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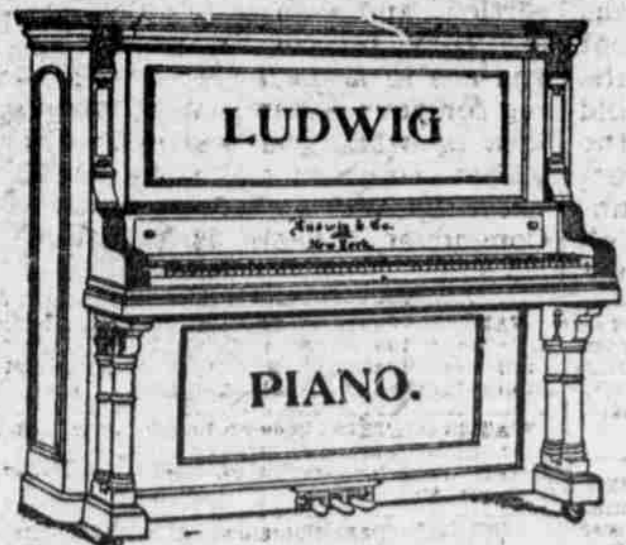
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Stop Coining Gold.

George E. Roberts, the director of the mint, in his annual report says that the coinage mints at Philadelphia, New Orleans and San Francisco were in operation throughout the fiscal year. In number of pieces the coinage of the year has never been exceeded, aggregating 191,419,506, but in value it has fallen from \$136,340,781 in 1901 to \$94,526,678, this being due to the greater demand for the small denominations. Gold coinage dropped from \$99,065,715 to \$61,980,572, but the stock of gold bullion on hand increased from \$100,219,553 to \$124,083,712. The coinage of silver dollars amounted to \$19,402,800, subsidiary silver coins to \$10,713,569 and minor coins to \$2,429,736.

The original gold deposits of the year amounted to \$132,580,839. Gold bars taken for export amounted to \$36,332,678 and for domestic consumption \$14,452,578. The gross expenditure on account of the mint service including loss by wastage in operating upon the metals, was \$1,910,503. The earnings from all charges and incidental gains, exclusive of seigniorage, aggregated \$357,568. The seigniorage realized in the manufacture of one and five-cent pieces amounted to \$1,919,370, and the total seigniorage accruing on the silver, nickel and bronze coins made in the year was \$11,013,856, which was turned into the general fund of the treasury.

The capacity of the mint at San Francisco is being increased by the introduction there of methods and equipments that have proven successful at Philadelphia.

The director says that the increased capacity of the mints at Philadelphia and San Francisco and prospective opening of the new mint at Denver will give the country a much greater coinage capacity than it has heretofore had, while on the other hand the pressure in the mints is about to relax instead of increase. The coinage of 1,500,000 silver dollars per month now required by law, will come to an end soon by the exhaustion of the stock of bullion. This requirement now calls for the entire capacity of the New Orleans mint. When the dollar coinage ceases, that mint will be idle unless work is diminished at Philadelphia and San Francisco to give employment.

When the Denver mint is open the bullion output of Colorado and possibly of other mining districts of the west now going to Philadelphia will be cut off from the latter institution, and the report says it is not advisable to reduce still further its operations in order to supply work for New Orleans. It accordingly is recommended that coinage operations be discontinued at the latter institution at the close of the current fiscal year, and that it be conducted hereafter as an assay office.

If coinage operations are now discontinued at New Orleans much of the machinery there is in good condition and of approved design, and can be transferred to the new Denver mint, and the estimates for equipment there correspondingly reduced.

Attention is called to the fact that the gold coinage of the country is now entering almost entirely into storage, and that the coinage of the entire annual deposits is unnecessary. The treasury holds about \$500,000,000 of coined gold, which the report says is doubtless more than will be called for in a generation to come. Practically all of the current coinage is being deposited in the treasury for certificates. When gold is required for export it is wanted in bars, while for domestic circulation the public prefers the treasury certificate, which with some modifications of the statutes, might as well be issued against bars.

