



If any man attempts to haul down the American Flag, shoot him on the spot.

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THE HERALD

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GOLD AS A STANDARD OF VALUE.

Many persons fall into the singular error of accepting the mint stamp of gold as the measure of its value, and assume that the value of gold as a circulating medium is fixed by the Government. They mistake names for things, and because gold is used as currency, get into the habit of always regarding it as currency. The name which the Government gives to coins made of gold being a measure of its value as currency only, not as a commodity, men are slow to perceive that this measure of value is only certain in its relations with the coinage of the country but fluctuates as to everything else. The name and the weight of the coin remain unchanged, but the value is determined by the supply and demand for the article for which one would exchange it. Those who look at it as currency, perceiving that all nations find a mixed currency of paper and metal necessary for business purposes, argue that the Government, having the power to stamp the money of the country with an arbitrary valuation, may just as well stamp paper as gold, and that such a currency will be as good as gold. In reality the mint price of gold has nothing to do with its real value. In so far as its real value is concerned, the number of coins which the mint makes out of an ounce of gold is utterly unimportant. Whether sixteen-dollar pieces, or an eagle, half-eagle, and dollar, there is still but the ounce of gold, merely cut into convenient pieces for circulation. Gold being of common usage and Government action adopted as a standard of value, cannot measure itself as well as other things which are measured by their relation to it. As a commodity the value of gold is determined by supply and demand, while as a coinage it establishes a measure to show the variations in the supply and demand of all other commodities. Inadvisability for this purpose is shown by its homogeneity and portability, its limited supply, and the labor required to procure it. Whether obtained in the Ural mountains or the mines of California; whether dug out by the slaves of Brazil or washed out of "Africa's golden sands"; whether blasted from quartz quarries in Montgomery county, Maryland, or brought to light by North Carolina freedmen, there is little doubt that the aggregate labor bestowed upon it is sufficient to produce an aggregate value equal to the gold in other kinds of products.

In order to realize this more fully let us put the whole product of gold in the world into a given space, and see what a trifling amount of room it occupies. All the boasted wealth obtained from California and Australia would go into a safe ten feet square, so small is the cube of yellow metal that has set populations on the march and occasioned such wondrous revolutions in the affairs of the world. The total value of gold in the world at the present time is about equal to the amount of our national debt—a little upward of \$3,000,000,000. If melted into ingots, all the gold coin in the world might be contained in a room twenty four feet square and sixteen feet high.

The notion of dispensing with the precious metals in domestic circulation reposes on ignorance of the part played by them in the markets of the world. From the universality of demand for them a minute difference in their value immediately acts upon them, and by re-establishing their equable distribution renders them capable of expressing values in all countries in terms of themselves, and thus furnishing the community with the apparently simple results of price lists, which are in effect short and compendious summaries of a series of facts that could by no other means be so clearly stated.

Suspensions of specie payments are nevertheless sometimes a necessity and of great service, yet if too long continued, tend to unsettle values. An irredeemable paper currency supplies the place of gold as a circulating medium, in which character the gold goes elsewhere. Although it is a commercial commodity, yet the practical uses to which gold is applied are governed by habit or usage. Hence, men are so accustomed to regard gold as money only, that, when it is supplanted by a paper representative of money, they send their gold across the sea and spend it as money in foreign countries. Being driven out of circulation at home, it enters into circulation abroad. The effect of thus giving foreign merchants more gold as a circulating medium than they have been accustomed to is seen in the increased price of foreign commodities, and also the condition of the European money market.—Washington Chronicle.

NEBRASKA. The soil of Nebraska is not surpassed in fertility by that of any other State. It is light, porous and deep, so that in wet weather the water readily passes off, while in draught the roots sink deep and attract the moisture from below. We are well supplied with running streams and springs—hardly a farm can be found that has not a good supply. It has been supposed that Nebraska would suffer for the want of timber. A few years experience has shown that by keeping out the annual fires, timber will spring up on our prairies, and that it grows with such rapidity that it is ready for fence posts and fire wood in a few years. Our climate is temperate; last year winter did not commence until in January and the river opened and plowing commenced early in March—and this fall thus far the weather is mild and balmy. With two or three exceptions since Nebraska was settled the winters have been temperate, mild and dry—so much so that the farmer devotes almost the entire year to his crops, thus cultivating more land and increasing its products—corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley, buck-wheat, sorghum, Hungarian grass—both Sweet and Irish potatoes and all varieties of garden vegetables grow in great perfection and abundance.

