

The Weekly Journal

C. W. SHERMAN, Editor.

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THURSDAY, MAY 28, 1896.

ANOTHER issue of government bonds is in sight, and still the goldbugs wonder at the growth of the free silver sentiment.

GOV. ALTGELD is a leader who fills his friends with admiration, and always meets his enemies in an open field. He has the courage of a lion.

IT is ungenerous, at least, to assume that every gold standard man is a thief, even if their champion, Rosewater, has been caught stealing—another man's speech.

THE present congress ought to suit Mr. Reed's idea of a "business" congress. It has passed a river and harbor bill involving an expenditure of seventy-five million dollars, allowing but forty-five minutes discussion.

CALIFORNIA republicans passed resolutions favoring free coinage of gold and silver and endorsed McKinley, and the Hamilton County Register wants to know "what's the use of being a fool unless you are a—considerable of a fool."

IOWA democrats have done the right thing by electing L. T. Genung as one of the delegate at-large to the national convention. Mr. Genung is essentially a man of the people, one of nature's orators, who makes friends wherever he is known. His Nebraska friends send him greeting.

COUNTING the states as solid the present outlook indicates that the vote of the gold and silver wings of the Chicago convention will stand about as follows: For free silver, 560; for the gold standard, 334; majority for silver, 226. This majority will be made up in part of every democratic state but New York and New Jersey,—if they can be called such.

THE Nebraska City News says: "The World-Herald puts Nebraska in the free silver column, which is as misleading as its free silver arguments. Nebraska's sixteen votes will be counted for sound money." You bet they will, but not as the sheeney shlock counts on. Sound money is American money, and not the money of Johnny Bull that the News is hurrahing for.—South Omaha Sun.

SAMUEL WAUGH of this city, who attended the Bryan-Rosewater debate at Omaha on the 15th, says he recognized Rosewater's very first utterance as a plagiarism from Aldrege's speech, and that not only were long passages stolen bodily from the Texan's speech, but his whole argument was interwoven with passages from it. That was probably the boldest piece of literary thievery ever perpetrated on an audience. It was at the time accepted as a strong argument, but it loses all its merit because it was stolen goods.

THE remains of Col. Addison Cochran, one of the oldest residents of Council Bluffs, were laid away yesterday. He was a veteran of the Mexican war and a grizzled old hero who made fame for himself in that war as the colonel of the Arkansas regiment. He was a man well along in life when the rebellion broke out, and must have been almost ninety years of age at his death. He left a large amount of property the cash from which is to be equally divided among descendants of his sisters, having no children of his own.

THE spectacle of the McKinleyites pretending to be peculiarly American while they favor a pro-English gold standard, is one that would make a horse laugh. They are hypocrites from start to finish. A high tariff permits England to supply the world with cheap manufactured goods and monopolize all its commerce, while it prevents the American people from buying anything but shoddy New England manufactures except at high prices. At the same time the gold standard here prevents Americans from dealing with China and Japan on terms of equality and encourages the building up of manufactures in those countries.

A FALSE ISSUE.

The so-called sound money democrats of Chicago are endeavoring to strengthen themselves by appealing to the public in the name of "honest primaries." In view of the situation all over the country this is about as barefaced a piece of impudence as can well be imagined. An honest expression by the people is the very thing these shouters for "sound" money do not want.

Look at Michigan, where the whole power of the administration was brought to bear to reverse the expressed will of the people. It is a most noteworthy circumstance that all the miraculous changes of sentiment on the money question have been from the silver to the gold side. True, they may all be perfectly honest, but it is also true that there are many elements of suspicion involved.

If Benedict Arnold had, in the fullness of his fame, resigned his commission in the American army, announcing his belief that the revolution was unjustifiable, giving some good reasons for the change, and then retiring to the seclusion of private life, while the glory of his name would have been considerably dimmed, he would, nevertheless, have occupied a very different place in the world's estimation from what he now holds. So with Carlisle, Herbert, Hoke Smith and a great army of cuckoos, to be found wherever there are federal offices.

These men are suddenly converted from free silver to the gold standard, and not satisfied to observe a discreet silence, or to modestly give their reasons (?) for changing, they turn almost like mad dogs and drive their fangs into the very vitals of their brother democrats who do not change so suddenly as themselves. After advocating free coinage of silver for a lifetime, all at once they make the startling discovery that it means a "fifty-cent dollar," that such a dollar would be "dishonest," and hence that the advocates of free silver are either idiots or knaves. The position of many gold democrats is so exceedingly delicate and vulnerable that they should be very careful how they impugn the motives of others.

Some Democratic History.

The Chicago Chronicle turns to the record to prove what are democratic principles. It finds: "In 1840 the democratic party adopted the following quotation from Thomas Jefferson as its platform: 'Congress has no power to charter a United States bank; we believe any such an institution one of hostility to the best interests of the country; dangerous to our republican institutions and the liberties of the people and calculated to place the business of the country within the control of a concentrated money power and above the laws and will of the people.'"

"The platform was re-affirmed in 1844-48-52 and 1860. It was in accordance with the views of that sturdy old democrat, Andrew Jackson, who, in 1832, smashed the United States bank by his veto, for which he was rewarded by the democracy of New York and Massachusetts, subservient then as now to the money power, by being ridiculed in doggerel and pictured as an 'epauletted donkey.'"

One Banker Who Has a Sout.

The Omaha World-Herald recently published the following letter: HUMBOLDT, Neb., May 17.—To the Editor: I received circulars from the Bee soliciting subscriptions. I return same with the following indorsement thereon: "I will not support any gold standard organ, not even as a gift, because I consider such papers traitors to western interests."

If the above is of any use to you you may use it. Very respectfully yours, J. F. WALSH.

