

The final relegation of the horse to obscurity might possibly be delayed a few years by providing him with rubber shoes.

The courts have decided that a drug store in which soda water is sold is not a place of public accommodation and amusement.

There is a man in Congress who was once a newsboy. Everything indicates that a good newsboy was spoiled to make a poor Congressman.

Richard Harding Davis must be pretty near the pinnacle of literary greatness. A baby wolf in the Boston zoological garden has been named for him.

Gov. Tunnel, of Delaware, says the public institutions of that State have been run into the ground. We hope he will follow up the deficits, even if he does find it a great bore.

The barbers of New York City have asked the State Legislature to pass a bill changing the name "barber" to "tonsor." This change may satisfy the barbers, but how will the "tonorial artists" regard it?

Medical scientists are now puzzling over the case of a boy who can hypnotize himself. Perhaps this furnishes an explanation of the financial peculiarities of several banking institutions which have collapsed lately.

Accident insurance companies refuse to grant a policy to the "bicycle girl." The reason is not that she is supposed to ride worse than the "bicycle boy," but that her claims for trivial and small injuries are too persistent.

Now, what a splendid guarantee of good faith and repentance it would be if England were to try a little arbitration with the kingdom of Benin before proceeding to make the massacre of six Englishmen a pretext for the conquest and annexation of that benighted but desirable land!

Louisville Courier-Journal: The papers of Chicago tell us that Prof. Garner, the celebrated student of monkey language, is in that city. Well, what of it? Has not Chicago, according to its own claims, become a "literary center"? And a man who has been able to master the monkey language ought to be able to do something with the Chicago language.

A product called "wire-glass," which, it is asserted, presents an effective barrier against fire, consists simply of a mesh-work of wire embedded in a glass plate. Even when licked by flames and raised to a red heat it does not fall to pieces, and it not only resists the heat of fire, but also the shattering effects of cold water poured over it while it is yet glowing hot.

A writer in a recent issue of the French paper La Patrie was recently greatly shocked to find an advertisement in a London daily asking for a "second-hand guillotine in good condition." He will, however, probably acknowledge that the joke is on himself when he learns that "guillotine" is the technical name of a machine used by bookbinders for cutting the margins of books.

The obituary addresses delivered upon the occasion of the death of a member of Congress cost the Government a good deal of money. Usually 12,000 copies are printed, with a steel-plate portrait of the deceased, fifty of which, bound in full morocco with gilt edges, are for the family of the dead Congressman. The cost of obituary volumes in the Fifty-first Congress was over \$50,000.

It is related as a fact that about a year ago a house in Wichita, Kan., was entered by a burglar and a pocketbook containing some money was stolen. A few days ago the owner of the purse received a letter through the mails inclosing a \$10 bill and the following note: "A year ago I stole a pocketbook from you containing \$60. I have been sick, and remorse has been gnawing at my heart, so I send you \$10. When remorse gnaws again I will send you some more. Burglar."

John Campbell tells a story about the cross-examination of a bad-tempered female in his court. She was an Amazonian person. Her husband, obviously the weaker vessel, sat sheepishly listening. The opposing attorney pressed a certain question rather urgently, and she said angrily: "You needn't think to catch me. You tried that once before." The lawyer said: "Madam, I have not the slightest desire to catch you, and your husband looks as if he was sorry he did."

The subscription for the benefit of the wounded and sick in Cuba which the Madrid Imparcial has opened has passed the one-hundred-thousand-dollar mark. Ex-Empress Eugenie sent one thousand dollars, each ambassador of the great powers, one hundred dollars. The Imparcial remarks that the success of the subscription is all the more noteworthy, as the French papers could not obtain more than ninety thousand dollars for the wounded in Madagascar during several months.

Big sleeves blocked an important Paris thoroughfare the other day. A young woman was sailing down the

Rue Richelieu by the Bibliotheque Nationale, taking up most of the sidewalk, when a polite old gentleman, to make room for her, stepped into the street directly in front of a passing cab. The driver pulled his horse up to avoid running over him, when the beast fell down, and in two minutes there was a solid block of omnibuses, cabs, bicycles, and delivery carts, filling the street for over an hour.

India is a very uncomfortable country. This year is worse than common. Drought makes every road a river of dust; other rivers are dried up. Grain is poor as well as scarce, and garden products are sapless. If the traveler eats meat or fruit, he is threatened with cholera; if grain or vegetables, he is reminded that the bubonic pest (Bombay) chiefly affects vegetarians. Fish is forbidden by taste as well as by prudence. Milk must be rigorously eschewed, and butter is not less baneful. Bread and tea are both poor in India, and water is always dangerous.