The warm dry atmosphere and loose warm soil is peculiarly adapted to the culture of grapes. Wild and domestic fruits are produced in great quantity. Nebraska as a stock raising country is not surpassed in the world—sheep thrive on the high prairies, and our cattle, horses and mules are equal to those raised in any of the States. We have railroads running so as to afford us easy access to the markets, east, west, north and south, and during nine months of the year the Missouri river gives us the advantage of cheap freights by steamboats. We have good schools and churches. Such are a few of the advantages offered by Nebraska. To our fellow citizens of the older States who wish to secure homes in the west, we say: come and see for yourselves.—Press.

A man named Spencer, and wife, residing in Paulsboro, N. J., who appears to be of the highest respectability, and said to be worth two hundred thousand dollars, were arrested on Friday on the affidavit of Col. Wood, chief detective, charged with being the chief of a gang of counterfeiters, who issued the spurious 7-thirties. Mrs. Spencer paid forty thousand dollars, cash down, to bail herself and husband. Several other parties, reported to be very wealthy, are suspected to be connected in the affair. Their establishment is in Paulsboro, and has been in operation since 1865, and it is estimated that the parties have netted millions of dollars. The spurious plates are not made from lead impression, but from the genuine plates, secured by confederates in Washington. All the parties engaged have become wealthy. They visited different parts of the country. Government officers have been dispatched to arrest them. Spencer owns a magnificent house in Philadelphia.

Senator Corbett, the new Republican Senator from Oregon, is a native of Massachusetts. He went to Oregon in 1850 where, as a merchant and financier, he has acquired a fortune and a popularity unequalled by any other citizen of that young State. The Albany Evening Journal predicts that, as a political financier, he will take high rank in Congress.

Some one observed, "matches are made in heaven." "Yes," replied another, "and they are dipped in the other place."

SUBJUGATING AN ELEPHANT.

Tuesday of last week, a Cincinnati paper says, a circus elephant, 36 years old, 10,000 pounds weight, and named Tippoo Saib, while in winter quarters at Connorsville, Indiana, became unruly on account of a change of his keeper, and went to war against all mankind. He would allow no one in his quarters, and struck at everybody who approached him with his trunk and tusks most violently. His keeper determined to subdue him, and the process and result are thus described: The new keeper, with nine assistants, had fully equipped himself with chains and cables for tying, and spears and pitchforks for subduing Tippoo. The first thing done was to fasten a brick-bat to the end of a rope and throw it over the end of the tusk chain, which latter is fastened to one leg and one tusk. By means of this rope, a 20-ton cable chain (formerly used to subdue the famous Hannibal) was slipped over the elephant's trunk. Next, an excavation three feet deep was made under the sill of the house, and while the elephant's attention was attracted to the other side of the room by a pail of water poured into his trough, the cable chain was passed through the excavation and fastened to heavy stakes outside. All this time the infuriated monster struck all around him with terrible ferocity, and tugged at his chain with incredible momentum. The next thing accomplished was the snaring of his hind legs. This was consummated by the slinging of fresh ropes around those two stately pillars of elephant bone and muscle, and finally, by the stealthy strategy of the keeper and another man, these ropes were fastened to stumps outside. The elephant was now sufficiently pinioned to allow the order "charge pitchforks," to be given. Ten men, armed with these ugly implements of offense, plunged them into the rampaging beast, while the keeper, to avoid penetrating his eyes or joints. The tenderest spot in an elephant, is just behind his fore legs, and that locality was prodded unmercifully. By means of a hooked spear sunk in his back, Tippoo was brought to his knees, but he surged up again with such awful strength that he swept his tormentors off their feet and made his chains whistle like fiddle-strings. After an hour's fighting he was brought down on his side, but for two hours longer he tugged at his chains with frenzied obstinacy. He pulled so hard at times that his hind legs were straight out behind him, and three feet off the ground. At the end of the three hours the giant gave in by trumpeting, which is the elephant's way of crying enough. The moment this peculiar cry was heard the battle ceased. The keeper made Tippoo get up and lie down a number of times, and he was as obedient to the word of command as a gentle pony. The animal was then groomed and rubbed off with whisky. He allowed all manner of liberties without so much as flapping an ear.—He was a subjugated elephant.

Mosby the guerilla rebel robber, who patrolled the roads in Maryland and Virginia, and stopped the railroad trains and made unarmed men deliver up their watches and purses, and defenceless women hand over their diamonds and jewelry, appeared the other day in the New York Gold Room. This Gold Room is the very holy of holies of the New York money grabbers, of whom the Chairman of the National Copperhead Committee, August Belmont, is chief, and this concave of the aristocratic element of New York, which controls and represents a city giving fifty or sixty thousand Democratic majority, invited with shouts of gratulation this rebel robber to the seat of honor in the Gold Room. Mosby is a fair embodiment of what the Democracy hold in highest honor.

