

SILVER TALK.

Various Phases of the Money Question Discussed. Effects of Contraction. More Money Needed.

Extracts from a Speech Delivered by Gen. C. H. Van Wyck before the Knights of Labor at Denver.

At your bidding I come to discuss a substance, which, not far distant from the creation of man, through all nations civilized and savage, Christian and infidel, bond and free, for over 4,000 years in continuous line has been not so much discussed as approved without question, and from necessity ever recognized as a standard or measure of value. Silver has been the favorite throughout history as a money metal, more generally than even gold, and is so with nearly all the nations of the world to-day.

When Abraham made the purchase of the cave for the burial of his wife he would not accept it as a gift, but insisted on paying the full measure of good money, and he weighed out 400 shekels of silver, clearly showing that some where and some how the fiat brand had thus early been stamped upon it, and it was recorded as equal or superior to the exact weight, "current money with the merchant." So down to the time of Christ, nearly 2,000 years after, when the heavens were shrouded and deep gloom came upon the earth and the blackest betrayal ever committed by man—which only the best money could obtain—we find that 30 pieces, not of gold but of silver purchased the life and blood of the Savior.

Why this persistent attempt to depreciate, and finally destroy silver? Before demonetization in 1873 we were prosperous. Seigniorage was required, and under the innocent pretext of reorganizing the mint, the direction to coin the standard dollar was purposely omitted. The conspirators knew why. The infamy was completed and the dollar demonetized. That act struck down prosperity. Immediately our troubles increased, activity disappeared and all the inevitable results of monetary contraction ensued.

Those who toil for bread demand a currency both good and abundant, a currency neither depreciated nor scarce. A money famine is often more deadly than a grain famine. A power beyond the government withholds the rain. Human foresight cannot guard against drought. But how can an honest government be excused a scarcity in money? Man, through government, creates, makes abundant, or withholds, to the injury of the millions.

There is no such thing as money in nature, diamonds, gold and silver are valuable and we produce large amounts for exchange. Diamonds, the most valuable, have never been vested with the attributes of money, having no place to put the fiat brand as the government can on gold and silver. Nations as wise as, and possibly more humane, than ourselves never worried about the depreciation or had spasms about cheap money when made of tin. Lycurgus taught a great lesson when he ordered coins of iron, thereby aiding trade and striking a blow at two classes not far apart—the hoarder and the thief.

Which is the depreciated money? Government money issues are of three kinds—gold, silver and paper. If measured by value of the paper the greenback is least valuable, yet it is the most appreciated in use, next to the "cheap and nasty silver." Do not the financial prophets and political sleight-of-hand ringsters know that the government cannot make a paper dollar? Can it will purchase as much of the commodities and real estate as the other? Is it not pandering to the plutocrats to say that the poor toiler will always receive the cheap money? What autocrat above the constitution will draw this distinction? Thank Heaven! the eagle stamped on gold and silver is not a trifle to the right of the eagle on the paper make all (equal to the money of royalty. They all nestle in the pockets of the free laborer with the riches and sparkle of the English crown. Which of the three will not buy a dollar's worth of the value of one hundred cents?

BONDHOLDER AGAINST GUNHOLDER. These pharisaical partisans are now overflowing with pious regard for the toilers. They are afraid the unprotected poor man will be imposed upon by having palmed off on him the "cheap and nasty dollars," when the millions of producers and laborers, with scarce an exception, are begging for more dollars; they care not of what material made so long as they bear the imprint of the eagle and enough of it to make each the equal of the next. Don't be grieved on the laborer's account. The dollar he receives won't stay in his pocket long enough to go into bankruptcy, however "cheap and nasty" they may be.

demonetization act of 1873. We remember how indignant was the nation when that iniquity was discovered.

Cunningly disguised in a bill with innocent title, the standard silver dollar was stricken down. Even Grant signed the bill without intimation of the crime against the people it contained.

