

POLITICS OF THE DAY

SENTIMENT OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

The Republican party, in declaring for a single gold standard, does not reflect the sentiments of thousands upon thousands of American voters in this and in other sections of the country. They realize, too, that the Republican party—a party resplendent in illustrious achievements in the past—declared for the gold standard because the Eastern bankers and bond speculators threatened to withhold a corruption fund from the party if their demands for the single gold standard were not complied with. It was not a matter of choice with the "rank and file" of the party, but a matter of fund. The great mass of the Republican party instinctively rebelled against the adoption of such a plank, but the money power, backed by the politicians, was too strong, and to-day the American people behold the sad spectacle of the once great Republican party, through its leaders, bending its knee to political corruption and worshipping the British gold standard. Where are the Lincoln, Seward and Sumners of the Republican party? All gone. Instead of the statesmanship of Abraham Lincoln we have Mark Hanna. Instead of the wisdom of William H. Seward, we have the low cunning and political trickery of Thomas C. Platt. Instead of the devotion and patriotism of Charles Sumner we have the ignorance and dishonesty of Matthew S. Quay. But the corrupt leaders of the Republican party cannot deliver the Republican vote en masse over to the gold standard. The sentiment in that party is almost as strong for silver as it is in the Democratic party. The single gold standard has but few advocates, and they are found principally among those who deal in money. Will the Democratic party take advantage of its opportunity? Will it be true to the principles of Jefferson and Jackson? Will it forsake the principles which it has advocated since the foundation of the Government? Will it say to the Populist, to the silver Republican, and to the Prohibitionist, we are for honest money?—the money of the Constitution—both gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, and we ask you to unite with us and aid in expelling this un-American system from our land? If successful, we will coin all the gold and silver presented to our mints into money of final redemption, and if you believe in rising prices and steady employment to labor, aid us.

Cheap Money Means Higher Prices.
The way to have good times is to increase the number of redemption units. There will not be higher prices without cheaper money. Every final redemption dollar that is coined cheapens money. Coin both metals at the established ratio, and then let the Government redeem its obligations in either gold or silver at its option. The silver unit, if made a legal tender for all debts, will be as good as the gold unit. The Government, by the Constitution, has power to coin money and regulate the value thereof, and why not do it? What can be the objection? What valid reason can be assigned for not making silver final redemption money? The goldbugs do not want it done for the reason that the people's burden would thereby be made lighter and gold less valuable. They demand the dearest money. Self-interest is stronger than humanity, and greed takes the place of patriotism. By changing silver from credit to redemption money the basic principle of "money is added to and the foundation of a sufficient volume of currency is maintained." Both metals would then perform the same functions, thereby strengthening the whole monetary system and making a permanent foundation for the issuance of one dollar in paper, if necessary, for each dollar in coin. Increase the supply of money, and prosperity, like a benediction, will bless mankind.

They Can't Stop It.
The gold standard papers of the Louisville Courier-Journal, Memphis Commercial-Appeal and Richmond Times stripe are doing their utmost to disparage Mr. Harvey's work to raise a fund for the dissemination of wholesome Democratic literature between now and 1900. But that recognized leader of Democracy, William Jennings Bryan, has recognized the regularity and importance of the movement by sending his own subscription, and now to clinch Mr. Bryan's approval Senator Jones, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, and also chairman of the Ways and Means Committee under which Mr. Harvey is doing this work, comes out and gives his hearty endorsement to Mr. Harvey's methods. Certainly the movement could not be in more capable and worthy charge. Mobile (Ala.) News.

Quotations on Value.
"There is no such thing as intrinsic value. Qualities are intrinsic; value is a relation between exchangeable commodities, and, in the eternal fitness of things, never can be invariable. Value is of the mind; it is the estimation placed upon a salable article by those able and willing to buy it. I have seen water sold on the Sahara at 2 frames a bucketful. Was that its intrinsic value? If so, what is its intrinsic value on Lake Superior?"—John W. Bookwalter.

"An object, in fact, whether gold, silver, cotton or any other article, is said to have risen or fallen in value when it will command in exchange a larger or smaller quantity of other things in the

gross than before. The expression is purely relative. Nor can there be such a thing as positive, absolute or real value."—A. Potter.

