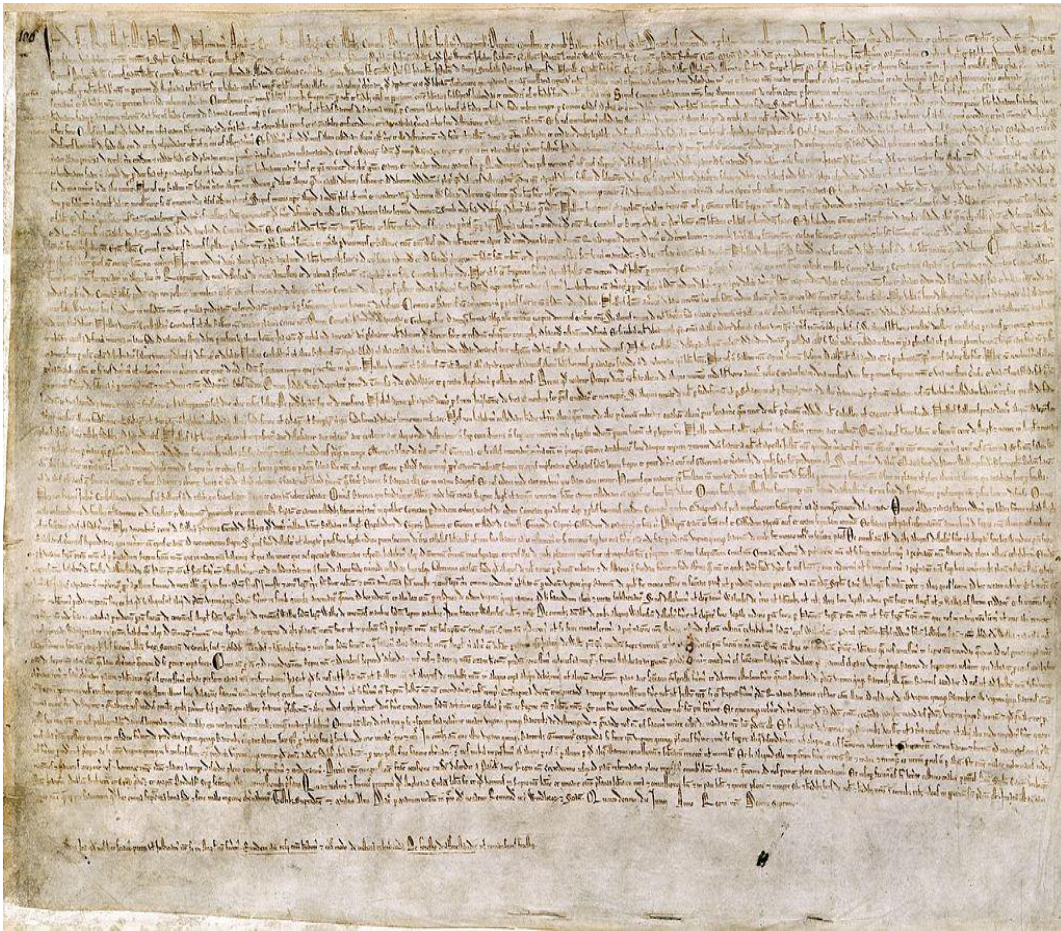


# Alps Precious Metals Group

## Monthly Commentary and Update

September 2018



### The Magna Carta Libertatum (The Great Charter of Liberties)

Signed June 15, 1215

Point 38: No bailiff for the future shall, upon his own unsupported complaint, put anyone to his *law* [require a legal oath], without credible witnesses brought for this purpose(s).

Point 39: No freemen shall be taken or imprisoned or *disseised* [dispossessed] or exiled or in any way destroyed, nor will we attack him in any way, except by the lawful judgment of his peers or by the law of the land.



**Atticus Finch:** Tom, will you catch this, please? (Tosses a drinking glass to Tom Robinson)  
Thank you. Now, then, this time, will you please catch it with your left hand.

**Tom Robinson:** I can't, sir.

**AF:** Why can't you?

**TR:** I can't use my left hand at all. I got it caught in a cotton gin when I was 12 years old. All my muscles were tore loose.

Later, Closing Argument

**Atticus Finch:** Mayella Ewell was beaten savagely... by someone who led, almost exclusively, with his left. Tom Robinson now sits before you having taken the oath... with the only good hand he possesses, his right.

***“To Kill a Mockingbird” – 1962; Directed by Robert Mulligan***



Thomas Krasny: He told you, didn't he? He told you! What did he do? Did he phone you? Send you anonymous notes?

Teddy Barnes: You'll stop at nothing, won't you? Anyone could've sent those notes; everyone knew - the police in Santa Cruz knew, people in your office knew!

Thomas Krasny: Don't you understand what he did? He did the identical crime eighteen months before he murdered his wife! He knew it would get him off the hook! He knew Bobby Slade was seeing his wife! That's why he did the first crime in Santa Cruz! He threw us Bobby Slade as a suspect! He picked that woman very carefully! He knew she played tennis with Slade! He planned this for eighteen months! He is not a psychopath! He is an iceman. He is a monster.



Teddy Barnes: I found the typewriter.

Jack Forrester: What typewriter?.....What are you talking about?

Teddy Barnes: You killed her.

***“Jagged Edge” – 1985; Directed by Richard Marquand***



In the early 1930s, America's most wanted fugitive was undoubtedly John Dillinger, who'd robbed over two dozen banks. This situation caused a major headache for 25-year-old Ralph Alsman, a law-abiding citizen from Brookville, Indiana who was practically John Dillinger's identical twin.