We are tauntingly told that England has demonetized silver. How does that concern us? We know it. And England demonetized silver here in 1873. To nationalize England controls our financial policy and our unlimited coinage from 1792 to 1873. Did we have any of the calamities and horrors these prophets of evil suggest? All the objections now urged and the wanton calamities prophesied are abundantly answered by the history of the world for thousands of years and the experience of our own nation for a century.

We had free and unlimited coinage from 1792 to 1873. Did we have any of the calamities and horrors these prophets of evil suggest? All the objections now urged and the wanton calamities prophesied are abundantly answered by the history of the world for thousands of years and the experience of our own nation for a century.

Then the people must be deceived by the assumption that silver will drive out gold. Where is the proof? Did free coinage drive out gold during a century? Then that "all the silver of Europe will be dumped on our shores." They can only speak of silver in contempt, so in the elegant language of the plutocrat they say "dumped." Was such the case during a century of free coinage? Other nations have no surplus to dump here.

The nation knows hard times commenced with contraction. Then demonetization, the most deadly contraction, followed a depression from which we have not yet recovered. No one has shown when and how the people will be benefited by curtailing the currency. Prosperity follows abundance, whether it be of grain or coin. When money is scarce interest rates high and labor suffers for money and bread. Disguise it as they may the question of intrinsic value is only a pretense.

Labor only prospers in the sunlight of universal freedom, when trade and enterprise are free in all their channels, when money, the life and spring and source of all industries, is pulsing warm and strong in all the arteries of business. A contracted currency dries up the avenues of human activities, with no encouragement and hope of gain or even bread to those who toil. Those who make gain by investment, and whose harvest is from depression, want neither freedom in trade nor freedom in coinage.

Those who become rich by development in favor of the few, can obtain their means and secure the reward when government will furnish an abundance of money for the necessities of the people.

We are reproached at times because of a conflict or struggle between capital and labor. This conflict has always existed and always will exist. There is a necessity for bread and existence on one side and a greed for gold on the other. The struggle is generally an unequal one. Napoleon spoke with much truth when he claimed that Providence was on the side of the heavy artillery. It is as true to-day as when written years ago by neither a crank nor a demagogue. Plate sin in gold, the lance of justice has no breaks. Cotte in its rage, a plumed straw doth pierce it.



WESTERN REPUBLICAN WOLF—"Drop that nonsensical silver flirtation and be my bride. You will ruin the g. o. p. and yourself if you persist in your headstrong course. It's only a democratic scheme to bust up us republicans."



SOUTHERN DEMOCRATIC TIGER—"Hop into the ring with me, birdie, and quit your 'hollering' for silver. You will ruin the democratic party if you persist in your foolish course. It's only a republican scheme to bust up us democrats."

and divided in the same manner. The flouring mills, breweries, and a few months ago the Vanderbilts reorganized the Chicago stock yards, adding \$15,000,000 by the stroke of a pen, and in Johnny Bull as a partner. And while all this fraudulent inflation was going on, the bank vaults were full of millions, for the rest of the nation—contraction.

Now this same class, unable to secure all they demand by legislation and have all money demonetized except gold, are playing the role of the highwayman, to stand and deliver, and the large corporations are making and negotiating bonds payable in gold only, commencing in earnest to loan money on bonds, on mortgages, on notes, in fact putting the business of the country on the "gold basis," to the exclusion of silver and greenbacks. The end is easily foreseen when there is not gold enough in this country to pay 5 per cent of the indebtedness. We cannot realize the disaster impending. Everything is a peril. The danger in the time of Seward and Lincoln is increased tenfold. At the first attempt to collect debts in gold then premiums will be imposed, ruin will ensue, and enterprise and industry, and gloom will follow more appalling than the first rebellion produced.

