

THE JOYS OF WINTER RIDING.

He rode along the street With a confidence complete In his feet. He was navigating nice When he struck a hunk of ice In the street. The ice was smooth and round And he took an upward bound Ere he sat! Then some cuss words smote the air While he cogitated where He was at. —Sporting Life.

THE STOLEN COIN.

Hector Mainwaring was a newspaper man, a dramatic and art critic on one of the Chicago dailies. When he left the office one night the hour was almost 12. He had gone there to read the proof of an article intended for the next morning's paper. He was annoyed at having had to go back just to correct a proof sheet, but the week before, in one of his finest articles, an absurd typographical error had just taken away the effect of a phrase which had been his pride and turned the whole thing into ridiculous nonsense. Since then he had made a point of going himself every night to look over the final proof.

It was the beginning of winter, and a cool wind was blowing from Lake Michigan. As he passed along Clark street it occurred to him that he would have a glass of something to drink before returning home to his line bachelor's quarters. He sat down at one of the tables in a saloon and slowly sipped a hot toddy. When he had finished he put a half-dollar on the table ready for the waiter and turned round to pick up his cane.

Just as Hector rose a hand suddenly snatched up the silver coin, and the thief immediately darted out of the door. In an instant Hector drew another coin from his pocket, threw it on the table, called to the waiter, and started off in pursuit.

It was very evident that the thief knew he was being followed, and it was also evident that he was inexperienced in his vocation, for he ran on and on, up one street and down another, coming out again a hundred yards away from the place he had started from.

Hector was interested for he was too bright not to know that the man in front of him was not an ordinary pickpocket. Hector himself knew all the side streets and passages quite thoroughly, and he suddenly turned down one, ran at full speed, and came out again under a lamp just as the wretched man reached it.

Both men stopped short and Hector said, shortly: "Give me back my money!" The thief stood motionless, and the journalist saw by the light of the street lamp the saddest human face he had ever looked upon.

The man before him was apparently quite young, but his face was pale and pinched, and his black hair and mustache gave him a ghost-like look. His clothes were shabby, and he had altogether what has been described as "the look of a drowned man." Hector, at the sight of such evident misery, felt as though he himself had been guilty of some crime, and when the wretched man held out the silver coin to his accuser, without attempting to offer a word of apology, but with an expression of despair in his sunken eyes, our journalist could not find a word to say.

He took the coin, put it carefully in his vest pocket, and then pressed his pocket-book, containing about \$15, into the man's hand, and made off himself as though he had been the thief.

Ten years passed, and after much uphill work and struggle, Hector had gained for himself considerable fame as journalist and art critic. His absolute sincerity and perfect competency had won for him golden opinions from the public, and his verdict on all matters connected with art and literature was always awaited with anxious impatience.

In spite of his success and his fame the first hard years of struggle had left their traces on him. There was always a touch of melancholy which he never quite succeeded in throwing off. He had seen the comedy of human life too near, and it is, alas! no comedy for those who are behind the scenes.

three of them in the best of humors with themselves and with all the rest of the world.

During dessert Charles Dennin got up from the table and went across to the other end of the restaurant. He soon returned, accompanied by a tall, handsome man of about thirty; well dressed, and bearing the unmistakable stamp of a gentleman. His dark, deep-set, brown eyes were full of restless energy, but there was an expression of earnestness in them which almost amounted to sadness. This morning, however, his delicate, oval face was lighted up with happiness. Fame had appeared to him; glory had torn the veil from his eyes.

"Hector," said Charles, "I want to introduce my friend to you, Jean Sturtevant."

The journalist rose quickly, and shook hands warmly with the young sculptor.

"I must thank you," he said, "for the enjoyment I have had this morning. Your 'Wreck' is a marvelous work of art, and I certainly think I have never felt so much pleasure in seeing a piece of sculpture as in that."

The artist drank in these words from the critic with delight, and, on Hector's invitation, he took a seat at the little table where the viands were now giving out their inviting aromas.