"The term 'intrinsic value' is used by many writers with a total disregard of the idea involved in the word value. An article may have estimable qualities that are intrinsic, but no article whatever can have intrinsic value. Its 'value' is the mental estimation of its qualities as modified by the limitation of its quantity and the amount of sacrifice necessary to obtain it. In other words, value is subjective, not objective. In economic discussion, however, value is treated as though it resided in the object, rather than in the mind, and while, for convenience, I may occasionally use it in that sense, it is important to bear in mind the distinction."—John P. Jones.

The Quantitative Theory.
It was admitted by the advocates of gold in the Omaha debate that the older authorities, Adam Smith, Ricardo, John Stuart Mill and others, all held to the quantitative theory, but it was insisted that the later ones, excepting Gen. Francis A. Walker, were all against it. This is reiterated by "Sound Money." It was observable, however, that they named none of these modern authorities excepting Edward Atkinson and J. Laurence Laughlin, neither of whom will be remembered as an economist fifteen minutes after he is dead. The truth is, that there is not a disinterested economist of any standing in the world now who denies the "quantitative theory." There were intelligent gold men in the audience who frankly admitted to the writer that their people made a mistake in denying the "quantitative theory," saying that the denial of so plain a proposition "was not in accordance with good common sense."

Millions for Mark's Crown.
Dingley's protective tariff produced its first year a deficit of \$98,248,198, but it put many millions in the pockets of the men who subscribed to Mark Hanna's fund to elect McKinley.

Suppressing Schley.
Admiral Schley is a Democrat, and that is the reason the administration has tried to suppress him, and has kept him from maintaining his place on the naval roll.

Free Coinage, Free Institutions.
Free coinage is inalienably allied to the free institutions of the country; without it we pass to the vassalage of the plutocracy.

The Empress' Photos.
One of the royalties whose pictures American tourists were rarely able to add to their collections of photographs was the late Empress of Austria. The Emperor of Germany is possibly the easiest to obtain in any fashion that may be desired, and the rest of the European sovereigns, in somewhat less varied styles, are accessible enough. But the Empress of Austria had not been photographed for many years before her death. The picture of her that was sold most frequently shows her in evening dress holding a fan, and turned, with three-quarters of her face visible. Her hair falls low over her shoulders and she wears a tiara of diamonds. This photograph is the copy of a portrait painted more than a score of years ago. Since that time she has never been photographed even for the members of her family. She was a beautiful woman at the time the portrait was painted. After that she faded greatly and little of her former beauty remained. It was her desire that her subjects should remember her as she appeared then, and so later likenesses were ever published.

An Unusual Death Notice.
Frau Regina Deixner died recently at Werschetz, in South Hungary, at the age of 111 years. The death notice read as follows: "Filled with grief, we inform all relatives and friends of the decease of our beloved mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother, great-great-grandmother and great-great-great-grandmother," followed by the signatures of three sons, two daughters, thirty-five grandchildren, ninety great-grandchildren, twelve of the fourth and three of the fifth generation, in all 145 living persons directly sprung from her, besides those of their husbands and wives. She had lived under the Emperors Joseph II., Leopold II., and Francis I., of the Holy Roman empire, and under Francis I., Ferdinand V., and Francis Joseph I., Emperors of Austria.

The Saloonkeeper to the Klondike.
Champagne brings \$25 a bottle in Dawson. The regular price of a drink of whisky is 50 cents, and the saloonkeeper claims that he is making no profit at this price, when he has to pay \$40 to \$50 a gallon for it wholesale—because the miners take such large drinks. The saloonkeepers, however, are not unable to take care of themselves. They adulterate their whisky freely with Yukon water, and they are always careful to have the balance on their side when the weigher puts the customers' dust on the scales. Underneath the scales is a piece of Brussels carpet, and any particles of dust that may accidentally fall in the operation are hidden for harvest after the closing hour.

Gen. Miles' son, Sherman, accompanied his father to Porto Rico as a volunteer aid, serving without pay and without commission. He was offered a commission by the Governor of Massachusetts, but refused it.

TREES WHICH DRAW LIGHTNING

Select Beeches for Shelter During a Storm and Avoid Oaks.