"Here I can't pass you," said the door-keeper of a western theatre. "You needn't to pass me," said the irrepressible dead-head whom he addressed; "just you stand where you are and I'll pass you." And he passed.

"Clever old man, (to blubbering urchin)—"What's the matter, sonny? What do you want?" "Little boy, (pettishly)—"Let me alone. I got the better ache—that's what I want."

THE LOCAL PAPER.—An exchange very truthfully remarks, that whether they will or not, a local paper is their representative abroad, their ambassador in foreign parts, by which they must be judged. Let them therefore, take a patriotic interest in giving it news, co-operation and patronage.—Like every other duty performed, it will be their gain in due time.

THE VISIT OF DICKENS.

At the farewell dinner given in London by his friends to Mr. Dickens, the latter thus alluded to his former visit to the United States and to the present one. Readers of the great author need not be told how perfectly like himself is that closing "God bless every one!" "Twelve years ago, when Heaven knows I little thought I should ever be bound upon the voyage which now lays before me, I wrote in that form of my writings which obtains by far the most extensive circulation, these words of the American nation: 'I know full well, whatever little notes my beamy eyes may have descried in theirs, that they are a kind, large-hearted, generous and great people.' (Hear.) In that faith I am going to see them again; in that faith, I shall, please God, return from them in the spring; in that same faith to live and die. I told you in the beginning that I could not thank you enough, and Heaven knows I have most thoroughly kept my word. (A laugh.) If I quote one other short sentence from myself, let it imply all that I have left unsaid and yet most deeply felt. Let it, putting a girle round the earth, comprehend both sides of the Atlantic at once in this moment, and say, as Tiny Tim observes, 'God bless us every one!'" (Loud and continued cheers.)

MASSACHUSETTS STATISTICS.—The Secretary of State has recently published the "Abstract of the Census of 1865," which contains a vast amount of valuable statistical information relating to the State of Massachusetts. As regards population per square mile, it is now and has always been first among the States of the Union; the number per square mile in 1860 being 157.83 inhabitants. The population of the state to-day is 1,281,7000; in 1865 it was 1,267,031; males, 602,010; females, 665,020; showing an excess of 63,000 females over the number of males. Of the total population 828,156 were natives of the State. The foreign element is relatively most numerous in Suffolk County, where 33-12 per cent. of the whole population are foreign born. The number of dwellings was returned as 208,698. Of the 10,167 colored persons in Massachusetts, 2,348 are found in Boston, and 1,517 in New-Bedford, and in 58 towns there is no colored person. The largest numbers in the table of occupations of females are domestics, 27,393; operatives, 20,162; and teachers, 6,050.

EARTH'S CURIOUSITIES.—At the city of Medina, in Italy, and about four miles around it wherever the earth is dug, when the workmen arrive at a distance of sixty-three feet, they come to a bed of chalk, which they bore with an auger five feet deep. They then withdraw from the pit before the auger is removed, and upon its extraction the water bursts up through the aperture with great violence, and quickly fills the newly made well, which continues full, and is affected neither by rains or drought. But what is most remarkable in this operation is the layer of earth as we descend. At the depth of fourteen feet are found the ruins of an ancient city—paved streets, houses, floors, and different pieces of mason work.

ASTONISHED RED MEN.—A band of Indians made a sudden attack on a detachment of soldiers in the mountains. The soldiers had a mountain howitzer mounted on a mule. Not having time to take it off and put in position, they backed up the mule and let drive at the Indians. The load was so heavy that mule and all went tumbling down the hill toward the savages, who, not understanding that kind of warfare, fled like deer. Afterwards one of them was captured and asked why he ran so, replied: "Me big Injin, not afraid of little guns or big guns, but when white man load up and fire a whole jackass at Injin me don't know what to do."

THE GERMAN CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES are now preparing for a great international festival of rifle, clubs and musical societies of all countries, to be held in the city of New York next summer. It is expected that at the least calculation one hundred thousand Germans will unite in the varied exercises of shooting, gymnastics and music.

CASES IN POINT.

The deliberate judgment of Congress as to the principles upon which States should be organized, was expressed in the bills for the admission of Nebraska and Colorado. Both those acts contained a proviso that the people of the States should insert a clause in their Constitutions making suffrage impartial. It was not required to be indiscriminate or universal, but to be conferred upon all on the same conditions, without exclusion because of race or color.

The Nebraska bill was passed over President Johnson's veto, and the people of the State accepted the condition it imposed. The Colorado bill having been vetoed likewise, failed of passage in the Senate. Such were the principles which Congress deemed sufficiently republican and progressive when applied to Free States of the North. Is there any good reason why it should be deemed unjust to carry out the same idea of equal rights in reorganizing civil governments at the South.