The first fatal accident due to a horseless carriage has to be recorded. On the road from Monte Carlo a horse attached to a light carriage, seeing a motor vehicle approaching, took fright, and the conductor of the latter turned his carriage from the road in order to avoid a collision, thereby driving it against a stone wall. He was thrown violently forward, receiving a concussion of the brain, from which he died. The friends and heirs of the victim have had the driver of the horse arrested. The case is interesting, as it will probably establish the status of a motor carriage on French highways.

Care does not seem to shorten the lives of British premiers. Mr. Gladstone, by completing his eighty-seventh year, has broken the record of modern times which had been held by Addington, Lord Sidmouth, who died at over 86, Earl Russell died at 86, the Duke of Wellington at 82, Lord Palmerston and Earl Grey at 81. Of the other prime ministers of Queen Victoria who are dead the Earl of Beaconsfield's age was 77, the Earl of Aberdeen's 76, the Earl of Derby's 80, Viscount Melbourne's 63, and Sir Robert Peel's 62. Mr. Gladstone and Sir Robert are the only two premiers who were not peers or did not accept a peerage from the Queen.

The London Economist gives some figures which show how great has been the "slump" in South African mining securities. For ten representative South African companies the fall from the highest point in the year amounts to no less than £34,621,000—about \$173,000,000. The decline has been equally marked in "Kangaroo," as the Westralian shares are dubbed by way of distinction from the Africans. Ten companies show a depreciation in the market value of their shares which reaches the startling sum of \$23,820,000. Here is nearly \$200,000,000 which has been lost to the shareholders in a few enterprises. When we consider the great number of these corporations, and that most of them are largely capitalized, it can easily be seen that the "slump" has been big enough to cause the most serious alarm.

St. Paul Pioneer-Press: It is probably fortunate for the people of Illinois that, just as their Legislature is called upon to consider a proposition to close the workshops in the State prisons, in order that the millions of free workmen may no longer suffer—as demagogues tell them they are suffering—from the competition of a few hundred miserable convicts, the great State of New York presents such an object lesson in the matter as it does today. There the busy shops have been closed; the convicts are idle; and the spectacle of utter misery which they present is such as to rouse the sympathy, the indignation, the loud protests of almost the entire community against the shocking barbarism of the enactment which has brought matters to such a pass. Unless employment is speedily found for them, great numbers of convicts will go crazy in their enforced idleness, and will have to be transferred to the lunatic asylums—unless, indeed, the prisons are themselves changed to lunatic asylums.

Jesse Pomeroy, of Boston, has been so long in prison, from which he has just made a daring and desperate effort to escape, that the particulars of his singular case have almost faded out of public memory. He has been shut up for twenty-two years, being only 15 when the prison door closed upon him, his sentence being for life. From his earliest years he was possessed with a demon of cruelty and ferocity, the specific acts leading to his imprisonment being the mutilation and torture of children smaller than himself. In this long interval occasional efforts have been made to procure his pardon, but they have failed, and he will be deserved to do, and as his own endeavor has just failed. He was and is a natural and congenial monster, and any effort to restore him to society, whatever its benevolent and sentimental disguises, was an attempted crime against society. It could not be expected to succeed unless the official guardians of the latter had taken leave of their senses. Now that his attempt to escape has been discovered and thwarted, a safer cell will no doubt be found for him, and he will be more carefully watched in future.

When Browning. The horse, when browsing, is guided entirely by the nostrils in its choice of proper food, and blind horses are never known to make mistakes in their diet.

FOLLY IS EXPLAINED.

COIN REDEMPTION ACCORDING TO DEMOCRACY'S IDEA.

Simply the Swapping of One Dollar for Another True Redemption is the Receiving of Money in Exchange for Commodities or Services

Five Logical Objections.

The Democratic party teaches that paper money, in order to be good, must be based upon, or redeemable in, coin, at the option of the holder. Their idea of redeeming money is simply to swap one kind of dollar for another. Our contention is that the true and only needed redemption of money is to receive it in exchange for commodities or services. Money is redeemed every time it pays a debt, or passes from hand to hand. It is constantly being redeemed by the people in property and labor, and by the Government in receiving it for taxes and other dues. I offer the following objections to the coin redemption theory, as advocated by the Democratic party:

- 1. It is a fraud and a swindle on the face of it, for the reason that the amount of coin in existence is entirely inadequate to redeem the amount of paper money needed in business, even if it were desirable to do so.
2. It is theoretical absurdity, inasmuch as it would inflate our paper money when we had more coin and did not need it so badly; and when our specie basis was decreased, and we needed more paper money, it would have to be also decreased in the same proportion.
3. It is contrary to the lessons of experience, since nations have always had to abandon the coin redemption policy in times of war and disaster and fall back on legal tender paper money, coin invariably disappearing on the approach of danger.
4. It is a prolific source of panics and commercial disturbances. At one time the specie basis is larger, more credit money is in circulation, and the volume of business is greater; then a failure occurs somewhere, people become alarmed, the banks are besieged, and being unable to redeem their paper in coin they suspend, and the result is a disastrous panic.
5. It offers a plan by which speculators may raid the treasury at their wish, deplete the redemption fund, and compel the Government to issue bonds in order to replenish it. This process might be repeated from time to time, and the endless chain would work very much like it now does in the present effort to maintain a gold reserve.

Democracy and National Banks. The Democratic party now declares against national banks. This declaration, however, is at variance with their record for the last thirty years. Prior to the war Democratic national platforms bristled with declarations against national banks. Since that time no such declaration has appeared in any of their national platforms except the one recently adopted at Chicago. On the other hand, they have given unmistakable evidence of their friendship for these institutions.

1. National bankers have stood high in the councils of the Democratic party. Among them may be mentioned Marston, Marble, W. H. English, Calvin Rice, Senator Gorman, Samuel Tilden, W. C. Whitney, Samuel Randall, Grover Cleveland, Daniel Manning, Secretary Fairchild, Thomas Bayard and many others. Most of these men were bankers, and all of them strongly favored national banks.
2. When the question of rechartering the national banks came up in Congress in 1882 eight Democratic Senators voted for it, and sixteen dodged it by being absent. Had they all voted against the bill it would have been defeated. In the house an amendment was offered providing that the banks be rechartered for only ten years instead of twenty; seventeen Democrats voted against it.

3. During Cleveland's first administration the Government loaned about \$60,000,000 to the national banks without any interest whatever. This was done by a Democratic President and Secretary of the Treasury, not only without warrant of law, but in direct and open violation of law. This money was a part of the surplus, which belonged to the people. The banks were thus permitted to borrow the people's money without interest and loan it back to them at a high rate.

4. In the Fifty-third Congress a proposition was made to reduce the tax charged the banks by the Government from 1 per cent. to one-fourth of 1 per cent. per annum. This remarkable piece of legislation in the interest of an already greatly favored money monopoly was voted for almost solidly by the Democrats. It was carried by a vote of 200 to 41, in a house that was largely Democratic. If this indicates that the Democratic party hates national banks, how would you prove that it loves them?

Tariff for Revenue Only. The Democratic party favors a tariff for revenue only. I contend that the tariff plan is not a proper method of raising national revenues. I say that it is wrong in principle and pernicious in its operation. I am equally opposed to a protective tariff. Tariff is a method of indirect taxation. It was originated by despotic governments in order to raise exorbitant revenues to cover their extravagance, knowing that the people would revolt against it if levied directly. William Pitt said in the House of Lords in England that it would not do to make direct taxes too high, for the people would not stand it; but he said that you could take the last rag off their backs and the last morsel of food from their mouths without a murmur against high taxes, provided it is done

by placing a tariff upon many little articles of daily use so that they would pay it without knowing it. As that case they might grumble about hard times, but they would not understand the real cause. And yet the Democratic party, the pretended friend of the common people, in this twilight of the nineteenth century, still advocates this plan for humbugging and robbing the people.

Under the tariff plan money is extorted from the people not only in an indirect manner, but to an extent that is sometimes outrageous. They have to pay a great deal more than they would if they contributed directly for the support of the government. It is estimated by some that the amount thus taken from the people is about four times as much as actually goes to the Government.

According to our present tariff system the Government virtually levies a tax on one man's property and makes another man pay it. Of course, the first man does pay it at the time; but he reimburses himself by adding that much to the price of his goods when he sells them to the consumer, so that the latter ultimately bears the burden.

Thus men are taxed upon what they consume instead of upon what they possess. They have to pay according to their necessities, and not according to their ability. A poor man with a large family often pays more for the support of the government than does the millionaire with no wife or children.—R. W. Williams.

Exemptions from Taxation. The State of Maryland has a law exempting certain manufacturing plants from taxation, and this class of legislation finds favor in many other localities, but no sooner is the proposition made to exempt a home from taxation than every plutocrat and about 90 per cent of the homeless millions, jump on to the idea as class legislation.

