FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THIS COUNTRY

Protection of the Treasury Against Raids Upon the Gold Reserve-Better Banking Facilities_Personnlity of Commissioners.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—The business men of the country intend to ask a hearing at the coming asssion of congress. The Menetary commission, which has been siting hard upon a measure of currency reone of the working business men from the

was high time for business men to interest themselves in the subject. They called a preliminary conference at Indianapolis in December last, when it was resolved to invite the boards of trade from all over the country to send delegates to a large conference in January. The outcome was a delegate convention, which adopted resolutions declaring for the gradual retirement of the paper circulation and the substitution of a banking currency. An executive commit-tee was appointed, with Mr. Hanna as the tee was appointed, with Mr. Hanna as the chairmen. This committee was instructed to ask congress to authorize the appointment of a commission to study the currency problem and report a bill for the action of the two houses. It was in pursuance of this request that President McKinley sent to congress his message urging the appointment of such a commission. A bill for the purpose passed the house of representatives on July 24, but was not acted upon by the senate. Mr. Hanna then called a meeting of the executive committee, who proceeded to act unbder the alternative power given them by the Indianapolis convention to apthem by the Indianapolis convention to ap-point a commission of private citizens. It is this commission which has been at work upon a comprehensive scheme of currency reform. Their plan is approaching completion and will probably be given to the pub-lic at about the time of the meeting of congress in December. FIRST OF ITS KIND.

The project of a commission of experts for dealing with the currency has not before been tried in the United States. Such commissions have frequently been named in Europe and their reports are among the most valuable contributions both to theore-tical and practical finance. One of the best written of these reports was that of the British Gold and Silver commission in 1888, which discussed the various phases of the silver question and the arguments for and against bimetallism, but concluded with and against bimetallism, but concluded with
the recommendation that Great Britain adhere to the gold standard. A commission
of this sort was appointed by the governmenta of Austria-Hungary in 1892, and paved
the way for the restoration of specie payments after an experience with irredeemable
paper almost unbroken for 100 years. It
was the report of a similar commission
which led to the suspension of free coinage
in British India in 1893 and the adoption of
a fixed par of exchange for the silver rupee.
These are only a few of the later reports These are only a few of the later reports of this character. The Bullion report submitted to the British Parliament in 1810 has been famous as a political classic from that day to this, and the inquiries made in regard to the failure of the English banking act after the crises of 1847 and 1857 are almost equally interesting. The commis-sion now sitting at Washington may make a report which will mark an epoch in Amer lean finance in much the same way as the Bullion report and the report of the In A report, outlining the conclusions of the commission, is to be given to the public within a few weeks. The more elaborate presentation of arguments upon every de tail of the proposed measure is being pre pared under the supervision of Prof. Laugh-lin, the author of "A History of Bimetallisa in the United States." and may require se-

eral weeks more for its completion.

The Monetary commission now in session in this country differs from those appointed abroad in the fact that it is distinctly represented. sentative of the business interests and ha no official character. Some of the delegates to the Indianapolis convention believed that a commission coming thus from the heart of the business community would have even greater influence than a political commission named by the president. President McKin-ley is understood to have declared that he wis immensely pleased with the character of the appointments made upon the commission and that he could not have made better selections if they had been left to him What is hoped by the prompters of the work is that the report of the commission will be approved by all the boards of trade which delegates to Indianapolis, and that this uninimous demand of the organized representatives of the business community will command the respectful attention of con-One of the striking facts connected with the service of the commission is the disinterestedness with which the members have given themselves to the work. Mem-bers of the executive committee have devoted many days to the work, and the mem pers of the commission are serving without any competeation beyond their expenses. The majority of them are giving their time at the sacrifice of important business intermis, because they believe that the condition of the country imperatively requires a radioal reform of the currency system.