During the conversation Hector looked hard at Jean, trying to recall where and when he had seen that refined face with the intense expression in its dark eyes.

He thought of various acquaintances he had made at club's, artists' studios, etc., but no, he could not recall having met this man before, and still the look in those eyes haunted him.

Finally he decided that it must simply be a resemblance that he saw to some one else, and he became so interested in the conversation of the three artists that he forgot it at last, and ceased to ransack his memory.

Gradually the tables around were deserted, and Hector called the waiter and paid the bill. He left a coin on the table (a tip for the waiter, and seeing that it had escaped his notice, he called him back, saying, as he extended on his palm, "Here, take this.")

Suddenly Jean Sturtevant looked at it and then at Hector. His pale face became still paler, the expression in his eyes still more intense, a shudder ran through him, and at the same time the memory of an utterly wretched face seen on a November evening by the light of a street lamp ten years ago, flashed across Hector. They were all getting up from the table; he smiled sympathetically at the young sculptor, and held out his hand, which the latter grasped and wrung silently, but with the gratitude of his whole soul.

The coin had a peculiar mark on the head of the Goddess of Liberty. It was thus that Jean had recognized it as the very coin he had snatched from the table ten years previous, and had been forced to return to the journalist.

During all that time the journalist had kept it until this evening, when he had unintentionally drawn it from his pocket as a tip for the waiter.

Hector and Jean were from this day forth firm friends, and the sculptor told the story of the utter misery and poverty he had been in when Hector's timely sympathetic help had rescued him from despair and his beautiful young sister from death. She was now twenty years old, bright, happy and gay, the very sunshine of his home.

Hector was a frequent visitor at the sculptor's studio, and he often joined the brother and sister at their dinner table. The tinge of melancholy gradually disappeared from his face, and one morning the following announcement was seen in the papers:

"The marriage of our gifted critic, Hector Mainwaring, with Miss Helene Sturtevant, the sister of Jean Sturtevant, the well known sculptor of 'The Wreck,' is shortly to take place."—New York Weekly.

WELL-FED EASTERN HORSES.

The Custom of Giving the Beautiful Creatures an Annual Holiday. Certainly my father's stable was a sight for sore eyes. A series of rectangular holes in the wall of the courtyard formed the managers, to which the horses were secured by lead ropes; the heels of each animal were also fastened by ropes of black camel's hair to a big iron pin driven into the ground behind it. Each of them was covered by a light woolen sheet, and they were all eating away as for dear life. It being early summer, when, as my father informed me, all horses are fattened on grass for a couple of months, and do little or no work.

There was a great heap of freshly-cut green barley and a boy was busily occupied in cutting this into pieces some three inches long by means of a saw-edged sickle. As soon as a horse has emptied its manger it would look around at the head groom, who was seated on a brick platform in the middle of the stable yard, and neigh; then the head groom would address it by its name, and say affectionately: "Yes, my soul, you shall be attended to immediately;" then he would call to a second boy, who would fill the animal's manger with the freshly cut green barley or no work.

TALKS TO THE POINT.

EX-SENATOR FARWELL FOR FREE SILVER.

The Fall of Rome Was Due to the Concentration of Redemption Money—Americans Must Soon Show Their Patriotism or Go Down.

Gold monometallists appeal to the law of supply and demand as the conclusive argument against bimetalism, and say none but "fools" are in favor of such an unscientific statement as that law can create value, even by making an imperious demand for an article. When men are without arguments opponents are always "fools." Our constitution provides, however, that the government of the United States alone has the power to decide what shall be money, and all governments that have made any history worthy of imitation have exercised that power, and in doing so have made the most persistent and powerful demand that could possibly be made for the use of both the precious metals as money for centuries.

