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THE GOLD OUTFLOW CHECKED.

The announcement is made that the gold exports this week will be light, so that the treasury will be able to meet whatever demand there is without endangering its reserve held for the redemption of legal tender notes.

The sudden falling off in the demand for export seems to clearly show the accuracy of the president's judgment that the movement was largely the work of speculators who conspired to force the government to issue bonds in order to protect its gold reserve and maintain its credit.

It may never be definitely known whether such is the case, but appearances strongly indicate it. It required extraordinary firmness on the part of President Harrison to combat this movement, which threatened to any time deplete the treasury of its free gold, and it will be remembered as one of the most creditable acts of his administration that he refused to allow the government to be placed at the mercy of what he believed to be an utterly unscrupulous conspiracy.

He was prepared to maintain resumption and protect the credit of the government by an issue of bonds if the emergency had become imperative, but he proposed to exhaust every other resource before using this one, and the stand he took defeated, at any rate for the present, the designs upon the treasury. The president showed good financial judgment in this matter and at the same time manifested his usual firmness in doing what he believed to be best for the financial interests of the country.

It is impossible to say whether the new administration will be immediately confronted by another organized effort to deplete the treasury of its free gold, but the question of fortifying the reserve will undoubtedly command its early attention. European countries that have been looking up gold—France, Germany, Russia and Austria—are not expected to abandon that policy, and so long as they continue in the United States is likely to go on losing gold. What appears to be a present check to the outflow may, therefore, be only temporary, and before the Cleveland administration is a month old it may have to take definite action in this matter. Doubtless it will be prepared to do this whenever the emergency shall arise to make it necessary, there being no question as to the authority of the secretary of the treasury to issue bonds under the resumption act.

THE FAILED BANKS.

The committee of the United States senate which investigated the affairs of certain failed national banks has made its report, and it is curious and interesting to note that the causes of disaster in every case investigated were essentially the same. It was found that generally the officers of the banks were negligent or incompetent, and in some cases dishonest. Nearly every wrecked national bank owes its failure to the misapplication of funds by the officers. It is a very interesting fact that with all the crookedness of bank officers the loss to creditors of national banks annually for thirty years has been only one-twelfth of 1 per cent. Of course note holders have lost nothing.

The committee submitted the outlines of a bill for the correction of abuses, the main features of which are limitation of the total liabilities to any bank, corporation, firm or person to one-tenth of the capital stock and surplus of the association; no loan greater than \$1,000 at any one time to stockholders or officers of a bank to be made except on the authority of the president and three-fourths of the directors in writing duly signed, or by a majority vote of the directors at a legal meeting; the liabilities of stockholders and officers to be recorded in a book kept for that sole purpose, and false entries in such book is made a crime. The bill further provides for two general examiners to supervise the local examiners, and the law as it stands is otherwise amended in the direction of greater safety.

The report brings us face to face, says the Philadelphia North American, with the fact that with honest administration of the affairs of a national bank within the law failure is as nearly an impossible happening as may be in mundane affairs. The system needs emendation, but even as it stands honest and intelligent methods will secure creditors from loss. Legislation is needed to prevent manipulation of the funds of a bank, which are in the nature of a trust, in the special interest of stockholders and officers. It would perhaps not be true to say that this is generally done, but there is opportunity to do it and this should be removed. This would be accomplished by such an amendment to the law as that proposed in the bill of the senate committee relating to loans to bank stockholders or officers. It has been urged, also, that bank directors should be required to give closer attention to their duties, but it is questionable whether legislation can do anything to materially improve careless or incompetent men. If such men cannot find in their personal interests an ample incentive to vigilance and a faithful discharge of duty legislation will have no effect on them. One of the most important requirements is more rigid bank examination, the loose and careless methods too common making it an easy matter for bank officers to manipulate the funds as they please. It is undoubtedly a fact that some of the most disastrous bank failures that have taken place under the national system might have been averted if bank examiners had looked more closely and carefully into the affairs of the banks instead of taking the representations made to them by the officers. The senate committee found that in some cases the examiners were indebted to the failed banks, which was sufficient explanation for their careless-

ness. Supervising examiners paid by the government to look after the local examiners and see that they properly and faithfully performed their duties would probably provide a sufficient remedy for carelessness and inefficient bank examinations. All these suggestions have before been made to congress, but while the necessity for the proposed changes in the law is fully admitted there seems to be a general indifference about supplying them. Of course there will be nothing done in the matter by the present congress.