Mr. Hanna and his associates worked hard

to secure thoroughly representative men on the commission, and were greatly pleased when they obtained the consent of Judge Edmunds of Vermont to serve as chairman Judge Edmunds is recognized as one of the greatest lawyers in the country, and his word carried greater weight during his long service in the senate from 1866 to 1891 than that of almost any other member. He was recognized as absolutely honest, almost unlimited in information and unrivalled in clearness of intellectual vision. These great qualities he has brought to the service of the commission. He hesitated at first to take the time necessary from the large practice which has developed since he voluntarily resigned from the senate six years ago. He assured Mr. Hanna that it would give him citer pride to be associated with this work than any other which could possibly be suggreated, and he finally concluded that he would make the sacrifice. Mr. Charles S. Fairchild, who succeeded Daniel Manning as represents the great financial interests of Another member of the com-Stuyvesant Fish, is olso a New Yorker, but his interests lie in the west. He has succeeded, as president of the Illinois Central railroad, in securing the hearty cooperation of every employe of the system which he has inaugurated of selling them the stock of the road upon small installments. The purpose of the Indianapolis committee

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Progress of the Work Undertaken by United
States Monetary Commission.

Was to make the commission essentially representative of the business community rather than of bankers or of political economists.

Mr. Fish, Colonel George E. Leighton of St. Louis, the vice chairman of the commission;

Mr. T. G. Bush of Alabama, Mr. W. B. Dean of Minnesota, Mr. J. W. Fries of North Carolina and Mr. Louis A. Garnett of California are especially representative of this idea.

Judge Robert S. Taylor of Indiana is a leading attorney, but also has large business in-Judgo Robert S. Taylor of Indiana is a leading uttorney, but also has large business interests. Mr. C. Stuart Patterson of Philadelphia and Prof. J. Laurence Laughlin of the University of Chicago represent the banking and economic side of the commission, and their special training has been of big value in perfecting the details of the work under discussion.

TWO GREAT PROBLEMS.

ting here at intervals since the 20th of sections of the country. The commissioners september, has not yet made a great deal of noise, but the members have been working hard upon a measure of currency re-Ing hard upon a measure of currency reform which they propose to present to congress with the business sentiment of the
country behind it. The movement has been
one of the working business men from the one of the working business men from the outset and has been independent of the Bankers' association or any other body of probably be issued by the national banks. The commissioners hope to disarm the prejudice against national banks by putting it certed action by the business interests in their power to extend a more generous social and was given form by a committee headed by Mr. Hugh H. Hanna of that city-The hard fight over silver last year which followed three years of financial depression and enxiety convinced Mr. Gianna and his associates that important changes were needed in the currency system, and that it was high time for business men to interest themselves in the subject. They called a transfer of the subject of the currency based substantially upon banking assets. This means that a bank may themselves in the subject. They called a issue notes for circulation as money without depositing United States bonds in the custody of the United States treasurer, as required by existing law-in other words, that a bank shall have control of its banking capital instead of surrendering it to the cus-tody of the United States, or any other person or corporation for non-banking purposes. It is not proposed, however, to permit banks to issue notes freely upon their general as-sets without ample provision for their safety. Safety is ensured in Canada, whose banking system is the model of many of those recom-mended to the commission, by the maintenance of a general safety fund in the ene-tedy of the government, contributed by the banks, by making the circulating notes a first lien on the assets and by authorizing the assessment of shareholders, if necessary to redeem the notes, to the amount of their holdings of the capital of the bank.

holdings of the capital of the bank.

SOME OF THE PROJECTS AHEAD.