This demand (created by the law) establishes the value, and that demand for its constant use creates the conditions of stability. Intrinsic value, in its last analysis, is the cost of production in labor, and governments have always taken this element of value into careful consideration in selecting both gold and silver at a fixed ratio for money use, and yet anyone at all conversant with gold and silver mining is aware of the fact that the cost of silver, in labor, has always been more than gold at 15 to 1. But law having fixed that ratio as a legal tender for all purposes of exchange (which is really scientific), gave us the combined volume of both metals as the one stable standard of measurement for all exchanges of property. Silver, before it was discarded, was the dealer of the two, and the supply of both has never been sufficient to meet the demands upon them for money uses. Who, then, are the fools and who are the knaves, with such a condition of things, in asking any government to repeal the written and unwritten law of nations, which had worked out nothing but the best results in trade and commerce for centuries, and thus strike more than one-half the money of the world out of existence and then claim that there is no demand for silver, because, forsooth, its overproduction had destroyed its value, and in the teeth of such a law of their own making, which destroyed the one overmastering demand for it?

Was ever brazen-faced ignorance or duplicity more brass than in charging bimetalists with folly in maintaining that the geometry and geology of finance and trade relations, established by ages of prosperous experience, are not scientific, when the exact reverse has been proved in practice? Who are the broad and who are the narrow? Who are the theoretical and who are the practical—those who claim that \$3,500,000,000 in gold alone or those who claim that \$8,000,000,000 in both metals will by common legal consent best serve the world as the money basis of its immense and ever-growing commerce?

It would seem to me that these questions need no scientific university professor to answer them so completely as they answer themselves, and yet I claim that the majority of such writers on political economy on both sides of the Atlantic dare not challenge the practicability of bimetalism, nor its utility either, as the best solution of all the difficulties which legal and world-wide gold (so-called scientific) monometallism has engendered; even if we had no history to enforce the proposition with its unanswerable arguments.

London is today the financial clearing-house of the world. Will anyone claim that her bankers have had an easy time with this altered law of supply and demand, since silver could not play its usual part in effecting exchanges? If so, why have the governments of the Bank of England, for the last two decades, at least, been advocates of international bimetalism? They certainly are in position to know why they held such opinions when the Rothschild class opposed it. England's representatives at the monetary conferences were all in favor of it for other countries; even the Rothschild class (believing that with such support it would only fail), because the unearned increment of their gold securities was netting them more than the annual interest. Reason enough, surely, to have the supply and demand kept so that they would be thus served. Who fixes the demand and the supply when silver is legally ruled out of the equation of exchanges? Government or the laws of trade? Will our scientific quill-drivers give us some lucid arguments on this question and let poor "Coin" and his "school" rest for a few weeks at least? He must be tired, as well as some of us laymen, over fruitless theoretical and scientific statements, without solid facts to sustain them. If the learned inquisition which some journals have scientifically set up to immolate silver on the altar of England's selfishness and greed will fairly discuss such real and burning questions as would give a fair verdict, instead of the assumed folly of impossible bimetalism, they would, in search of arguments on both, instead of one side of the question, become sensible bimetalists simply by taking a course of the leading textbooks on the question instead of condemning a system which they have superficially examined only by the headings of their own articles, such as "The Silver Craze," "The Dishonest Dollar," and the like.

What are the real questions? 1. Are both metals as necessary for money now as they were before silver was demonetized? 2. Are both metals as necessary for several ratios here and abroad, keep

the two metals, as well as commodities, reasonably stable in value?

3. Would not a single international ratio do it perfectly now, assuming that the annual increase of both metals is only comparatively equal to the annual increase of population and property, which it is not by over 1,000 per cent in the United States?

4. Has the increased demand for gold, caused by the demonetization of more than one-half of the world's money, increased its value as a medium of exchange and decreased the price of commodities, including silver?

Some gold papers have fired dynamite from their dogmatic editorial guns at some of these questions and objected to a reply, and Prof. Laughlin has tackled the last question and claims to have demolished the contention of bimetalists, in theoretical and substantial facts, with a comparison of prices of silver and 232 commodities from 1899 to 1894 by a statistician whose facts were incorporated in a senatorial report. The senate certainly needed some philosophical buttress to sustain its bungling work of 1873, and supposed (I will assume) that they had found the Gibraltar of their financial longings for scientific indorsement in this report. Let us see what the conditions were in 1860 from my report, as an actual participant in the horrors of that time.