DEMOCRATIC RESPONSIBILITY.

The senate of the United States will organize as a democratic body on March 4. Since 1890 the senate has chosen a democratic presiding officer only twice—Allen G. Thurman, 1879 to 1881, and Thomas F. Bayard in 1881. David Davis, who presided over the senate from 1881 to 1883, was a compromise. It will thus be seen that the republican party has had control of the national senate twenty-eight out of the last thirty-two years, and only once during this period has the democratic party had control of both branches of congress at the same time. After March 4 that party will for the first time since 1861 assume the full responsibility for the administration of the government.

The democratic party will come into power pledged to certain radical changes from the policies that have prevailed during the last thirty years. It is committed to the doctrine that a tariff for anything but revenue, that is, a protective tariff, is not constitutional, and it has promised to so revise the tariff as to bring it to a strictly revenue basis. It is pledged to the repeal of the silver purchase act and to the revival of state bank issues. It was upon these cardinal principles enunciated in the democratic national platform that Mr. Cleveland was elected to the presidency and the democracy retained control of the house of representatives and secured a majority in the senate. Four days hence the party will take up the momentous task to which the people have called it, and the question as to how it will discharge the duty assigned to it is of paramount interest. For the next two years, at least, the democracy will have no excuse for not carrying out its pledges. With everything in its hands if it fails the fault will be wholly its own.

The indications are that the extreme policies announced in the national platform will not all be carried out. Mr. Cleveland has given sufficient intimation that he does not accept the doctrine that protection is unconstitutional. He will undoubtedly urge a thorough revision of the tariff, but not such a revision as would destroy the protective system. The president-elect, it will be remembered, in accepting the nomination said that the democratic party was not a party of destruction, and the idea he obviously intended to convey by this remark he may be expected to illustrate in his recommendations regarding tariff revision. The free traders will not be permitted to dictate the character of the tariff that Mr. Cleveland will approve. As to silver it is evident that nothing can be done until some sort of compromise is agreed upon, and this will be found very difficult. The incoming administration will unquestionably insist upon the repeal of the silver purchase law as the one thing necessary to enable it to maintain the credit of the government, but it must offer some very liberal concessions to silver in order to have this done. The number of free silver democrats in the next congress will not be less than in the present one, and, as has been clearly demonstrated, they will not consent to a stoppage of the purchase of silver without some arrangement in behalf of that metal which shall be as favorable to it as the existing conditions are. The party is so badly divided on this question that it is not easy to see how it can be brought together. As to restoring the state bank currency Mr. Cleveland will very likely be with the eastern wing of the party, which is opposed to a return of the ante-bellum bank note. It is the impression that the foreign policy of the next administration will be favorable to the acquisition of additional territory, and it is said that Mr. Cleveland will not frown upon Canada because of her annexation desires. In this direction the administration will doubtless have no trouble in securing the support of the party, for this is in line with its traditional policy.

The democratic party will come into power at a time when the country is prosperous and growing. It will have a great opportunity to advance the general prosperity and promote national progress. It remains to be seen whether it has the wisdom and the patriotism to make the best use of its opportunity.

HEALTH COMMISSIONER SOMERS submits a report to the Board of Health which makes a most gratifying showing for Omaha. In 1891 the total number of deaths from contagious diseases was 287, against 264 in 1892. In the figures are included deaths from consumption, which were eighty-five in 1891 and 109 in 1892, an increase in the number of fatal cases of this disease of twenty-four. This shows a decrease of forty-seven in the total number of deaths from other diseases, which are really dreaded because of their epidemic nature, or a percentage of decrease equal to 23.25 per cent. There are several sources to which this result may be attributed, but much of the credit is undoubtedly due to the efforts made to clean the city last fall, when the danger of cholera seemed imminent. The showing should encourage citizens to greater things and make them ready to respond more cheerfully to the demand of the sanitary inspector. And it may be remarked in passing that it is none too early to commence cleaning up now.