The issue of circulating notes upon banking assets prevails in nearly all the solvent banking systems of Europe, but is a somewhat novel proposition in this count y after thirty-three years of experience with a different system. Just how far the commission will go in this direction has not been determined. Steps toward such a currency have been recommended in the Baltimore plan, the report of Secretary Carlisle in 1894, several reports by Comptroller Eckels and several reports by Comptroller Eckels and the recently published plan of Secretary Gage. Some conservative bankers are a lithe timid in granting the power to issue no es upon assets to the small banks of the south and west, and may criticise such a policy if it is embodied in the report of the commission. The great weight of the opinion of nearly all political economists and trained financiers is likely to be thrown into the scale in favor of a currency based upon assets, although they may differ in regard to details. The argument which is most pow-erful with those who advocate this system of note issues is the fact that it will pro-more the creation of banks in the south and west, and will enable them to extend credit on much lower terms than is now done. This is the case in Canada, where rates of interis the case in Canada, where rates of inter-est at the branch banks in remote corners of Manitoba and the interior provinces are only a fraction of 1 per cent higher than in Mon-treal and other commercial centers. The work upon a measure of currency re-form has been going on steadily since Sep-tember 20, when the commissioners held

their first meeting. Several days were de-voted to general discussion of the cur ency outlook and three sub-committees were then appointed to consider the several subjects of coinage, the government demand notes and ie banking system. The commission has adjourned on several occasions for a week at a time in order that the members might return home to attend to their personal af-fairs, but the work has not been neglected during these intervals.

CHARLES A, CONANT.

CONNUBIALITIES.

A 76-year-old lover at Coventry, England, finding, as the wedding day grew near, that he had not money enough to pay the expenses, drowned himself in a pond.

Two rivals in Tiffin, O., engaged in a prize

Two rivals in Tillin O., engaged in a prize fight to decide who should marry a girl they both loved. Then the girl wedded the stakeholder, who had promoted the battle. In all affairs in which Cupid is a principal he stukeholder usually wins. First Lieutenant Count Adolph von Gotzen

of the German embassy at Washington, whose engagement to Mrs. M. S. Lay of Washington is announced, is the head of a well known German family whose estates are in the Province of Silesia.

Just outside the town of Cape Porpoise. Miss., live the oldest married couple in the United States. They are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Manuel, and they are 101 and 98 years of age, respectively. The aged pair have lived ogether for seventy-seven years and are still

A Washington paper tells of the way a second time last month evaded a dilemma. She promised her first husband that no matter what happened she would wear his ring as long as she lived. She couldn't quite bring herself to wear two wedding rings. so-well, she simply had the date of her second wedding and her second husband's initials engraved in the first husband's ring. She tells of it with honest pride, too.

Miss Lowry of Michigan has gone to Mis Miss Lowry of Michigan has gone to Mis-souri to organize the Missouri giris into anti-tobacco leagues, whose members will piedge themselves not to marry any man that defiles himself with the noxious weed. But un-fortunitely the outlook for the success of her efforts is not bright. The wills of Missouri efforts is not bright. The girls of Missour are charming and desirable, like the girl f other states, but if they force the Mis Missouri meerschaum, the stogie and the quid they are morally certain to be shocked grievously.

Ohristmas day, 1896, a party of Shelbyville Ind., bachelors dined together, and while heated with wine and otherwise irresponsible and foolhardy they entered into an agree-ment to marry before Christmas, 1897, or forfeit \$100 each to each member of the party that did marry. Of course they expected that the publication of these facts would be of some interest to "woman, lovely woman," but they did not anticipate that 3 000 of the but they did not anticipate that 3,000 of the fair sex would take pen in hand to do what little they could to save the forfeits for the various members of the party. Yet such was

the result. Hawels, in his reminiscences, tells of an extraordinary courtship in Union county, Tennessee. "I was in the 'frog pond' district Tennessee. "I was in the 'frog cond' district of the county, when a young man rode up in front of the cabin where I was stopping and spoke to a girl who was dipping water from a spring. 'Howdy, Sal?' 'Howdy, Tom?' 'Come jump on the hoss an' go to Erwin with me.' 'What fur?' 'Ter git married.' 'But yo' hain't done co'ted me yit.' 'I know I

hain't, but I've been too pestered with work. I alius intended to marry yer, though.' 'But I alius intended to merry yer, though.' 'But I hain't got no clo's,' remonstrated the girl. 'Well, we'll ride on yon side of Erwin to Sister Mag's in the cove, and I'll git yer a dress.' 'Sho'ly, Tom?' 'Sho'ly, Sal.' 'Whit kin' of a dress?' 'Best thar is in Lowe's sto'.' Not another word was said. Sal dropped the bucket and jumped upon the horse, shouting to her mother, 'Mam, me an' Tom is goin' ter git married at Erwin! We'll be by here in tha mornin'.' The mother started as if to call her back, but the horse started as if to call her back, but the horse was galloping down the lane, and she went and carried off the bucket of water without

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THE WEDDING DAY.

than the lowest.