But the plundering goes on unchecked. The people have been amused by a national commission to regulate railroads, which is enforced when it suits the convenience of the railroads; they sport and toy with it as a plaything. Even in purely agricultural states seeking relief from extortion through legislation and commissions none can be obtained. Industry is in gyves. Capital controls state and national legislation and makes combinations to restrict and control trade and enterprise. Yet if laborers form unions, even when out of the political, and merely for social and domestic purposes, they are ostracized and the laborer must forego the privilege to toil for bread or abandon the order. Year by year our condition is less favorable. The multitude still, the few gather in the fruits. Lincoln said this republic could not exist one-half free and one-half slave. The nobility of America said that was treason. Can it any more live while the great majority produce wealth and the few gather it? Yet the struggle in a republic as well as under a monarchy endures the same disappointments and hopes, and the plot tells but history in each when he writes:

Truth forever on the scaffold,
Wrong forever on the throne;
But that scaffold waits no future,
And behind the dim unknown
Standeth God within the shadow,
Keeping watch o'er his own.

Three Burned to Death. GUTTENBERG, Ia., May 24.—The 4-year-old sons of John Luther and Frank Goodrich set fire to Luther's barn Saturday. While rescuing the children Mrs. Luther was so badly burned that she died Sunday night. Both children died yesterday.

National Relief for Endangered. WASHINGTON, May 24.—The secretary of war has authorized the chief of engineers to use government boats upon all western rivers to save human life where residents of the flooded districts are in danger.

Fraternal Circle Receivers. BALTIMORE, May 24.—Judges Phelps and Dennis, sitting in circuit court, appointed three receivers in the American Fraternal Circle case. They are to have bonds of \$100,000 each, and all claims are to be authenticated with the clerk of the court before September 1. There are about \$500,000 in the circle's treasury, and claims of over \$4,000,000 outstanding in different states.

Methodist Protestant General Conference. WESTMINSTER, Md., May 25.—One of the most important subjects to be discussed by the Methodist Protestant general conference in session here is "the woman question." A large attendance was present at the morning session in expectation of a report from the committee on credentials on the standing of the four female delegates who were elected to and came to the conference. The committee made two reports on the standing of delegates. After considerable discussion the first report, which referred to an Indiana contest, was committed. The second report cited that the election of Rev. Mrs. Eugenie St. John and Mrs. M. J. Morgan of Indiana, Miss M. M. Bonnett of West Virginia, and Mrs. R. O. Murphy of Iowa, were contrary to the law and constitution of the church.

Rev. T. B. Appleget of New Jersey made a minority report reciting that all the delegates were duly elected and accredited, and the roll as made up by the

secretary contains the true list of the members entitled to membership. As the list of the secretary contains the names of women delegates and the report favors the continuance of them in their seats the matter was not disposed of.

Cumberland Presbyterians. MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 24.—The Cumberland Presbyterian assembly received the report of the board of missions and church erection. All of the branches of the Presbyterian church consolidate their work in Japan and operate under the title of the Church of Christ. Against this consolidation New Hope Presbytery of Kentucky has protested, and the matter was discussed at length. It is hardly probable the protest will be acted on favorably. The board of missions and the board of church erection consolidated under a resolution of the general assembly passed in 1890, and Rev. J. M. Ketchum led the fight to do away with one of the secretaries. The committee recommend making one secretary the superintendent of the board of missions and retaining the other secretary.

Southern Presbyterians. HOT SPRINGS, Ark., May 24.—The Presbyterian assembly received a letter from Rev. H. George, D. D., secretary of the Sabbath Union, urging the adoption of resolutions commending the labors of the Sabbath Union, whose mission is to unite all Christian forces in an effort to secure the observance of the Sabbath to the end that there be no Sunday newspapers, Sunday saloons, etc. The committee to which was referred the matter of international arbitration reported that the executive committee now had the matter in hand. The report of the committee on theological seminaries showed the total receipts for the year amount to \$24,830, against \$43,359.