It is said that Mr. Cleveland's inaugural address will contain some very plain talk regarding the disposition of the offices. Positive notices will be served that merit will be the only thing considered, and the heaves of wood and drawers of water in the service of the party may as well make up their minds now to the cold fact that long years of party loyalty will not in itself count in the distribution of the leaves

and fishes. It is said that Mr. Cleveland will regard the extension of the civil service rules so that they will cover pretty nearly all the offices that do not have to be appointed by him direct. He is understood to be in favor of bringing the consular service under these rules and will endeavor to have this done. Expectant democrats who are calculating on a "clean sweep" of republican officials are going to be disappointed, if what appear to be trustworthy reports correctly represent the intentions of the president-elect. He appears to have been sincere in declaring that democratic success should signify something else than a redistribution of partisan spoils. Criticism of the new administration by old-line democrats will probably become very earnest before the ideas of March have passed.

IMMIGRATION DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY.

January of this year fell off materially from that of the corresponding month of last year, and for seven months including January the falling off, as compared with the corresponding period a year before, was nearly 80,000. It is noted that the decrease in January was mainly in Russians and Hungarians, while increase appeared in Austrians, Germans and Italians, with a small decrease from Great Britain. It is suggested that the obstacle which has been raised to assisted or forced immigration of the more undesirable classes may account for much of the decrease. The figures are calculated to relieve the anxiety of those who profess to believe that there is something to be feared from a large inflow of immigrants, and of that other class who from wholly selfish motives would close our ports altogether to the people of other lands. At the rate of immigration for January we should increase our population from European sources less than 200,000 during the year 1893, and he is a very unreasonable man who can see in such an addition anything to excite apprehension.

WE PRINT the opinion of Hon. John L. Webster relating to the validity of the proceedings of the present legislature when the vote on the constitutional amendments was canvassed and they were declared lost. Mr. Webster holds that to adopt an amendment to the constitution it must receive a majority vote of the electors voting at an election wherein such amendment is submitted to the people. There has been an attempt to prove that the two amendments must be declared carried if they received a majority of the votes cast for members of the present legislature. It is alleged that the recent force was instigated for the purpose of developing the fact that they did receive such a majority. But in view of the letter and spirit of the constitution and the undoubted legality of the canvass made on the amendment vote at the opening of the present legislature, no intelligent man will contend that the amendments can be counted in at this late day.

SAN FRANCISCO has submitted and there will be no more prize fighting in that city. It is evident that the manly art of slugging an opponent till he drops senseless has reached its period of decadence. So long as "mills" are carried on in the conversational style now prevalent among the bright particular stars of the ring, the only ear that suffers is the public's. But there is a vast difference between dining your progress into the auricular office of an unwilling audience and having a husky bruiser bang you with a hard glove. This fact is known to the bruisers better probably than any other, and so long as they can live without working or fighting, gaining a livelihood by merely talking, they'll do it. But one by one the cities of the United States are closing down on them, and soon a prize fight of any sort will be as nearly impossible as a meeting between Sullivan and Mitchell.

MR. CLEVELAND is said to have a very hearty admiration of President Harrison. He is quoted as saying that he regarded General Harrison as one of the ablest presidents in the history of the country, and that he admired his strong will power and his independence of action. There is reason to believe that these two distinguished citizens have a warm mutual respect for each other, both having points of character alike. It is evident that Mr. Cleveland has been giving close attention to the Harrison administration, particularly with reference to its business methods, and it is very likely that he will endeavor to emulate its example in this respect. That will be a good thing for the country, which during the last three years has learned the value of a high standard of efficiency in the public service and wants it maintained.

THE action of the New Jersey legislature in passing a bill to legalize modern horse racing—which is one of the worst forms of modern gambling—in that state and then adjourning is a sample of what an alleged law-making body may do when it sets its mind to it. The popular protest that is now sweeping in a wave over the state is needless. That indignation should be bottled until time to elect another legislature. It would be effective then.

IT'S ALL IN THE WAY IT'S DONE, after all. The medical students of Drake university at Des Moines needed subjects for dissection, so the faculty went forth to "smother" them by lantern light. He was caught, and is now a fugitive. The medical students of the State university at Iowa City wanted a subject, so they sent over to Des Moines and bought one, about at the doors of Drake. There's no moral in this, only facts.