Edmund Clarence Stedman.

"Sweetheart, name the day for n.e When we two shall wedded be. Make it ere another moon. While the meadows are in tune, And the robins mate and sing. And the robins mate and sing. Whisper, love, and name a day In this merry month of May."

"No, no, no, you shall not escape me so! Love will not forever wait; Roses fade when gathered late."

"Fig. for shame, Sir Malcontent!
How can time be better spent
Than in wooing? I would wed
When the clover blossom's red,
When the air is full of bliss,
And the sunshine like a kiss,
If you're good, I'll grant a boon;
You shall have me, sir, in June."
"Nay, nay, nay,
Girls for once should have their way,
If you love me, wait till June;
Rosebuds wither, picked too soon."

Arnold's Bromo Celery cures headaches, 10c, 25c and 50c. All druggists. RELIGIOUS.

There are about 200,000 white Baptists in The Methodist Episcopal church is reported to have 10,000 members in Oklahoma. The American Baptist Publication so-ciety published nearly 40,000,000 periodicals

last year. It is said that the archbishop of Canter bury advised his clergy to burn their ser-mons when they had preached them three

The centenary of Methodism in Wales is to be celebrated by raising by 1900 a large sum of money for the clearing of debts and the erection of new chapels. Rev. J. A. Thompson has preached for a congregation in Thomasville, Ga., for thirty-three years and has just thad his first vacation in all that time. He took ten days

The Primitive Methodists and Bible Christians of England contemplate uniting, and the name "British Methodist church" has been suggested as suitable for the united churches.

Rev. W. H. Cockedeller's gift to missions are made as sensation by his speech at Pittsburg in fegard to Mr. Rockedeller's gift to missions are withdrawn from the Missionary union and united with the Christian Alliance.

Missions, is pastor of the First Congregi-tional church of Hartford, Conn. He is a graduate and trustee of Amherst college. A deaf and dumb pupil being asked the question, "What is eternize?" replied, "The lifetime of the Aimighty."

Joe Jeb, a Chinaman, has recently been ordained in the Congregational church and has sailed to preach to his countrymen. Bishop Fowler says it costs the United States \$120 a year to take care of an un-Christian Indian and but \$7 to care for a Christian Indian.

V. D. David, a converted Hindoo, who has preached in nearly every country of the world, now threatens to descend on Chicago. He sometimes presches eighteen hours on a stretch. The English Wesleyan Methodist church

recently rejected a proposition to exclude liquor dealers from church membership, on the ground that "so radical a measure would The "Children of Mary," a society in the Roman Cathol's church, celebrates this year

its golden jubilee. The society was approved by Pope Pius IX on June 20, 1847. It now numbers 1,700 branches and includes 100,000 Rev. David Bruner, an old Kentucky clergymin who has served more than fifty years, has heard confersions of more than 10,000 persons, has daptized 3,500 and has married 2,500 couples.

The original portrast of Mrs. Susannah Wesley, mother of John and Chorles Wesley, has come into the possession of the Wesleysh Methodist beokroom authorities of London and is deposited at the conference office. At sixteen Episcopal churches within a 500-yard radius of the Mansion House, Lon-

don, the attendance on a recent Sunday num-hered only 1.990. These churches cost an-nually £25,000, thus making each attendant cost practically over £12 a year. Bishop John P. Newman has returned to Saratoga Springs from his extended trip across the continent. Since he left, the latter part of the summer, he has traveled more than 7,000 miles, and has presided over five conferences of the Methodist church. Rev. W. H. Cossum, who created something

verts met in a prominent square and built a bonfire, into which they threw their playing ourds, dice, etc. It is stated that a storecards.

services were held in Ciapton Congress hall,

society teport, the number of languages into which the whole bible has been translated is keepers.