In 1857 and 1858 "stumptail" money held undisputed sway in the United States; of government money—gold and silver—there was none in sight; state banks—the best as well as the poorest—had suspended specie payments and universal bankruptcy was rampant. Who could pay debts when there was no legal-tender money to be had except by barter? This smallpox virus in trade made the prices of silver and commodities; silver, of course, commanded a premium over gold, but what about pork, wheat, and corn, three of the farmers' articles taken for scientific comparison by our senatorial committee? Corn was used for fuel as cheaper than coal or wood, and pork was hauled to eastern markets over 100 miles and sold for \$1.50 a hundred weight and wheat for 45 cents a bushel (I did it myself a few years before). The middle ages in prices had come to America for the want of real money, and this is the time that our senate and their defenders in demonetizing silver have taken in comparing prices of silver and commodities with those of 1894.

In Allison's history of Europe we learned that in the reign of Augustus the value of the coined metals in the Roman empire of gold was, in our money, \$1,900,000,000, and that in the reign of Justinian it diminished to about \$400,000,000, or nearly four-fifths. Allison's opinion was that the fall of that empire was caused more by this contraction of the currency than by all other agencies.

Before the ninth century the value of the available stock of the precious metals was reduced to \$150,000,000, and at the close of the fifteenth century it did not exceed \$200,000,000, and Allison, in describing this period, paints the condition of the working classes as so low that extrication seemed hopeless.

In 1545 the Potosi silver mines were discovered and its effects noticed as follows: "The supply of precious metals was trebled, the prices of the species of produce quadrupled, the weight of debt and taxes wore off under the influence of that prodigious increase; in the renovations of industry the relations of society were changed, the weight of feudalism was cast off, the rights of man established." In 1816 England, against a strong petition portraying vividly the effects of a contraction of the currency, went to a gold standard.

Allison gives the result in England of this action thus: "The effects of this contraction of the currency were soon apparent and they rendered the next three years a period of ceaseless suffering in the British islands. Prices declined in general within six months to half their former amount, and remained at that low level for three years. Distress was universal in the latter months of 1819. Mr. Baring said in the house of commons: 'What we are now witnessing is the exact converse of what occurred over the whole world from the discovery of the mines of Mexico and Peru.'"

Passing on to the panic of 1837 (when I was a boy) Allison writes thus: "With the steady contraction of the currency by the Bank of England, which began in 1836, prices fell during the whole of the ensuing winter, but as prices of all sorts of manufacturers' produce had previously sunk nearly half (when silver was discarded), manufacturers were under the necessity of lowering wages, which induced strikes in nearly all branches of industry."

The discovery of gold in California and Australia now suddenly expanded the currency and relieved the universal distress, which Allison thus describes: "The era of contracted currency and consequent low prices and general misery, interrupted by occasional gleams of prosperity, was at an end, at the same time decisive evidence was afforded that all this sudden burst of prosperity was the result of the expanded currency."

The present generation witnessed this continued expansion of business prosperity until the effect of silver demonetization in 1873 began to be realized and that dogmas in finance did not generate facts that could by any means be squared to their theories. Strikes that began in England in 1837 were babies compared with such demonstrations here since 1873. Capital has been congested for want of profitable employment, and only creditors with long bonds have grown fat on the unearned increment of gold since silver was made the football of gold financiers. J. V. FARWELL.

She Follows Fashion. Mrs. Parker—Our friend Mrs. Lake-side is a very devoted follower of fashion. Mrs. Feathers—Yes, I notice she is always a season behind it.—Harper's Bazar.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON XII. JUNE 23—LUKE 24: 44-53.

Golden Text: "Go Ye Therefore and Teach All Nations, and Lo! I Am with You Always, Even to the End"—Matt. 28: 19.