THEY'RE ALL KICKING. A citizen of Norfolk is kicking over the mattresses contained in an alleged writ-up of the town which appeared in a recent issue of the World-Herald. It would appear that they got even a worse dose than Chadron.

DAKOTA'S DIVORCE BILL. The South Dakota legislature has passed a bill to require a residence of at least six months in the state before bringing suit there for divorce. This slight extension of time will probably not interfere seriously

with the operations of the divorce mill, and it will compel suitors for divorce to "leave a little more time in the state."

ONE VIEW OF SEN. ELIER.

Sam Elder's opposition toward the corporations—first endured then pitied, then embraced.

JUST A COMMON NEBRASKA WONDRA.

It is announced that the population of Nebraska is increasing at the rate of 1,000 a day. That is indeed a wonderful growth, but Nebraska is noted for wonderful things.

TALKS AS ONE EXPERIENCED.

Gentlemen who contemplate attending the inauguration will hail with delight the information that a piece of lemon, judiciously eaten before morning after the festivities, will neutralize the breath, while a towel, carefully filled with broken ice, will impart a delightful coolness to the head.

THE POPS PLUGGED UP.

The Kansas populists will abide the decision of the state supreme court, which declares that the republican house is legal, disband their own house and join the republican. "His will. War smooths its wrinkles from again. Once more peace reigns along the Kaw. The Kansas rebellion is ended.

PATRONIZE HOME INDUSTRY.

The Columbus Telegram's sensible remarks about the action of the state bankers' board in refusing admission to Nebraska of ore building and loan associations are hereby cordially approved. Thousands of dollars have been robbed by these wicked institutions. The home associations are good enough.

A PLUTOCRAT DEFINED.

"Who is a plutocrat? What does the word mean? These are questions addressed to the Oregonian by one of its readers. A plutocrat, in the modern meaning, is one who thinks the property and business of a country should be in some influence or consideration in its legislation and government. The opposite term is ochlocracy, which means government under the direction of the multitude. It has no other property nor business interests, but want to live by preying on the industry, business and property of a country.

NEBRASKA AND NEBRASKANS.

The Kearney Methodist Episcopal church celebrated its twenty-first anniversary on Sunday.

Nebraska City business men have begun the organization of a club. It is proposed to incorporate with a capital of \$5,000.

An Anselmo butcher has been forced to leave town because a rival meat peddler discovered the head of a lumpy jawed steer in his slaughter house and exhibited it to the patrons.

A 3-year-old child of some German immigrants who recently arrived at Tamarac last week of a disease supposed to be small-pox. The physicians have no fear of the spread of the contagion.

A meeting will be held at Plainview March 28 for the purpose of deciding where the next Grand Army of the Republic reunion will be held for the district comprising the counties of Pierce, Knox, Antelope, Cedar, Wayne, Dixon, Dakota, Wheeler and Holt.

In trying to stop a runaway team at Burdick, N. Piper had his leg broken by the knee and hip and J. S. Harrod had his ankle badly sprained. The horses were caught by the ring on a wheel breaking. There was no other damage done.

Two Bohemians direct from the old country, landed in Howells the other day penniless and starving. They had not eaten a meal since leaving Chicago and they had been on the road three days. They were cared for by Howells people, who discovered that they were Odele, and when they had relatives, but that by an error their tickets had been made to read Howells instead of Odele.

Kearney has secured a broom factory. The nearest large broom factory has been in Grand Island, and the raising of broom corn has not received much attention by the farmers of Buffalo county, but it is quite probable a large quantity will be raised in that county the coming season. The corn is worth in the fall from \$40 to \$50 per ton, and those who have had experience say there is good money in it at those figures, as it grows quite heavy, especially on new breaking.

SOME NOTED MEN.

J. Sterling Morton weighs 190 pounds. H. J. Smith weighs 265 pounds and W. S. Bissell, 300 pounds.

Governor Flower of New York and J. Sterling Morton spent their boyhood days in school together.