Alex. McAdie has asked the weather bureau to investigate the question why some kinds of trees are more frequently struck by lightning than others. Apart from the importance of this subject from other points of view, it demands attention primarily as a matter of saving human life. As Mr. McAdie shows, many people, particularly farmers and those who work in the fields exposed to thunder storms, will work until the storm is almost upon them, and then run to the nearest tree for shelter.

If the tree is an oak, and the charged thunder clouds are moving toward it with high electric potential, the person or persons under the tree are in the line of strain and all unconsciously are contributing to the establishment of a path for the lightning discharge through themselves. On the other hand, if the tree selected for shelter happens to be a beech tree, there is some reason to believe that it will afford safety as well as protection, though the reason why is not at present made clear. It is known that the oak is relatively the most frequently struck, and the beech the least frequently struck.

Based on the somewhat loose collation of figures on the subject heretofore available, it is estimated that in the matter of relative attraction of lightning, if the beech is represented by 1, the pine stands at 15; trees, collectively, rank about 40 and oaks 54. The trees struck are not necessarily the highest or the most prominent. Oak trees have been struck twice in the same place on successive days. Trees have been struck before rain began and split, and trees have been struck during rain and only scorched.

It is suggested that the division of forestry and the division of vegetable pathology shall combine with the weather bureau in an exhaustive investigation of this subject, and that those familiar with forests in their respective neighborhoods will tender their experience as to the relative frequency of lightning strokes on different kinds of trees. But before any statement is made as to the danger of standing under certain trees during thunder storms, the more general questions of the effect of lightning upon trees will have to be gone into. Such a study will deserve the co-operation of statisticians, physicists and vegetable pathologists.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A Tiger of the Sea.

The shark is a creature gifted with great strength, a savage temper, dogged perseverance and exceptional power of jaw. The lion and tiger may mangle, the crocodile may lacerate, the bulldog may hold fast—the shark alone of living creatures possesses the power of nipping off a human limb at a clean bite. One ill service Nature has done the shark—namely, that of placing a triangular fin on its back which acts as a danger signal, and gives warning of his approach. Happily the shark has not been gifted with sufficient sagacity to be aware of this peculiarity, for if he had been so he would unquestionably abandon his habits of swimming close to the surface of the water, and would, in that case, be enabled to approach his victim unobserved. The shark is a slow swimmer, for its size and strength. Byron observes, "as darts the dolphin from the shark"; but Byron was a poet and does not appear to have been a close observer of the habits of the inhabitants of the water, or he would have known that a shark would have no more chance of catching a dolphin than a sheep would of overhauling a hare. A shark will keep up with a sailing ship, but it is as much as it can do to follow in the wake of a fast steamer, and a torpedo boat would be able to give it points.

Habit.

"My friend," said the benevolent citizen, "you ought to break away from your present mode of existence."
"Mister," replied Meandering Mike, "you've sounded de keynote of me ambitions, I'm tired o' dis life."
"I'm glad to hear you say so."
"Yes, sir, I've been doin' me best to live on no meals a day for de last thirty-six hours, an' I'm willin' wit' de help of anything from ten cents up, ter reform."

"I am afraid that it is habit that brought you to this. Beware of habit!"
"Looky 'ere, mister. You don't need to warn me. I'm as scary of habit as anybody dat travels. I know wot hab'it'll do fur a man. I had a friend once; dat got a job."
"And he lost it?"

"No, sir. He got in de hab'it o' workin' an' now he don't do nothin' day in six day out except go to work in de mornin', work all day an' go home at night ter git a little sleep so's he'll be able to work nex' day. It's dat way right along, only on Sunday, an' den dey locks 'im out'n de shop."

Chinese Imperial Ceremony.

On the accession of a new Emperor of China he goes in solemn state to the Temple of Heaven, in Peking, and formally announces to his imperial predecessors the new titles and dignities which he has assumed. These ancestors are then dutifully invited to the banquet of commemoration, where seats are duly reserved for them.

Besieged.

"Those Perkins girls seem to be popular."
"Popular? Their father has advertised for bids to build a barb-wire trench around the house."—Washington Star.

Whenever a girl begins to lecture a young man on financial economy, he can safely ask her to name the happy day.

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY

The Cause and the Cure.