Introductory: This section includes the eighth to the eleventh appearances of Jesus inclusive, and the ascension. See Matt. 28: 16-20; Mark 16: 15-20; Luke 24: 44-53; Acts 1: 3-12; I Corinthians 15: 6-7. Time: That between resurrection and ascension of Jesus at Mount of Olives, near Bethany. It was necessary for the Saviour should appear often enough to give good proof that he was alive and the same Jesus they had known. It was also necessary that they should be trained to his divine nature and spiritual presence before the ascension.

I. 44: "And he said unto them, these are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets and in the psalms, concerning me." Note that while some of the prophecies were fulfilled in Christ's earthly life, many of them could be fulfilled only after his death, in the founding and upbuilding of the Christian religion.

II. 45: "Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures." Thus alone would they understand God's plan of salvation; thus only they would know the full truth about Jesus Christ; thus they would avoid false ideas about the Saviour, and errors which would injure where he desired to bless.

III. 46 and 47: "And thus it behooved (was fitting) to suffer and rise from the dead on the third day." These are the two great essential facts of the gospel. Christ died for the sins of mankind, and arose glorious and immortal to prove his divinity, to reveal immortal life, and open heaven to the world.

47: "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." The duty of penance on the part of men, the motives for penance revealed and emphasized by the cross, the aids to repentance by the assurance of God's forgiveness in Jesus Christ, and by the gift of the spirit of truth—the Holy Ghost. The remission (forgiveness) of sins, the removal of its punishment and deliverance of the soul from the power of sin. These truths should be taught in Christ's name—"by authority of Christ." The more perfectly a church teaches these truths the more pure and powerful it will be.

IV. 48: "And ye are witnesses of these things." They (the apostles) had been with Jesus throughout his ministry, they had heard his teaching, they had seen his miracles, they knew his character, they had seen him after he arose from the dead, and now their work was to bear witness to these things. They did this by word of mouth during their lives and through their writings men are doing the same today.

V. 49: "And behold I send the promise of my father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with the power from on high." This was the promise of the father made in the old testament. This was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost, and thereafter each one of the apostles possessed a new and mighty power—light, knowledge, as revealed in the Holy Ghost.

VI. 50-53: "And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands and blessed them." And now we come to the last earthly act of the Redeemer—the ascension from the Mount of Olives. He blessed his disciples. 51: "And it came to pass while he blessed them, he was parted from them and carried up into heaven." Christ ascended body and soul into heaven. When a cloud received him and he was seen no more, two angels came and bade the disciples be comforted, for the time was coming when he would return. 52: "And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy." Every sorrow had been turned into joy. Doubt no longer existed. The real Messiah had been crucified. Jerusalem began to sing his praises. 53: "And were continually in the temple praising and blessing God." So overjoyed were they that the truth became known among them.

STATISTICS.

There are 47 papers and magazines in this country managed or edited by women. In France the sexes are almost exactly balanced, there being 1,004 women to 1,000 men.

The invention of the typewriter has given employment to half a million of women. According to the most reliable estimates the world contains today 280,000,000 grown women.

Wyoming has the smallest female population, 21,362; New York the largest, 3,020,960.

There are said to be 536 lady physicians practicing medicine in the cities of the United States. According to the last census, the number of women above the age of 18 in Russia was 23,200,000.

The average height of 1,000 French women is 5 feet 1 1/2 inches; of 1,000 Russian women 5 feet 3 1/2 inches.

A competent authority declares that over 1,500,000 of the women of this country earn their own living. In all Christian countries the number of females who attend the churches is far greater than that of the men.

An authority on anthropology says that the ears of women are set further forward on the head than those of men.

SNORTS FROM SIFTINGS.

Bogus coffee is giving great grounds for complaint. In his loneliness the teamster tells the horses of his woes. Many a youngster keeps shady to prevent getting tanned. "Short reckoning makes long friends," and short pockets make long faces. It is a singular thing that a man never begins to show his temper until he loses it. The lack of opportunity is no more keenly felt than when a hiring feels that he is possessed of business know-

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