Successful Armor Plate Test—Science of Agriculture—Money Will Do the Russians—Postoffice Changes. WASHINGTON, May 24.—As a result of a test of a piece of armor the government will at once accept the twenty diagonal plates for the battle ships Indiana and Massachusetts, aggregating about 800 tons and representing about half a million dollars in value. The piece which was tested is one of the thickest pieces of armor ever manufactured in this country, being fourteen inch nickel steel diagonal plate. It was subjected to an unusually severe test, more severe in fact than the standard tests adopted by foreign countries. A ten inch gun was used, the projectile weighing 500 pounds, with a powder charge of 140 pounds, giving a striking velocity of 1,410 feet a second. None of the three shots fired succeeded in getting far enough into the plate to show the backing. All three shots rebounded, one of them back to the muzzle. The deepest penetration was fourteen inches. One of the projectiles, an imported First, broke, while the American projectile was uninjured.

Argentine and the World's Fair. WASHINGTON, May 24.—Dr. Bortelette, world's fair commissioner to the Argentine Republic, writes that the Argentine commissioners are now actively at work, and that they will want 3,500 square feet of space at the exposition. The commissioners are sending out large quantities of papers and circulars to the different officials throughout the country and to the newspaper. The mining exhibit, which is to be very large, will be under the charge of Dr. Hosmold, chief of the national mining bureau. It is hoped, but not definitely settled, that many influential ladies of the country will take measures to secure an exhibit for the woman's department.

Science of Agriculture. WASHINGTON, May 24.—Senator Paddock has introduced a bill for the advancement of the science of agriculture. This bill provides that any person who invents or discovers any new plant, fruit or flower, not known or used by others in this country, shall obtain a patent therefor. The claim must be made in writing and shall be filed in the patent office with the manner and process of making and using. The secretary of agriculture shall have the same power as is imposed on the commissioner of patents.

Ordered Out of Saxony. BERLIN, May 24.—The police of Dresden, Saxony, have informed the Russian pan-slavist agent, Herr Von Wesselsitzky Bojadaravitz, who was recently ordered out of Prussia at the instance of the kaiser, that he cannot take up his residence in Dresden. This, notice, it is understood, has been given at the request of the Prussian government.

Another Bank Manager Gone Wrong. BERLIN, May 24.—Herr Schenck, manager of the St. Gall branch of the Federal bank, has been arrested for embezzling the funds of the institution. The amount that he has taken is at least 3,000,000 francs, and probably 3,500,000.

Smallpox at Chicago. CHICAGO, May 24.—T. S. Meek, a traveling salesman from Philadelphia and a guest at the Palmer house, was suffering from smallpox. Meek was removed to the pest house.

NEBRASKA NOTES.

TEED SEEKING NEW PASTURES. He Says Silverfriend, Who Has Returned to His Economic People. BEAVER FALLS, Pa., May 24.—H. D. Silverfriend, the Hebrew Economist who has gained considerable notoriety owing to the prominent part he has played in Doss-Teed-Harmon affairs, is now stopping at the Grand Hotel. He said that he had severed all connection with Victoria Woodhull and her party, and was now home to complete his final settlement with the Economic society and the Valley Glass company, of which latter organization he was secretary. Silverfriend says that Dr. Teed has about given up his attempt to form a combination of his society and the Economites. He finds it would be about as easy to mix oil and water as to form an alliance between the standard phlegmatic Economites and the mercenary, flighty angels of the Teed band. Dr. Teed, he says, is seeking for pastures new, unless all signs fail.

POLITICAL NEWS.

The Blaine Boom Given a Lift from a Democratic Source—South Dakota Democrats—Morrison Their Man. CINCINNATI, May 24.—The Enquirer prints the following dispatch from its Washington correspondent which, in view of the warm social relations between Mr. Blaine and Mr. John R. Morrison, may be considered significant: "The convention to be held in Minneapolis on June 7 next will nominate James G. Blaine for the office of president of the United States. This information is not based on street gossip or carstone conference, it is a living, indisputable fact. Ever since the name of Blaine has been connected with this nomination, its ratification required only his assent. Up to forty-eight hours ago this was withheld. It is no longer withheld. The situation has reached the crisis. Mr. Blaine has spoken to this extent: 'I will do nothing to prevent my nomination. I have made my last denial. And I can say likewise that if nominated Blaine will make the race. The assurance so persistently made that his own name is stronger than any other have had their effect. Yielding every consideration to party welfare, he is in the hands of his delegates. He will neither seek the nomination nor run away from it.'

