Nation, our States and our Cities.

It is not a question of gold or silver coin, or of the free or of the restricted coinage of either or of both of these precious metals that confronts us. It is wholly and solely the question of paper currency and by whom, when and where it shall be issued, how secured, how redeemed. For when it is admitted that ninety-nine and nine-tenths per cent of all

business transactions made in New York City are effected with paper notes, checks, drafts, warrants, etc., it is high time that the greatest metropolis in the Western Hemisphere should have its own current-non-interest-bearing-notes to use in its own constructions and not be forever a borrower and a dependent upon the bank-current credits of an insignificant few of its own citizens.

Respectfully,

Albert K. Owen.

dhp

39 West 24th Street,
New York City.

Dec. 12, 1905.

Hon. Peter S. Grosscup,
Justice of the United States,
Circuit Court of Appeals,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:-

I wish to thank you. All America should be grateful to you for your exceptionally instructive article: Who shall own America?

Mr. Lincoln said: "This Country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it," or words to this effect. You state the idea more fully in asking that all the property -- that the land with all that it implies and all the results of labor, discovery and invention belong to those who cultivate, make and use them.

Your article blazes the way for great things -- for action toward higher association and higher ideals. These are the leaven for the loaf.

Introductory to sending you a set of papers which outline a fixed business plan to carry into effect what you have suggested -- a plan which will put every worker into his own private, distinct and separate home, make him a stockholder in the enterprise or enterprises in which he is occupied, make him his own banker and his own employer, I herewith send you two booklets.

In "Problems", page 5 please read "The Equities in Property". In further explanation of The Guernsey Market House Plan of Payments several letters are enclosed.

Respectfully,