PRETENDED democrats, who have given adherence to a bagatelle of bolters in Nebraska, without a shadow of a legal existence, are wonderfully worried because the democratic committee of Chicago does not surrender its authority and prestige to the gold standard bankers and money changers in that city, and agree to let them manage the primaries in their way. It makes a heap of difference whose ox is gored. These hypocrites ought to take the beam from their own eyes before they demand the removal of the mote from other men's eyes. Let them come into the fold first.

ACCORDING to the teachings of Rosewater the advocates of the gold standard are for cheap money. He said money was cheaper now than ever before, and that was the result of the maintenance of the gold standard, and that was what was wanted as a permanent condition. If that is true, may the good Lord save the country from cheap money! Let us, rather, have dear money, even if it does bring higher interest; money that will permit property to be rated at a higher valuation.

Mr. Blaine Was for Free Coinage.

On Feb. 7, 1878, Mr. Blaine gave his reasons for favoring free silver, and also told of the effect of adverse legislation on silver. He said: "The German government the very year after we made our specific declaration for paying our bonds in coin, passed a law destroying, so far as lay in its power, the value of silver as money."

"I do not say that it was specifically aimed at this country"—the Rothschilds do not aim at the wind," but it was passed regardless of its effect upon, and was followed, according to public and undenied statements, by legal investment on the part of the German government in our bonds, with a view, it was understood, of holding them as a coin reserve for drawing gold from us to aid in establishing their new gold standard at home.

"Thus by our move, the German government destroyed, so far as lay in its powers the then existing value of silver as money, enhanced consequently the value of gold, and then got into position to draw gold from us at the moment of its need, which would also be the moment of our greatest distress."

MR. ROSEWATER seems to be having a mint of trouble these days, but he explains that his sin has been a very small one, like the young woman who was the mother of a child born out of wedlock, "it was a very small one, mum." But the fact that he stole only a small portion of Judge Aldrege's speech did not excuse him for purposely misquoting the constitution of his country, as he did in his opening speech in the debate with Mr. Bryan, to make it fit in harmony with his argument. He then said: "The fact that the constitution prohibits states from making anything but gold or silver coin a legal tender does not necessarily abridge the powers of congress," etc. The truth is that the constitution says no such thing. It does say, however, that the states are prohibited from making "anything but gold AND silver coin a legal tender." A man who has the pretensions of Rosewater ought to know that he cannot pervert the language of the constitution without being caught at it. Is the public to conclude that Rosewater is a forger and liar as well as a literary thief?

AMERICAN steel rails are on their way to Japan. The Illinois Steel company sent 500 tons from their mill on lake Michigan last week, part fulfillment of an order from a Japanese railway, at \$21.35 a ton. The route will be by lake Michigan to Buffalo, thence by Erie canal to this city, where they will be loaded on a steamer for Japan. When here those rails are worth, if put on the market, \$28 per ton, but they are invoiced to a Japanese company at \$6.64 less than the greatest road in this country can buy them. In other words the steel trust punishes the people of this country by an addition of one third of the real value of the rails because we protect the steel industry and submit to the exactions of a monopoly created behind that protection.—New York Journal.

A RESOLUTION is now before the senate for discussion prohibiting the issue of any more bonds without the positive authority of congress. It will probably pass the senate, as the vote to take it up stood 34 to 20. The republican house will hardly dare refuse to pass it. The measure would probably meet with a veto at the hands of the president, but in the present feeling in the senate the measure could be passed over the veto. If it became a law it would have the effect of breaking Mr. Cleveland's "endless chain" instanter, and would compel the redemption of greenbacks in silver as well as gold, at the convenience of the treasury. The bringing of this question up will probably prolong the session into the summer. It is a part of the fight for free silver.

THE methods of the administration in Michigan were duplicated in South Dakota Wednesday. The Chicago Times-Herald, a thick-and-thin goldbug organ, explains, editorially, how that was done, as follows: "The manner in which the administration invaded the free silver cohorts in Michigan AND RODE ROUGH SHOD TO VICTORY ought to give fresh courage and strength to weak-kneed sound-money democrats in other states. A few weeks ago it looked as though the free silver democrats would be in a large majority in the Michigan state convention."

THERE are excellent reasons for believing that if the United States returns to bimetalism all Europe will hasten to readopt the double standard. In fact if they didn't the United States would at once capture all the trade of the silver-using countries of the world, and the Europeans could not afford that.

THE FRENCH PREMIER FOR SILVER.

Gold standard men like to give out the impression that the advocates of bimetalism are cranks and "crazy fanatics," who know nothing of finance, and that statesmen of the word are for gold. In this view of the case the recent utterances of M. Meline, the new French premier, are worthy of note.

A dispatch in Sunday's Bee from Paris, gives a brief account of an address delivered by Mons. Meline, before a bimetallic club, in which he expresses regret at the renunciation of the old (bimetallic) monetary system which secured prosperity to the people. He stated that the long continued commercial stringency dated from the time when Europe and America abolished the double standard. The remedy, he insisted, was a return to bimetalism. He was rejoiced to note that the bimetallic movement was spreading rapidly through England, Germany, Belgium, France and America. All that was required to bring this monetary reform was an electric spark, which was soon bound to appear, from the force of the circumstances in which the commercial world found itself today. Mr. Meline is at present at the head of the French cabinet and his words ought to have weight with thinking men. That electric spark has been struck in America, and it promises to revolutionize the country this year.

"THE fit of generosity which impelled congress to vote to its members a sheer gratuity of \$1,200 a year, ostensibly for clerk hire, has developed the fact that the average cost to the country of our modern statesmen is four times what it was when Adams, Clay, Webster and their compeers sat in the halls of congress. And the worst of it is, says the Philadelphia Record, that while the price has gone up, the quality has as steadily gone down."—Ex.

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