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TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1897.

The railroads are sharing in the general prosperity which has come to the country since the election of McKinley. The July earnings of 118 railroads operating 90,000 miles of road average 4 1/2 per cent higher than July 1896, and 8 1/2 per cent higher than in 1894.

ORATOR BRYAN is not so busy these days as he was at this time last year, says an exchange. The New York democrats bought his silence and absence with a "lick and promise"; the Ohio democrats have given him notice that his presence will harm their cause in that state; the Maryland democrats have no place for him in view of their straddling platform, and his own managers have warned him that he is endangering their own cause by keeping up his talk upon a subject which everybody knows is becoming every day more unpopular.

The latest report from Dan's Review as to improving business are among the most satisfactory yet recorded by that reliable publication. The Review says: "Every city reporting this week notes increase in trade and nearly all bright prospects. The great change in business is emphasized by the presence of a multitude of buyers from all parts of the country and by the heavy purchases they make. The strong rise in stocks, the growth of bank clearings and railroad earnings and the heavy speculations in many products, and most of all in wheat, have made the week one of surpassing interest even to those who best remember the up-rush in 1879."

The Omaha Bee last Saturday devoted over a page to a comprehensive report of Nebraska's present crop. The statistics presented were gathered by correspondents in each county, and are probably as accurate as it is possible to obtain. The Bee sums up the crop as follows: It is reasonably certain that the principal crops of Nebraska farms for the year of grace, 1897, will be: Wheat, 30,000,000 bushels; corn, 300,000,000 bushels; oats 35,000,000 bushels; rye 2,000,000 bushels; hay 5,000,000 tons. The aggregate value of this tremendous yield, calculated at the prices for which the commodities actually sold in open market on Saturday August 14, 1897, is \$95,869,500. If this same crop had been marketed on Saturday, August 13, 1896, it would have sold for only \$77,031,000; a gain for the Nebraska farmer in one year of \$18,838,500.

It is quite bracing to see the way the Era jumps on the democrats who are presumptions enough to demand recognition in the division of the spoils at the hands of their populist allies. In view of the fact that it was only by the aid of democratic votes that any populist was ever elected to office in this county, it is refreshing to see the democrats flouted by their allies. The Era says, referring to the presumption of the democrats in asking for a division of the spoils: "Therefore, again, we are led to conclude that the people's party of Lincoln county, even in a political sense, is not indebted to this democratic coterie of North Platte for any victories it has won." And again: "And to these misguided democrats (many of whom could not tell you why they are democrats) we say go ahead and do your worst." The democratic voter is all right so long as he votes passively into office, but when he asks for some of the fruits of the alliance then he is only fit to have heaped upon him the contumely of the pop organ.

BURNS ABOUT SILVER. Mr. Curtis now in London as correspondent of the Chicago Record asked Mr. Burns, the leader of the English workmen, whom he represents in parliament, whether the workmen of England were much interested in the silver question. He answered: "No. There is nothing in it for them. They are satisfied with a single gold standard, and believe it is the best system of finance that can be provided. They do not want any change, nor would your working classes secure any permanent improvement by the adoption of a silver standard. It would be better for your congress to let your finances alone, and permit capital and labor, and the value of commodities, and the various kinds of currency to adjust themselves, value to value, by natural laws, rather than to attempt to create values by legislation. That is impossible. You cannot create anything by an act of congress. The cost of living and the price of labor will adjust themselves to the demand and abundance or the scarcity of the necessities of life. Your trouble in the states has been due to the enormous increase of cheap labor and the multiplication of your capacity for production. You charge your financial depression to the repeal of your silver law, when it is the result of natural causes, together with excessive immigration, which has provided a surplus of labor, and to the improvement of your machinery."

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"Then you don't take much stock in the silver agitation?" "None at all. Both gold and silver have been to much exalted. The gold men attribute to gold what is due to world-wide revival of trade, just as the silver men attribute all their distress to the repeal of the coinage law. Both are following the will-o'-the-wisp, and will be landed in a bog if they don't look out. The education of the working classes, the development of their taste and skill, manual training, shorter hours, the rising of the age limit, the exclusion of married women and children from the factories, the abolition of overtime and recognition of the right of labor to organize for its own protection, are more important questions to your country, and will have more effect upon its prosperity than the price of the production of your silver mines."

FIRST GOLD IN ALASKA.

Natives Used It to Ransom Captives.