THE LABOR CONFERENCE. English Workmen Denounce the Politicians in All Parties—German Taxation—Berlin News From Abroad. LONDON, May 24.—The debate on the Irish local government bill dragged along monotonously in the house of commons until Mr. William O'Brien, Nationalist for the northeast division of Cork, made a hot attack on the government, covering its whole policy toward Ireland. He was followed on the floor by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, who was interrupted frequently by jeers from the Irish benches and cries of "Oh! Oh!" from his sometime colleagues, the Gladstonians. He said that he regarded the measure favorably because it gave to Ireland exactly what similar measures had given to England. He could not agree with the opposition that no safeguards were necessary to protect the property of the minority from the local authorities who practically would be the representatives of one party. The limitations put by the bill on the local authorities were indispensable, and he would vote for the bill. (Derisive laughter among the Irish members.) Mr. Timothy Healy replied to Mr. Chamberlain maintaining that where the bill was not having it was ridiculous and pointing out that even Mr. Balfour had been unable to say much in its favor. The grand jury system was to continue to fulfill the duties which had rendered it so obnoxious to the Irish people. After reviewing Mr. Balfour's speech in detail, Mr. Healy expressed the opinion that the bill was the most contemptible thing that had ever been seen in the house and that no self-respecting Irishman could vote for it. The house adjourned after Mr. Healy's speech and the Irish members went out boozing and shouting. Today Mr. Gladstone will speak. The government expects a majority of at least sixty for the bill.

German Taxation. BERLIN, May 24.—The government was divided on the bill to secure secrecy for income tax returns. It is said that the clerical and conservative will hold together to defeat all other government measures relating to the taxation. These two parties were aided by a large number of independent deputies when it came to the vote. The allusions of the minister of the interior to further financial bills were received with cries of protest.

Dividend for Bank Creditors. WASHINGTON, May 24.—The comptroller of the currency has declared a second dividend of 15 per cent, in favor of the creditors of the Madison National bank of Madison, S. D., making 30 per cent in all, on claims proved amounting to \$48,334.46.

No Fusion on Kansas Candidates. TOPEKA, Kan., May 24.—It was announced here that there will be no fusion on state offices between the People's Party and the Democrats. This action was decided Saturday.

Smallpox at Chicago. CHICAGO, May 24.—T. S. Meek, a traveling salesman from Philadelphia and a guest at the Palmer house, was suffering from smallpox. Meek was removed to the pest house.

Indiana Notes. INDIANAPOLIS, May 24.—Indiana felt a distinct shock of earthquake at 8:36 last evening. The disturbance lasted about five seconds.

Red Cloud Volunteer Firemen's Association. The Red Cloud Volunteer Firemen's association was incorporated. Roseland reports that it is to have several new buildings in a short time. James McDonald shot James Mason at North Bend in a quarrel over a game of cards. Prospects for a crop of small grain in the vicinity of Ord could not be more encouraging.