Wholesale grocers from nearly every city in the United States recently met in the city of New York for the purpose of forming an organization through which to dictate to the retail grocers. Prices that wholesale grocers may charge are already fixed for them by great trusts in many articles, such as sugar, starch, canned goods, and crackers. It is in response to this law that the great trusts are being formed. The world has embarked upon a protracted and indefinite period of falling prices. The goal sought is a gold standard. Just what compensations a gold standard can offer for the ruin of the world it is difficult to understand, and as yet no one has attempted to explain. If a gold standard is ever attained it can be appropriately written on that standard: "The happiness and prosperity of the human race have been sacrificed in order that I might exist." If the wholesale grocers, the retail grocers, and the consumers of groceries understood the meaning of a gold standard, that it meant a contraction of the world's money supply and a consequent fall of prices to a point probably not more than one-fifth the present general level, they would understand that industrial competition could not survive the strain, and that even the formation of a trust could only afford temporary relief to the members of the combination. Such a shrinkage of values and fall of prices as must take place before a gold standard is a reality will not only confiscate the property of all who are now in debt, but in the end must so concentrate the property of the world into the hands of the few, that the masses will be reduced to a dependent tenantry from whom rents and taxes can only be collected by means of a soldiery such as Li Hung Chang and the other Chinese viceroys have employed for centuries in the celestial empire. Twenty-five years ago a prosperous and progressive world, in which the sum of human happiness was yearly increasing, was interrupted by an attempt on the part of a combination of the world's creditors to restrict the world's money supply to gold alone for the purpose of giving to money a greater command over other things; in other words, to give it a greater purchasing power in order to compel debtors to pay money of greater value than they received, thus enriching creditors unjustly at the expense of their debtors. It would doubtless be giving too much credit to the intelligence of the creditor combination to believe that they comprehended or anticipated the disaster that would befall the world as the result of the demonization of silver. We think it more near the truth to say that they understood that enormous and unjust gain would accrue to themselves and that they were not prompted by any desire to destroy mankind, but were actuated and impelled solely by an inordinate and uncontrollable desire for gain. The amount that the world suffers through debtors having to pay creditors in larger, farther, and more valuable dollars than they agreed to, constitutes a small part of the evils of a gold standard. A far greater evil is to be found in the fact that, falling prices makes enterprise the unerring road to bankruptcy, and does not permit the enterprising, thrifty, and industrious to pay debts out of the proceeds of current production. This condition compels the sacrifice of capital invested in production to meet such obligations as would not be considered imprudent on the part of any business man to incur, and which could be easily met and still leave enterprise a legitimate profit under normal market conditions. The experience of the past twenty years has clearly demonstrated that business cannot be successfully prosecuted under the laws of free competition while the general level of prices is sinking. This knowledge has driven individuals and corporations having large capital invested in competition with them to form gigantic partnerships or trusts with sufficient power to dictate, unconditionally, terms, and prices to their customers. By this process industrial competition is displaced by industrial despotism. The trusts being outside of economic law—industrial despotisms no longer subject to the law of competition—can dictate terms to the trade in their particular lines and by increasing the burdens of the people secure to themselves for the time being immunity from loss on account of the fall of general prices. Thus the law of self-preservation has driven the manufacturers and traders of the country having large capital in their business into trusts to such an extent that the profits of the industry of the whole country now flows into the pockets of a comparatively small number of men. In the formation of a trust only the great and powerful competitors join together. After these have combined they use the power of their united capital to crush and drive out of business all small operators until the field becomes exclusively their own. In the smaller industries not requiring large capital in few hands where trusts have not been formed and competition has held sway, bankruptcy and ruin is the inevitable fate of large and increasing numbers as time progresses. The trust is able to secure for itself immunity from these conditions only for a short time. The beneficial effect of falling prices when long continued falls with crushing force upon the laboring population. Those who employ labor in production realize that in order to avoid loss they must cut down wages and thus cheapen production in anticipation of the inevitable

lower prices they must meet in the market. Thus the power to purchase and hence the consuming power of the people is reduced until the labor of a small portion will suffice to produce all the goods that can be sold, when the trusts will find themselves compelled to continue to reduce the price of their products as time goes on. Hence the capital representing a trust has to be scaled down year by year. On the road to the gold standard the individual competitor falls first by the wayside to make room for the trust, but it is only a matter of time when the trust itself will be forced to sacrifice its capital through loss of profits. The only salvation for the people is to understand the forces that are at work, and apply the remedy by restoring bimetallicism and providing for an adequate increase of legal tender money to keep pace with increasing population and business and give stability to general prices.