107. In addition to these, the New Testa- The Brotherhood of St. Andrew, a society which the whole bible has been translated is 107. In addition to these, the New Testanent has been translated into 101 languages, thus making the number of languages into which it has been translated 208.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew, a society of men in the Protestant Episcopal church, organized in 1883, has at present nineteentwhich it has been translated 208. which it has been translated 208. The people of India have great confidence

in medical missionaries, as is evinced in the fact that the native people in and around Madura City, most of them heathens, have contributed £2,900 for the erection of a hospital in that city, to be the property of the American Board of Missions.

Rev. John W. Doughtery of the Apostolic church of Hichmond, Va., has startled his congregation by the promulgation of an edict that after Sunday next the use of tobacco in any form or dealing in it as an article of trade will debar any person from holding a membership in his church. One of the pulpits from which John Wesley preached stands in front of a Wesleyan chapel at Wednesbury, England. It con-sists of a horse-block; from which the founder of Methodism preached no less than

forty-five sermons. In his time it stood by the side of a building in one of the open spaces of that town. Dr. Hicks, the English bishop of Bloem-fontein, South Africa, is a distinguished scientist as well as theologian, having carried off honors and prizes in chemistry, biology, anatomy and animal physiology in the University of London and at Cambridge,

and being the author of "Standard Text-Book of Inorganic Chemistry." Superintendent Wishard of the Presby-terian sylod in Utah has 1,500 members in the Mormon field, a large majority of whom are from Mormon families. The Presbyterian church has 1,116 members, a large proportion of whom were formerly Mormons, and the combined forces of Protestanism report 5,161

members, many of whom were formerly mem-bers of the Mormon church. Dr. Lamson, who succeeds Dr. Storrs as president of the American Board of Foreign Milledgeville, Ga., during which the con-

unions, and be composed of not less than 100 members. The denominational represen-tation of the board is to be retained. The keeper thus destroyed 500 new packs of by-laws of the society have also been al-

-1110 Farnam.

Twelve thousand staff and field officers of the Salvation army were present at the persons. There are twenty valets, 120 house recent memorial services, conducted by General Booth, on the seventh anniversary of the Booth's "promotion to glory." The thirty officers of the noble guards and sixty Mrs. Booth's "promotion to glory." guardsmen fourteen officers of the Swiss guard and palace guard, seven honorary chap-According to the British and Foreign Bible lains, twenty private secretaries, ten stewards

> There are in the United States 1,226 chapters, with 12,000 members; in Canada, 312 chapters, with 1,500 members; in Scotland, twelve chapters, with 500 members; in Australia, forty chapters, with 500 members; in the West Indies and South America, sixteen chapters, with 360 members, and in the Church of England, thirty-nine chapters, with 350 members.

It is announced that the two hundredth anniversary of the reopening of St. Paul's cathedral in London, December 2, will be commemorated by a great Masonic service, the tradition being that Sir Christopher Wren was master of the Lodge of Antiquities. This lodge was the oldest in England, and used to meet at a hostelry in the churchyard during the building of the cathedrai. It is also believed that most of the workmen were Free Masons.

At the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church North (one of the four ecclesiastical divisions of the Presbyterian church in the United States) it was reported officially that the total contributions for the year ending on May 1, 1897, were \$13,298,067. Of this sum \$4,500,000 was devoted to charitable purposes, the remainder being for congregational expenses. In 1840 the benevolent contributions of the same church were \$160,000, and the average of gifts member was 99 cents. During the presen decade the annual average has been \$4.90. From 1860 to 1890 the total population of the country increased 99 per cent, farm property increased 100 per cent, church property 296 per cent, total wealth 302 per cent, but the missionary contributions of the Northern Presbyterians increased 406 per cent.

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