Captain Harry McJeffer, U. S. A. (retired), who is said to be a relative of the man who built Meigs wharf, San Francisco, away back in the fifties, tells a wonderful tale of the discovery of gold in Alaska in the latter part of the sixties. He was on duty in that country at that time at a point near Jucaan, and says that even in these early days great lumps of gold were exhibited by the natives. "Often natives from the interior would come down wearing necklaces made of nuggets picked up from the creeks in the interior," he said the other day. "At one time there was a tribe which had been conquered by another and a penalty was exacted. Some of the conquered tribe came over the Chilkat pass with a certain amount of gold, which on being weighed was found to be short of the price demanded by the conquerors. Several chiefs were held as hostages while the remainder of the tribe was directed to cross the mountains and procure a sum sufficient to liberate the others. They were gone several months and when they came back an amount more than needed to pay the ransom was brought in. No one could ascertain whence the money came, but from the direction in which they went and the length of time occupied in making the trip it was believed that they went many miles inland. "I believe that these men went into the passes of the Klondike country and picked up by the crude means at their command enough gold to secure the amount needed to complete the ransom. It was a topic of discussion among those who were detailed on duty at that time, and many plans were laid to secure information relating to the location of the claims, but these Indians kept the matter secret and would never disclose where they derived their treasure. I believe that even 50 far back as 30 years ago they went into the country which is now exciting the attention of the whole world and obtained the money necessary to release their relatives."—San Francisco Chronicle.

DIED AT HIS POST.

A Dead Engineer's Hand on the Throttle.

With his hand on the throttle of his engine and flying over the road at the rate of between 40 and 50 miles an hour, Charles Torrey, an engineer on the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs railroad, was stricken with paralysis the other day and died without speaking a word. Even after he died the body of the engineer still remained in his seat at the side of the cab. James McDonald, the fireman, sat on the other side of the engine, looking down the glistening lines of rail and for a time did not know that there was anything wrong with the engineer. He glanced in that direction, but only saw the body of the engineer still in the seat and did not think of him being dead.

THE NEWLY DISCOVERED KLONDIKE DISTRICT IS SUFFICIENTLY PROVED BY THE LARGE AMOUNT RECENTLY BROUGHT OUT BY THE STEAMSHIP COMPANIES AND MINERS RETURNING TO THE STATES WHO WENT INTO THE DISTRICT WITHIN THE LAST EIGHTEEN MONTHS.

So far \$1,500,000 in gold from the Klondike district has been deposited at the mints and assay offices of the United States, and from information now at hand there are substantial reasons for believing that from \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000 additional will be brought out by the steamers and returning miners sailing from St. Michael's the last of September or early October next. One of the steamship companies states that it expects to bring out about \$2,000,000 on its steamer sailing from St. Michael's Sept. 30 and has asked the government to have a revenue cutter sent as a convoy through the Bering sea. In view of the facts above stated I am justified in estimating that the Klondike district will augment the world's gold supply in 1897 nearly \$6,000,000.

The gold product of the Dominion of Canada for 1896, as estimated by Dr. G. M. Dawson, director of the geological survey of that country, was \$3,510,000. Of this sum the Yukon places, within British territory, were credited with a production of \$355,000. The total product of that country for 1897 has, therefore, been estimated at \$10,000,000, an increase over 1896 of \$7,000,000. From this the richness of the newly discovered goldfields of the Klondike is evident. In this connection it is important to know what will be the probable increase in the several countries of the world, and for the purpose of comparison, based upon information received, the following table of the gold product of the United States, Australia, Africa, Mexico, the Dominion of Canada, Russia and British India for 1896 and the estimated product of these countries for 1897 is here given:

Table with columns for Country, 1896, 1897, Increase. Rows include United States, Australia, Africa, Mexico, Canada, Russia, British India, and Totals.

WHAT THE DIRECTOR OF THE MINT AT WASHINGTON SAYS ABOUT IT.

The Estimated Product of the Metal For 1897.—The Influence of the Addition Will Be Still Further Depreciate the Value of Silver.

That gold exists in large quantities in the newly discovered Klondike district is sufficiently proved by the large amount recently brought out by the steamship companies and miners returning to the states who went into the district within the last eighteen months. So far \$1,500,000 in gold from the Klondike district has been deposited at the mints and assay offices of the United States, and from information now at hand there are substantial reasons for believing that from \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000 additional will be brought out by the steamers and returning miners sailing from St. Michael's the last of September or early October next. One of the steamship companies states that it expects to bring out about \$2,000,000 on its steamer sailing from St. Michael's Sept. 30 and has asked the government to have a revenue cutter sent as a convoy through the Bering sea.

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The greatest water power plant in the world is to be in operation within a few months, if the plans of the corporation controlling it meet with no obstruction. It is intended to take power from the St. Lawrence river, and by means of turbines of 5,000 horsepower each operate an electric plant of almost incalculable strength.

WATER POWER PLANT.

Utilizing the St. Lawrence River Current.

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A canal connects the St. Lawrence with the Grass river at a point which makes available much greater power than could be obtained in any other way. The proposal is to cut this canal 3 1/2 miles long, 250 feet broad and 26 feet deep.