Under the limitation placed on the stock of subsidiary silver coin by the act of March 14, 1900, no more of these denomination can be issued, while the

demand is regular and must continue with the growth of population and business. The director sees no occasion for a limit on the stock of subsidiary coin, inasmuch as its issue and retirement is wholly automatic, in response to the needs of the business community.—Exchange.

A Faithful Servant.

The funeral of Richard J. Henry, colored, for so long a time the porter and private servant of his honor, Mayor Livingston Mims, embodied in its program an episode that is too notable and too altogether pleasing to be omitted from a special comment.

His fidelity, his courtesy, his intelligence and his effective service had endeared him not only to his master and employers, but to all the numerous company of white men of all degrees who came in contact with him. Large sums of money were intrusted daily to his care for transmission to the bank, and it is estimated that in this position he had carried upon his person millions of dollars. At his funeral the respect and regard of the white friends of this admirable negro were everywhere in evidence. They made a large representation in the large audience.

The funeral, conducted by high officials of Henry's own church and race, was most impressive and full of high tributes to the character and record of the deceased. The mayor of the city and his accomplished wife occupied front seats in the church during the services, and when the ministerial offices had progressed to a certain point the mayor of the city, who was also the employer of the deceased, was called upon to speak.

Without any special time for preparation, and mainly upon the impulse and suggestion of the moment, Mayor Mims, who has long been held one of the most accomplished and aristocratic gentlemen of the south, a cavalier and a Bourbon of the most pronounced type, arose and said:

"Your call on me to speak on this occasion was certainly unexpected—and yet while so heartily commending all that has been so feelingly and eloquently said in reference to my dear dead friend—my friend of more than a third of a century—I cannot refrain from expressing the genuine grief and sorrow that his death has occasioned me. Indeed, a sorrow that my entire family shares; and I know, too, it will be felt by the large number of his friends and mine who knew him so well in the connection he had with the business in which I have been engaged for so many years, and I might add his many white friends in this city who respected and admired him for the splendid qualities that he possessed. He was ever doing charity and kindness to all sorts of people. He was, indeed, a model husband and father, a good citizen, and a loyal and devoted friend, and a Christian gentleman.

"To me his offices of concern and thoughtfulness were constant and grateful. In the course of nature he should have survived me, and I always felt that if he did there was no living man on whom I could better rely for kindness and care for my family.

"I can point to no one whose daily life and character afford a better and more commendable example to all men to emulate than this.

"He well deserves all the comforts, blessings and promises of the holy religion he professed and which the distinguished reverend clergy has, on this solemn occasion, so ably administered.

"I care not, though, for creeds in that unknown country 'from whose bourne no traveler returns'—and to which his pure spirit tends—for I feel that the good man who sleeps in all the awful majesty of death in yonder coffin carries with him acceptable cre-

dentials to all the happiness that pertains to mortals after death. His memory will be treasured."—Atlanta (Ga.) News.

A Great Achievement.

The death of Thomas B. Reed lends renewed interest to the great work he undertook when he compiled "Modern Eloquence." Under Mr. Reed's supervision a collection was made of the best orations, after dinner speeches, lectures and addresses made in comparatively recent times, and these were published in book form, the set comprising ten volumes, including an elaborate index. It required an immense amount of labor and research to secure this material, and also a deep student of literature, to bring about success in this enterprise. That Mr. Reed was selected to supervise this great work is an evidence that it was well done.

With "Modern Eloquence" on one's library shelves one is the possessor of a storehouse of literature bearing on all topics of human interest, and equipped for any argument that may arise concerning hundreds of the topics that constantly present themselves. "Modern Eloquence" is published by the John D. Morris Co., 1201 Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

His Environment.

Doubtless Mr. Roosevelt views himself, in his guise of trust-fighter, as a brave and gallant figure. To understand him and credit him with any sincerity we have to consider the atmosphere he lives in. In a land of blind men a one-eyed man is king. So, a republican president who admits that there are evils in connection with the trusts and confesses that it may be expedient to discuss the advisability of remodelling some of the Dingley schedules—in the far future, of course; say, after the next presidential election—no doubt is regarded by his associates and himself as a daring radical.—New York American.

Significant.

It is also significant that the first witness to hesitate about answering questions before the anthracite commission was an operator. Yet it was understood that their sole reason for having the inquiry go on was to place the whole facts before the public.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

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