

**A SOUND CURRENCY  
AND BANKING SYSTEM:  
HOW IT MAY BE SECURED**

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A Sound Currency and Banking System: How It May Be Secured by Allen Ripley Foote

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**ALLEN RIPLEY FOOTE**

**A SOUND CURRENCY  
AND BANKING SYSTEM:  
HOW IT MAY BE SECURED**



BY THE SAME AUTHOR

THE LAW  
OF  
INCORPORATED COMPANIES

OPERATING UNDER MUNICIPAL FRANCHISES

SUCH AS

Gas, Electric Light and Power, Telephone,  
Street Railway, and Water Companies, etc.

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*Questions of the day*  
A SOUND CURRENCY AND  
BANKING SYSTEM

HOW IT MAY BE SECURED

BY

ALLEN RIPLEY FOOTE

AUTHOR OF "A DISCUSSION OF THE ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES  
INVOLVED IN 'THE LAW OF INCORPORATED COMPANIES  
OPERATING UNDER MUNICIPAL FRANCHISES'"

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1895

## PREFACE.

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*To the Sufferers from the Panic of 1893 :*

The unemployed who want employment ;

The partially employed who want to work full time ;

The under-paid who want better wages ;

The self-employed ; all engaged in agricultural, mining, or manufacturing production ; industrial, commercial, or financial enterprises, who want their undertakings to become profitable ;

All whose prospects for a speedy return of prosperity are clouded with uncertainty.

My desire is, through this book, deeply to impress the following facts upon the mind of each person, and to cause him to understand just how his interests are involved in the questions under consideration.

1. Incorrect monetary education results in unsound monetary legislation, and thus causes business panics.

2. The losses caused by panics are fines exacted from every loser as a penalty for permitting incorrect monetary knowledge to exist, either by failing to acquire correct information for himself, or by neglecting to assist others to acquire it.

3. A speedy and permanent return of prosperity for all classes can be induced whenever a majority of voters are able correctly to guide their actions on monetary questions.

4. The cost of disseminating correct monetary information, as compared with the losses caused by panics, may be likened to the cost of an insurance premium, as compared with the losses caused by an exceedingly disastrous fire. No fire can ever be comparable with a financial panic in its destruction of values.

5. By throwing multitudes out of employment, cutting down the days of employment for others, reducing the wages of all, decreasing or wholly wiping out the profits of business, and by shrinking the value of all property, the losses directly caused by the panic of 1893 may safely be estimated at over *Two Thousand Millions of Dollars*. This is the enormous price paid by the people for their failure to acquire a correct monetary education by which to guide their actions. Every person who shared in this enormous loss should know that the same cause, if permitted to continue, will again produce a like result.

6. The immediate return and continued maintenance of a high degree of prosperity for all the people are not prevented by any natural economic condition. Words have never been more faithful to the truth than the following uttered by President Cleveland in his Special Message to Congress, January 28, 1895:

“With natural resources unlimited in variety and



productive strength, and with a people whose activity and enterprise seek only a fair opportunity to achieve national success and greatness, our progress should not be checked by a false financial policy and a heedless disregard of sound monetary laws, nor should the timidity and fear which they engender stand in the way of our prosperity."

A properly appointed Monetary Commission can devise A SOUND CURRENCY AND BANKING SYSTEM that will remove the cause of financial panics. To assist in securing the appointment of such a Commission, and as a help to a right understanding of the importance, aim, and direction of the work it should do, the papers contained in this book were written.

A. R. F.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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