It can never be said of the Hon. Hoke Smith, at all events, that he spells his name Smyth or Smith. Newman, son of the Hon. S. C. Caine, M. P., presided at a recent temperance meeting in London and W. E. Abel made the address. There was no disturbance.

The movement for a monument to Commodore M. P. Maury, the famous writer on navigation and meteorology, meets with much favor all through the south.

President Harrison has placed in the hands of a local real estate agency a thirteen-acre farm near Harrison, O. The farm is for sale. It is said to include a part of the old Harrison homestead.

Mr. Olney, who is to be Mr. Cleveland's attorney general, is a six-footer and weighs over 200 pounds. He was attorney for several railroads and his practice is said to have been worth \$50,000 a year.

David H. Smith, son of the Mormon prophet, Joseph Smith, has been an inmate of the asylum for the insane at Elmira, seventeen years. He was a brilliant man, and has written a book of poems and one of psalms, the latter being in use.

Professor William Newman, brother of the late Cardinal Newman, now verging on four score and ten, enjoys fair good health, and although comparatively a recluse in his home at Westchester, N. York, England, maintains an interest in all that occurs in the theological world.

General Basilev Brinkleroff of Mansfield, O., will succeed General R. B. Hayes as president of the National Prisoners' Association. He was a volunteer in the civil war and rose to the rank of brigadier general. He has for several years been first vice president of the National Prisoners' Association.

General Beauregard was almost from the first the victim of Jeff Davis' spite and jealousy. Beauregard always held the president of the confederacy in contempt, and after the war had closed and he was free to go, he was not backward about expressing his views of Davis' ability. He characterized him as "narrow and petty."

General Abram Daily, one of the few survivors of the war of 1812, died in Brooklyn last week of old age, being half way along in his 97th year. For many years he and another old fellow had raised the flag in New York City on Evacuation day, but about a year ago the other veteran died, and this year the anniversary of the old general was not able to be present.

Major "Lige" Halford, President Harrison's private secretary, has qualified as a paymaster in the United States army and purchased his uniform, and will sail for Europe on Saturday, when he will begin the routine duty of paying off the United States commissaries. Halford and his wife, who are to settle the Bering sea controversy. Besides these three commissaries Major Halford will also have to pay three German agents who have been provided with soft places in Paris at the expense of the United States government for a period of six months or more. These are J. Stanley Brown, son-in-law of the late President; Garfield, and Hub T. Smith and Francois Jones, three clerks in the State department. Besides paying these six people Halford will also have to pay for the expenses of the late President; Garfield, and Hub T. Smith and Francois Jones, three clerks in the State department. Besides paying these six people Halford will also have to pay for the expenses of the late President; Garfield, and Hub T. Smith and Francois Jones, three clerks in the State department. Besides paying these six people Halford will also have to pay for the expenses of the late President; Garfield, and Hub T. Smith and Francois Jones, three clerks in the State department.

MAJORITY OF ALL REQUIRED.

What is Necessary to Secure the Adoption of a Constitutional Amendment.

THE VOTE ON LEGISLATURE WILL NOT DO.

John L. Webster Contrasts the Law Governing the Case in Point—The Jensen Bill is Not Good and Must Be Void.

A BEE man called upon Hon. John L. Webster at his law office in this city yesterday and asked him for an opinion as to the legality of the proceedings by which the legislative declared last the two constitutional amendments submitted to the people of Nebraska at the November election. Mr. Webster graciously granted the request, and his opinion fully affirms the position THE BEE has all along held, to-wit: That the process by which the legislature is attempting to "recount" the votes on these amendments is irregular and all to no purpose.

"In reply to your inquiry touching the right of the legislature to cause a recount of the ballots cast for and against the amendments to the state constitution, which were submitted to the people at the last general election, and to take as a criterion for computation the votes cast for senators and representatives at said election, I state the following as the result of my brief investigation: "Section 1 of the article of the constitution relating to amendments provides, among other things, as follows: "Said proposed amendments shall be entered on the journals with the yeas and nays and published once each week in at least one newspaper in this state, where a newspaper is published for three months immediately preceding the next election for senators and representatives, at which election the same shall be voted on by the electors for approval or rejection, and if a majority of the electors voting