Now, the fact is, when the subject is fully analyzed, there are but few laws that do not to a certain degree possess the character of class legislation. Turn through the statute books of any State and you will discover this to be an obvious fact. The laws which apply with equal force to all do not by any means constitute the larger part of our legal enactments. Every tariff law that was ever passed is a most notorious example of class legislation. If such laws as exempting a home are to be so called.

Our contention in favor of exempting the home from taxation to a limited amount is a move that will settle more questions than one. Alien land ownership will cease to be agitated as an issue, for it will be taxed to an extent which will destroy its speculative value. Large holdings of land will be placed on the market and they will be sold to those wanting homes. The assurance that taxation cannot take away the home will encourage thousands to make an energetic effort, who now accept a position as tenants rather than face the possibilities of legalized robbery which modern systems of taxation afford.

The Chicago Express says homes in that city which cost a few hundred dollars have been taxed and covered over with special assessments reaching into the thousands. Property held for speculation is relieved of its just share of tax by methods too numerous to mention. Assessors are bribed and assessments are cut down. Every wealthy corporation keeps its attorney and equalization boards are besieged in such manner as to secure reductions. The humble owner of a home has neither time nor money to use in this way, nor would it be generally successful if he single handed should make such an appeal. Wealth exerts an influence that cannot be disputed, and its influence is nowhere more potent than in assisting the tax dodger.

No fair-minded, thoughtful person should raise the objection of class legislation to our plan of exempting, to a limited value, a home from taxes. The more careful this matter is looked into the plainer it will be that it is the true solution of the land question. The home owners are the strength of a prosperous nation and landlordism is the threatening menace of our advancing civilization.

Please, England. A London letter, published by the Chicago Tribune, says that the selection of Lyman Gage as next Secretary of the Treasury is well received by the financiers of that city. This is not surprising in the least, for undoubtedly Mr. McKinley was fully advised on this point before he decided on making the appointment. London financiers and their agents in New York have dictated every act of financial importance in this country for a long time. They have had almost complete control of every department of our Government and dictated the nominations of the two old parties for years. London financiers have been perfectly satisfied with every act since the one brief period of independent, patriotic action which cost Gen. Garfield his life.

Most assuredly the appointment of Lyman Gage is satisfactory to London financiers. If it was not agreeable to them, it would not be made. The man who will not shrink from the most infamous crime to crush out the true spirit of American independence proves himself just the man, according to the London financier, for the most responsible position in connection with the American finances. The ability displayed by Lyman Gage in the late affair which drove W. A. Hammond to suicide and wrecked the only thoroughly substantial bank in the city of Chicago was doubtless the act which placed him in such royal favor and secured for him this position in McKinley's Cabinet.

London financiers are happy, for the American people are willing to remain good, obedient slaves for at least four years more. McKinley has demonstrated his loyalty to those British gold-bugs by consulting their every interest

in every selection for a Cabinet position. Certainly it suits England.—Chicago Express.

Trying the Impossible. Senator Peffer, in the Forum, says the trouble with our monetary system is that we are trying to do an impossible thing. We might as well undertake to haul a ton of hay on a bicycle as to do \$100,000,000,000 worth of business on \$100,000,000 worth of gold coin. The only way a gold standard can be securely maintained is to use no more credit paper of any kind whatsoever than could be redeemed in gold if all were presented for payment at one time, and that, we all know, is utterly impracticable. As before stated, we have not gold enough to supply more than 1 per cent. of our daily needs for money. We use \$92 worth of private credit, \$6 worth of government credit and \$2 worth of coin in every \$100 worth of business we transact with the national banks.

The simple truth is, we have long outgrown the metallic money system, and we shall have to invent something better. If men want to trade in gold, let them do so. That is in every way legitimate, for gold is a commodity, and a useful one in many ways. But, as the New York Board of Trade said in a resolution Dec. 9, 1896, "a sound credit system is a necessary element to the stability of confidence." Money, in whatever form, is but credit coined. The wise thing for us to do is to establish a sound credit system, and there is no credit among us equal to that of the Government of the United States. What, wisely used, is sufficient for all monetary purposes. In addition to its simplicity and naturalness, it would be a guarantee of loyalty next only to the ownership of their homes by the people.

The Enteric Wage. The practical impossibility of adopting the best possible monetary system while a large portion of the people look upon the precious metals as money and do not know that it is the law which authorizes the stamp of the Government which makes them legal tender money ought to be a sufficient reason for taking one step at a time. We have often heard it said by men who are deeply versed in the principles of scientific money that silver is the only entering wedge which can be used to free the people from the intolerable calamity of the single gold standard. Besides, if the mines would furnish an adequate supply of gold and silver so that general prices would remain stable, there would be no need of substituting any other material upon which to express the mandate of the Government. The mines are now reasonably productive, and the use of both metals would give immediate and substantial relief.—Silver Knight.