To Miss Edgeworth, Mrs. Siddons relates an incident in her career which was worth going a long way to hear from her own lips; "She gave us the history of her first acting of Lady Macbeth, and of resolving in the sleep scene to lay down the candlestick, contrary to the precedent of Mrs. Pritchard and all the traditions, before she began to wash her hands and say, 'Out, vile spot!' Sheridan knocked violently at her door during the five minutes she had desired to have entirely to herself, to compose her spirit before the play began. He burst in, and prophesied that she would ruin herself forever if she persevered in the resolution to lay down the candle stick. She pre-stituted however in her determination, succeeded, was applauded and Sheridan begged her pardon. She described with me the excitement given to her by the sight of Bark, Fox, Sheridan and Sir Joshua Reynolds in the pit.

During a recent revival, a very reverend clergyman accosted a young brother with the solemn question: "My young friend, have you prayed to-night for the salvation of your immortal soul?" "No Sir," answered the youth in a penitent tone and with a downcast look. "Do you not desire to offer up thanks for the many mercies you have already received by Divine favor?" "Yes, but I don't know how," hesitatingly answered the youth. "But, my dear boy, you can repeat the publican's prayer, can't you?" answered the minister, gravely. "No sir," was the emphatic response; "I'm a Democrat!"

The Chicago Tribune of Thursday, shows how prizefighting is made a paying business to parties, no matter who is victorious: "Something like 1,800 men yesterday paid five dollars each for railroad tickets to witness a dirty prize fight between a couple of brutes of the genus homo. The railroad company charged, perhaps, fifty dollars per car, or say \$700 for the train. This would leave about \$8,000 to divide among the bruisers, backers, and blacklegs, who got up the affair. Here we discover the chief incentive of the principals and their aiders and abettors, for arranging and placing the performance on the "turf." It was regarded as an unlicensed "amusement," tickets five dollars, and two dollars for "reserved seats." The expense of this entertainment was defrayed by the audience; and so long as one or two thousand fools can be found to waste a day and give five dollars apiece for a show of this sort, there will be no lack of actors willing to perform for half the receipts of such "paying houses."

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The Tribune's special says Stanton does not desire a reinstatement, but wants Congress to take action to rebuke the President. Gen. Averill's name is being pressed for the war office.

A Chinaman in San Francisco met a prominent Democrat the other day in the streets of that city and said to him: "Say, what for Haight be no likee Chinaman? He Govnor now; he makee all Chinamen leave, you tinkee so? What for all Democlat ellee time talkee dam Chinaman? Chinaman alleee same Democlat, no likee nigger, no likee Injun. Bime by Chinaman vote alleee same Mellican man, I guess so, what you tink? Democlat heap taxee Chinaman ten dollars one month, no can pay, too mucche!" The "Democrat's" reply is not given.

The wine interest of California comes more conspicuously into notice every year. In that State, 1000 vines are planted upon one acre of ground, and after the lapse of four years these vines yield one half gallon of wine each or five hundred gallons of wine to the acre. The whole number of vines in California at the end of the year 1865 is reported to have been 40,172,659. The aggregate value of wine manufactured in 1866 was \$35,880,000.

The Louisville Courier is not so certain since Lieutenant General Sherman's St. Louis speech that he is the man for the Conservatives to run for President. The difficulty is Sherman spoke disrespectfully of the "Lost Cause," and is not a Conservative. The identification of Conservatism with the lost cause is highly cheering.

A modern amazon, on her way to a convention, asked for a seat in a crowded car. An old gentleman with keen eyes, inquired, "Be you one of the women righters?" "I be!" answered the undaunted heroine. "Do you believe that a woman has the same rights as a man?" "I do!" (emphatically.) "Well, then, stand up and enjoy them like a man!"

An infamous transaction was brought to light on the presence of Hugh Carson, in Westfield, Henry county, Ill., one day last week. The body of an infant was found in a manger bundled up and labled with a five dollar greenback pinned to it with directions. The infant had died of starvation before it was found, as the stable where it was left was not in use.

The Saturday Review tells a story of an English clergyman, who, misled by the prevalent printing of certain Scriptural words in Italian, read in a sonorous voice, with undue emphasis: "And he spake to his sons, saying, 'Saddle me the ass.' And they saddled him."

I enjoy a good laff—one that rushes out of a man's soul like the breaking up of a Sunday school; but a laff that comes to the surface as the hickups come, or backs out of a man like the struggles of a chicken choked with a chunk of half wet dog, I utterly lament.