Bradshaw Citizens have organized an improvement company with a capital stock of \$2,000. The Nebraska Gospel union will hold its first state Bible school on the fair grounds at Lincoln, July 16 to 24. Three large cans of pike from the state hatcheries were placed in the Elkhorn in Rock county last week. Louis Vieth, one of the most prominent German citizens of Lincoln, died of rheumatism of the heart. An outbreak of hog cholera is feared near Diller because a farmer threw a lot of dead hogs into the creek. Mrs. Gilliland, a missionary in Chili, who formerly resided near Prosser, Adams county, died recently of smallpox. A new bank is to be established at Burr, to be known as the German American bank, with a capital stock of \$25,000. Hall is reported as having destroyed the crops in portions of Boone, Buffalo, Cheyenne, Garfield, Greeley and Red Willow counties. Fred Smith of Boone county imported four head of the shorthorn cattle of the Cruikshank family, and has them on his farm near Albin. The Wayne high school has received a telescope which it purchased in Paris at a cost of \$100. The school now has \$300 worth of fine instruments. George F. Underwood, a popular Rock Island contractor, died suddenly and unexpectedly at Fairfield. His remains were sent to Jackson, Mich. While L. Kinsman of Beaver City was attending to his horses one of the animals kicked him in the groin, inflicting what is supposed to be a serious injury. The Grand Army of the Republic and kindred organizations at Leigh are making preparations for the annual picnic in an appropriate and fitting manner. Battle Creek citizens have petitioned the county commissioners to call an election for the purpose of voting on bonds to build a system of waterworks and a jail. Martin Daniels of Oxford was chosen at the Holdrege convention to represent Furness county on the independent congressional committee during the ensuing year. In pursuance of his project of gathering complete statistics of the graded schools of Nebraska Superintendent Goudy mailed blanks to the principals of 166 such schools. A York county farmer named Drake was found dead in a ditch near his home by his wife. The ditch was full of water and it is believed that Drake fell into it while suffering from a fit. The annual meeting of the Old Settlers' association of Platte county will be held at Columbus on May 30, for the purpose of electing officers and making arrangements for the annual picnic. Mr. D. L. Darr, for several years cashier of the Holt county bank, has severed his connection with that institution and will immediately commence the erection of a fifty barrel roller flour mill in O'Neill. The Juniata city council voted 3 to 2 for a saloon, and granted a license to Matt School to establish a store for the dispensation of spirits. Thus ends the long fight for the present year in regard to saloons. A planing mill at Randolph is now fully assured. The supervision of its construction is having the attention of the projector—Mr. Caswell of Odebolt, Ia. The main building will be 30x24 feet in dimensions, with double floors. Labor Commissioner Andrews sent out blank letters of inquiry to the chiefs of police of Nebraska cities to ascertain the number of hotels in the state which have been provided with fire escapes according to the provisions of the statutes. The amount of breaking this season in Thurston, Dixon, Wayne and Cedar counties will equal, or exceed, the total amount for four years past. The emigration into the four counties in the last eight months has been the greatest in their history. James Kirkpatrick, a farmer living two miles south of Phillips, suffered a heavy loss by fire. His two barns burned with contents. Twenty-one head of horses and seven sets of harness were burned. Several of the horses were valuable animals. Extensive preparations are being made at Oakdale for the third annual encampment of the North Nebraska district. The counties of Antelope, Madison, Boone, Pierce, Holt, Wayne, Cedar, Knox, Dakota, Wheeler and others are expected to participate. Ed Thompson, a notorious character who has been confined in the county jail at Thedford on the charge of assisting two men in assaulting his wife, broke jail and has so far succeeded in keeping out of the reach of the officers, who are making a desperate hunt for him. The county division meeting held at Broken Bow adopted lines intended to divide Custer county into three equal counties, dividing north and south. This division gives numerous towns chances for a county seat and it looks as if it will be a popular seat and may result in carrying the proposition at the fall election. The National Export Swine Association meets in annual session in Lincoln the last Tuesday in this month and the session continues three days. By order of the state association of the state of Nebraska the officers extend an invitation to all breeders of thoroughbred swine to meet with the association on this occasion. The case against Charles H. Paul, for embezzling public funds while treasurer of Adams county, was called up for preliminary hearing before Judge Burton at Hastings. County Attorney Halper dismissed the case and filed a new complaint charging Mr. Paul with defaulting \$33,000-88 county money, which is the amount found by an expert who has recently completed an examination of the books. Mr. Paul waived examination, and gave bail for his appearance at court. In the first case the form of complaint has been changed to a general charge of aiding and abetting Mr. Paul in the defalcation of the funds, and leaving out the specific charges.