Silver Still Lives.

Finding harmony an impossibility, the Republicans again proclaim to the world that the currency issue is "dead, damned and delivered," that Bryan has sunk into oblivion, and that in the campaign of the future nothing will be said or heard of the "silver craze" or "the crime of '73."

And so every few days we read an obituary on silver, and again and again do they declare its death. Surely it must have more deaths than a cat, or else these headline enthusiasts must have strokes of insensibility and go into fits more often than the moon changes. Like Banquo's ghost, it will not down.

All this talk about silver being dead comes from those who acted the part of party traitors, joined the Republican Aid Society in 1896, and assisted in the election of McKinley. That said, it is useless to add that such statements are false. The masses of the people were never more in earnest than now on the money question. They were never more aggressive in their demands for the restoration of the money of the Constitution. They expect, by organized fighting, to restore a government by the people and for the welfare of all the people, and get re-enacted the law authorizing the coinage of both gold and silver, as formerly, into primary money, instead of the silly and unsuccessful experiment of coining gold alone.

Gold Standard Problem.

There are men who in the face of proven facts still maintain that gold is not appreciating in value. To such we would say, as Sir Richard Thompson, M. P., did say in England, "let them try and get some, not by borrowing, but as owners of it." They will then see. This one patent fact being admitted, then what honest man can defend gold monometallism? If he doubts the fact that money is appreciating, then he needs to study the proofs offered.

One argument advanced against the restoration of silver to mint rights is that it will inflate values. Examine that for a moment. If all the annual production of the silver mines of the world were added to the present volume of gold and silver, it would be only an increase of about 4 per cent. If cutting off that supply has not appreciated the value—its purchasing power—of gold, then how in the name of common sense could its restoration inflate to any injurious extent?

The fact is, the masters in the wretched scheme know the truth, and delude ignorant people with vain arguments to conceal the real question, which is one of public justice. For the first time in recorded history we see the unblushing attempt to give a monopoly value to gold. If any man will examine this subject with an open mind he will see the truth. It has been the invariable result, and to-day many of the strongest advocates of bimetallicism were formerly on the other side.

Telegraph Blunders.

Two funny telegraph stories are printed by the Pittsburg Dispatch of the authority of a former employe of the Western Union Company.

He was receiving a dispatch from Albany, in which the sender was not overcareful in the matter of spacing his letters. Layton took the address as follows: "Dr. A. Wing, room at agent, Central Depot, New York."

The dispatch came back with the marginal report that there was no such person at the address named. The operator at Albany was called up, and explanations followed, in consequence of which the address was changed to "drawing-room-car agent, Central Depot." A still more absurd mistake was once made in the same offices when a telegram was received for "James W. Giles, pie clerk, Brooklyn nasty yard." This was afterward amended to read, "James W. Gillespie, clerk, Brooklyn Navy Yard."

Effect of Lime on the System.

A medical scientist is authority for the statement that children and old people especially suffer from a lack of lime in the system. Persons who habitually drink soft water, while they may enjoy immunity from certain of the ills of life, expose themselves to others perhaps quite as much to be avoided. Hard water helps the teeth and the bones by furnishing lime, which is necessary to health, growth and development. Old persons who drink but little lose their teeth more quickly than those who take a reasonable amount of drinking water. Lime, or food products in which it abounds, should be a part of the regular supply furnished to the system. One of the most valuable vegetables for this purpose is the yellow turnip or rutabaga, which should be given to growing children at least once a week. Properly prepared, it is very palatable, and its food value has never been appreciated.

Progress is the onward stride of God.—Victor Hugo.

THE KAISER OFF DUTY.

Insight Into the Private Life of the Emperor.

The imperial family have been leading a delightfully quiet, unconstrained life at Wilhelmshohe, rare enough event, and just what the Kaiser and his wife enjoy. His Majesty has even been wearing civilian's dress, a thing he hardly ever does. He wore alternately a black serge suit and a knockabout pepper-and-salt jacket suit of rough tweed, with a collar a la Prince of Wales, and a large navy plastron tie. The Kaiser sported a plain straw hat with black band generally, but occasionally chose a small soft black cloth hat, and in this every-day attire he was frequently passed in Cassel unrecognized, to his intense amusement.