As showing the general confidence in the enterprise, \$8,000,000 worth of bonds have been underwritten by an English company to build the plant. Manufacturing of all kinds is to be established at Massena as soon as the electric power is in operation, because there will be actually all the power that can be required for the ponderous machinery.—Kansas City Times.

Co-operative Societies in Great Britain and Ireland recently held their twenty-ninth annual co-operative congress in Perth, Scotland.

The king of Siam has an income of about \$2,000,000 a year. His royal palace is situated on a hillside, and is a little city in itself. The ornamental grounds comprise 25 acres and are surrounded by a wall 12 feet high. The khedive of Egypt has a private zoo. He calls the Ferial and unicorn animals after persons and politicians whom he hates and when he is out of humor after a cabinet council he makes the wretched animals pay for their namesakes.

THRONE LIGHTS.

The queen regent of Spain devotes an hour each day to reading her book on what is in reality his mother tongue. She has even written a German grammar and a reading book for him.

Mr. A. L. Armstrong, an old druggist and a prominent citizen of this interesting town, says: "I sell some forty different kinds of cough medicines, but have never in my experience sold so much of any one article as I have of Ballard's Horehound Syrup. All who use it say it is the most perfect remedy for Cough, Cold, Consumption, and all diseases of the Throat and Lungs they have ever tried." It is a specific for Croup and Whooping Cough. It will cure whooping cough, and contains no opiates. Price 25 and 50 cents. Sold by The North Platte Pharmacy, J. E. Bush, Mgr.

AWARDED HIGHEST HONORS.—World's Fair, Gold Medal, Midwinter Fair.

Advertisement for Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder, featuring a central image of the product and descriptive text.

DAVIS, THE BOY SPY.

A TENNESSEE HERO'S MEMORY HONORED AT THE NASHVILLE REUNION.

Daring Deed of a Young Confederate Scout.

Entered the Federal Lines and Secured Valuable Documents—Captured While Making His Way to Chattanooga. [Copyright, 1897, by American Press Association. Book rights reserved.]

HE gathering of the southern people at Nashville to celebrate the centenary of the Confederates an opportunity to honor the memory of Sam Davis, the Tennessee boy who was executed as a spy by the Federals in November, 1863. The story of young Davis is one of the most pathetic of the civil war.

A bust of Davis is among the notable pieces of sculpture in the Nashville parthenon. For some time back contributions have been pouring in to swell a fund for a monument upon the scene of his execution at Palaski.

Recent contributions to the Davis literature have cleared up what remains to many a mystery, the facts of his life preceding the dangerous trip into the enemy's lines, which was his undoing. Sam Davis was a Tennessee boy, reared upon a farm which constituted part of the battlefield of Stone river.

The life of a scout in Tennessee at the time when Davis entered upon that career was one filled with stirring episodes. The current story is that General Bragg, while his army was lying at Chattanooga, sent Davis into middle Tennessee to get information regarding the position and strength of the Federal forces.

The author of the story that Davis revealed the name of the one who had furnished the documents found upon his person. His answer was in keeping with his bearing all through the ordeal.

"If I had a thousand lives, I would lose them all here before I would betray my friends or the confidence of my instructor." He then said, "I am ready."

It is extremely improbable that any officer with sufficient intelligence to prepare the documents found in the possession of Davis when he was captured would have prepared them and retained them in the shape in which they were found upon Davis' person.

It is hardly credible that General Bragg would have sent such a messenger as Davis to treat with an emissary in the Federal camp. He would have been more likely to place the matter in the hands of a trained spy, preferably a woman, or else have had the telegraphic documents forwarded by some of the civilians who enjoyed great privileges inside the Federal lines.

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HIS SON SAM.

Eddeashun Had Ruined Him and Caused Woe to His Wife. There was a man about 40 years old seated on the fence in front of the house and swinging his legs as he smoked, and as he halted and saluted him and inquired about the road ahead he asked: "Stranger, be you what is called an eddedashun?" "I have something of an education," I replied, as I noticed how grim he looked.

A Tender Spot.

They were spinning side by side down the rocky path in the gloom of night. He seemed to be absentminded and dreaming. "How time flies!" he exclaimed at last, with a deep sigh. "When is the next installment due?" she asked, with a significant glance.

His Standing Army.

A King of Timbuktu—Where's my standing army? Prime Minister—Lying on his arms, your majesty King of Timbuktu—Tell it to stand up! What do I pay it for?

NEW ROUTE.

Commencing Sunday, June 13th, the UNION PACIFIC will inaugurate through, tourist car service to Portland, Oregon and Washington points via Union Pacific and Southern Pacific Rys., thereby giving passenger the benefit of two routing routes via Ogden to Portland.

REMEDY FOR CONSTIPATION.

no remedy in the world is equal to Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, which act naturally and mildly, but never fail to effect a complete and permanent cure. There is no substituting for these "Pellets," no matter what any druggist may say. They regulate and invigorate the Stomach, Liver and Bowels.

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