As if the physical resemblance wasn't enough, both Alsman and Dillinger had a mole next to one eye and a scar on the left wrist. Since Brookville was only 87 kilometers (54 mi) from Dillinger's hometown of Mooresville, Alsman was easily mistaken for the infamous outlaw. In fact, Alsman was mistaken for Dillinger so often that he was arrested 17 times.

Even when Alsman left his home state, he was still arrested in such cities as Detroit and Minneapolis. Although he was always released, Alsman often had to undergo stressful interrogation sessions to convince authorities he wasn't Dillinger. Worst of all, Alsman was also shot 11 times and became justifiably paranoid that a law enforcement officer would kill him before he had the chance to prove his real identity.

Alsman's ordeal finally came to an end when Dillinger was gunned down by federal agents on July 22, 1934.

Source: <https://listverse.com/2014/05/26/10-weird-and-tragic-cases-of-mistaken-identity/>

In our October 2017 Commentary, we suggested that there are 3 main reasons to be a buyer of Precious Metals. Those reasons remain as germane now as they were then. While the 1) relative value and, 2) getting on the same side of the trade as global central banks arguments have increased in validity, the third reason, hedging against Systemic Risk, is in its “Melt-Up” phase of relevance. Why? In our view, the spectacle of the Senate Judiciary Committee hearings for the appointment of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the empty seat on the U.S. Supreme Court has brought us ever closer to an “Unknown/Unknown” political event which could shred the confidence in the status quo government/financial system. The confidence which is absolutely imperative for the system to continue.

Ten Septembers ago, Lehman Brothers ceased to exist. The death of this corporate entity immediately led to a chain reaction of multiple imbalances in all of the off-balance sheet derivative books of Wall Street. The bedrock assumption of “all players are assumed to be on-going entities” had suddenly become invalid. Prior to Lehman’s demise, countless models and simulations had been run which included the bankruptcy of a major counterparty; few, if any of those models, projected that the system would be in existential jeopardy as a result. As is so often the case between the “computer simulation” and the actual event, real life in September of 2008 resulted in a far different outcome.

Our view is that the Kavanaugh hearings have called into question the “on-going entity” status of one of the foundational pillars of Western Civilization – the right to proper due process of law (facing one’s accusers and being able to cross-examine them) and the presumption of innocence – first documented in the Magna Carta of 1215. While other instances of the abrogation of these rights may be cited, we suggest that the purposeful shunning of due process these hearings have demonstrated are materially different from those that have come before.

Even the equally repugnant Clarence Thomas hearings were somewhat limited in the scope of the airplay of the hearings. Sure, everyone could see the entirety of the proceedings on C-Span, the Big 3 Network “Special Report” coverage or the available soundbites/highlights; however, that coverage is literally no comparison to the ubiquitous instantaneous information devices held in the hands of most of the denizens of today’s developed earth. In 2018, the hearings were played in front of what essentially was and is an electronic mob.

Kavanaugh, his female accusers and God Himself are the only ones who will ever know for certain the truth of these salacious charges. The horrific issue is that the absolute best method fallen humanity has ever devised for trying to determine the truth of an accusation of torts has been abandoned in this process. Charges against Judge Kavanaugh for the alleged sexual assault could have been and still can be filed in the State of Maryland as there is no statute of limitations for the same. Instead, we have been given this circus.

Brett Kavanaugh is one of four people. Is he Tom Robinson of “To Kill a Mockingbird”, railroaded by a savage false charge and miscarriage of justice? Or Jack Forrester of “Jagged Edge”, an icy, self-centered monster who can look right at you and unblinkingly lie? Perhaps he is Bobby Slade of the same film, set up by a complicit and conniving Dr. Ford? Or, tragically, is he another rendition of Ralph Alzman, in that Kavanaugh is the man Dr. Ford has mis-identified, yet truly believes perpetrated the all too true assault upon her? Every person who watched the proceedings had a sick feeling in their stomach resulting from whichever of these four conclusions they drew. Sadly, the reason EACH OF US should feel sick, irrespective of our “take” on Kavanaugh, is that what we may in fact be observing and feeling is the first rumblings of an earthquake that will truly shake our former Republic, and the West in general, to its core.

If the stainless-steel framework of the world in which we live and interact is in the midst of a “metal fatigue” moment – and if the Magna Carta-enshrined right to due process is up for grabs, know surely that “metal fatigue” it is – then one must truly begin to reassess the odds for a “tail-risk” repricing of assets around the globe. In fact, one must reassess everything. As we’ve proffered in the past, when the confidence is lost in the general status quo of a country’s – or the world’s – government/financial system, having hard money in one’s portfolio becomes an essential element of surviving the market stress that is commensurate with the same. As current events continue to chip/smash away at the underpinnings which have made possible the lives citizens of the West have been blessed to know, a return to the Old Paths – and Old Money – is likely to be necessary to navigate the uncharted waters ahead.

## **Alps and Liechtenstein Precious Metals**

Alps Precious Metals Group via our partnership with Liechtenstein Precious Metals Group is dedicated to providing the global standard for the finest and most secure storage and trading of Physical Precious Metals. Our Vault is constructed to the highest security standard in the world (“Class 10”) and, via our relationship with Lloyd’s of London, insures each client’s specie at 100% of its market value. Our trading desk provides liquidity on each and every business day with as little as next day settlement. All of these benefits are enjoyed while simultaneously being freed from the status quo global financial system. Contact us ([www.alpspmg.com](http://www.alpspmg.com)) to discuss how APM/LPM can become a trusted partner in the creation, protection and utilization of the hard money portion of your portfolio.

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