Almost at break of day the German ruler and his family were up and about. The Kaiser only allowed himself twenty minutes for his toilet, and punctually at 7 all met for morning coffee in the dining room, the Kaiserin pouring out for her husband and sons like any other hausfrau. After breakfast the Kaiser rode with his sons, or took a long walk till luncheon; then his Majesty superintended the swimming or riding lessons of the younger boys, frequently standing in the center of the riding school with a long whip, a la circus manager to assist in taking the jumps. In the afternoon the Kaiser and his wife went arm-in-arm round the farm, where her Majesty fed the chickens and pigeons with the assistance of princesschen, inspected the dairies and tasted the butter. The young princes looked for eggs, helped to gather fruit and enjoyed their holidays like any farmer's sons home from school.

Dinner was at 6; before and after the meal the Kaiser retired to his study for an hour or two to settle the affairs of the fatherland, while the Kaiserin drove her pony carriage, with her small daughter at her side, into Cassel, where she did shopping. Every evening was devoted to music. The Kaiserin, who is a very fair pianist—though not the magnificent performer the women's papers say she is—played Wagner and Bach to her husband, and accompanied her eldest son, who is becoming an excellent violinist. At 10 o'clock the eldest boys retired, and by 11 o'clock all the lights were extinguished in Schloss Wilhelmshohe.—London Society.

MOTOR VEHICLES.

One Style Intended for Gentlemen with Bibulous Tendencies.

A recent parade of about 100 motor cars in London exhibited all the latest and best devices in the line of horseless vehicles, and many new designs brought over from the continent were seen for the first time on English roads. Lighter modes of construction were especially practicable, and some of the turnouts stand comparison with first-class victorias and broughams. One car in particular, which has earned for itself the sobriquet of the "drunkard's car," by reason of its adaptation for alcoholists, attracted not a little attention. It is steered by a bath chair handle, which is kept slightly pressed down when running, but if the pressure is relieved or the handle is turned in wide and erratic fashion, it runs off the pressing pin, and the motor automatically stops.

The motor bicycle was also represented in the procession—a neat little machine, hardly distinguishable from the ordinary safety bicycle, except by the addition of a tiny petroleum engine attached to the handle bars, which is joined up by an endless band to the front wheel, so that it is both a front driver and steerer. In ordinary use the pedals can be used as boot rests, but the petroleum can be switched off, and the machine driven by pedal and chain the ordinary way at the rider's pleasure, and the motive power restored when a steep hill has to be overcome. Complete, this motor bicycle weighs about sixty-five pounds.—Baltimore Sun.

The Drift of a Derelict.

If a derelict is full of lumber she is like a rock. If water-logged, these silent freebooters cannot be sunk unless broken in such a manner that the cargo is released. Fire has been found effective in destroying derelicts. It was successful in all but four cases in forty-five. One of the failures was with the Fannie E. Wolston, an American schooner, one of the most remarkable derelicts of which we have record. She was abandoned Oct. 15, 1891, between the capes of Virginia and Hatteras. She drifted about half-way across the Atlantic (the hydrographic office received numerous reports of her), her course veering to the south, until she was about opposite Madeira. There she zig-zagged until February, 1893. Then she drifted south until May of that year. From May until early in 1894 she was drifting toward the Bahamas. Feb. 1 she was about north of Nassau. On the pilot chart for June, 1894, she is located on the eastern border of the Gulf stream and southeast of Cape Hatteras. In June, 1894, she had been a derelict 950 miles, and had drifted over 7,000 miles, the longest track of the kind on record, to find herself within a few miles, comparatively speaking, of the point at which she was abandoned.—St. Nicholas.

Learned the Vows by Heart.

A recent marriage service was made more attractive because the bride and groom, instead of saying their vows, parrot-like, after the minister, learned them and uttered them to each other simply and naturally.

It is said that sunlight is of less benefit to a growing crop of wild oats than the electric light.

A scientist has discovered that thirst drives 99 per cent. of mankind to drink. Science is a wonderful thing.