Populist Gains. The heathen may rage and the gold-bug newspapers imagine a vain thing, but we notice that the Populist party is getting there just the same. In the present Congress they have six Senators and six Congressmen. In the next Congress they meet on March 15 the Populists will have double their present number of Senators and four times their present number of Congressmen.—Knights of Labor Journal.

Populist Pointers. Let the banks give security or receive no deposits. Thump the place hunters as fast as they stick their heads up. It is the men who loan money that desire to control its volume.

Government should do all the governing and part of the banking.

There seems to be a want of parity between "confidence" and "prosperity."

Educate the people on the principles of Populism and the laws will follow.

Thirteen persons committed suicide in St. Louis on the last day of the old year.

If the Republicans fall (which they will), why not give the Populists a chance?

It is not noise that convinces the judgment; neither is it eloquence, but clear-cut logic.

The dangerous person in politics is the one who persists in calling things by their right names.

The money power is more dangerous to the liberties of the people than all other things combined.

The way the national banks are failing don't look like it was the "best banking system in the world."

One of the tenets in the creed of plutocracy is that the man who does the most work shall receive the least for it.

Improved methods of production should shorten the hours of labor instead of creating millions of idle men and women.

The trusts and corporations prosper under Democratic and Republican rule, but the people would prosper under Populist rule.

The so-called money of ultimate redemption is a fraud. The only redemption money needs is that in which it is received for the products of labor.

A still hunt campaign now for the next three years will accomplish wonders. Every Populist should help extend the circulation of Populist papers. Bradstreet reports losses by business failures for 1896 at \$248,000,000, which is an increase of 16 per cent over the year 1895. And the gold standard mill grinds on.

When Marshal Berthier was in Egypt with Napoleon he was insanely in love with Madam Viconti, and committed so many absurdities that among his intimates he was known as Chief de la Faction des Amoureux. Among the other follies was the erection of a tent, next to his own; he converted it into a temple to the Madam; erected an altar to her picture, before which he burned incense every morning.

Refunding Farm Mortgages. Refunding of mortgages at a lower rate of interest wherever the loans are well secured on improved farms is a crying need of the times. Most of the great railroads have thus refunded their mortgage indebtedness, if indeed they haven't wip d it out in whole or in part by reorganization proceedings. Many cities are refunding their loans at lower rates. Now give the farmer a chance to do likewise. He has better reasons and as good or better security.

Spring

Is the season for new life in nature, new vigor in our physical systems. As the fresh sap carries life into the trees, so our blood should give us renewed strength and vigor. In its impure state it cannot do this, and the aid of Hood's Sarsaparilla is imperatively needed. It will purify, vitalize and enrich the blood, and with this solid, correct foundation, it will build up good health, create a good appetite, tone your stomach and digestive organs, strengthen your nerves and overcome or prevent that tired feeling. This has been the experience of thousands. It will be yours if you take

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The Best Spring Medicine and Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists \$1.

Advertisement for Columbia Bicycles. Features the slogan 'Don't Push! They Run Easy!' and 'Unequaled, Unapproached. STANDARD OF THE WORLD. \$100 to all alike.' Includes contact information for Pope Mfg. Co., Hartford, Conn.

Advertisement for Tower's Fish Brand Slicker. Features the slogan 'SLICKER WILL KEEP YOU DRY.' Includes a small illustration of a fisherman and contact information for J. T. Tower, Boston, Mass.

Advertisement for Burlington Route. Includes the slogan 'COMFORT TO CALIFORNIA!' and text describing the service between Burlington, Vermont and California.

Advertisement for Cure Yourself! featuring Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Includes the slogan 'CURE YOURSELF!' and text describing the benefits of the pills for various ailments.

Advertisement for Quarter of Century Old Roofing. Features the slogan 'QUARTER OF CENTURY OLD ROOFING' and text describing the durability and quality of the roofing material.

Advertisement for Alabastine. Features the slogan 'ALABASTINE' and text describing it as a permanent wall coating that is easy to apply and durable.

Advertisement for Isaac Thompson's Eye Water. Features the slogan 'ISAAC THOMPSON'S EYE WATER' and text describing its effectiveness for various eye conditions.

Advertisement for Pure Food. Features the slogan 'PURE FOOD' and text describing the health benefits of the food products.