

Lake Charles Commercial.

DL. 15. LAKE CHARLES, CALCASIEU PARISH, LA., SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1895. NO. 2.

Levy & Bendel,

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IN LAKE CHARLES.

SOME SILVER COUNTRIES.

A Comparison Between their Prosperity and that of the Gold Standard Countries.

In the June number of the North American Review, Senor Romero, the Mexican minister at Washington, discusses the silver question as it concerns Mexico.

Senor Romero claims that the silver standard in Mexico encourages very largely the export of domestic products and reduces imports. The cost of producing domestic staples is paid in silver, and compared with their market value it is considerably less than that of similar articles produced in gold standard countries. The silver standard also stimulates the development of home manufactures, the price of foreign commodities being so high that it pays well to make some of them at home. Such plants as cotton mills, smelters, etc., are increasing rapidly, and some manufacturing plants in the United States are moving to Mexico. Nor has the purchasing power of the silver dollar in Mexico declined. It is now as great as it ever was. Senor Romero concludes:

"We have more stability in prices, wages, rents, etc. Although our wages are low, there has been in recent years a marked tendency to their increase. Our factories are not only in operation, but they are being greatly extended and new plants and industries are being established. Instead of dismissing our laborers we find occupation for them all, and we need to import them for the work to be done in some localities. And as our laborers find occupation and increased wages we have no strikes. Our silver mines have not stopped work and we find them yet quite profitable. We have more ready money with which to transact our increased business. We offer greater inducements to foreign investors than formerly, and the country is undoubtedly more prosperous than it has ever been, although the silver standard is not the only cause of our prosperity. One of its principal causes is undoubtedly the building of railroads, but they could not have been so remunerative without the production and coinage of silver."

The report of the United States bureau of republics give some interesting facts in regard to the silver standard Mexico and gold standard Uruguay. In Mexico a blacksmith gets \$2.50 a day; in Uruguay \$1.60. Take the average of seventeen trades, and it will be found that the pay received in the silver standard country is \$1.47 per day and in the gold standard country \$1.37. The reports show that the \$1.47 in Mexico will buy more outside the capital city, while living is exceptionally high, than \$1.37 will buy in Uruguay. Imported French and English cloth is made up into suits in Mexico at about the same costs as in the United States.

Despite bad crop years, the financial condition of Mexico is better than that of Uruguay. The workingmen of Mexico are better off than those of the few Latin-American countries that have followed the example of England in adopting the gold standard. Senor Romero's article will be read with interest.—Atlanta Constitution.

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INSURANCE AGENTS,
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Represent the best of
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and Marine Companies

The Almighty Dollar.

National Banks—National banks were established in the United States in 1816.

Legal Tender Notes—The highest denomination of the United States legal tender notes is ten thousand dollars.

Bill of Exchange—These were first used by the Jews in 1160, and in England in 1307.

The First English Exchange—This was called the "Burse," and was opened at London by Queen Elizabeth in 1571.

Money as a Servant—To have your errands rightly done, says an oriental, you must employ a messenger who is deaf, dumb and blind—and that is money.

Paper Money—The largest circulation of paper money is that of the United States, being seven hundred millions, while Russia has six hundred and seventy millions.

Wealth of the Vatican—Impartial writers say that the gold contained in the medals, vessels, chains and other objects preserved in the Vatican would make more gold coin than the whole of the present European circulation.

Weight of Coin—In round numbers, the weight of one million dollars in standard gold coin is one and three-fourths tons; standard silver coin, twenty-six and three-fourths tons; subsidiary silver coin, twenty-five tons; minor coin, five-cent nickel, one hundred tons.

Origin of Budget—This financial term is cognate with the French "bougette," a small bag. In Great Britain, from long usage, it is applied to that miscellaneous collection of matters which aggregate into the financial statement made to parliament by the chancellor of the exchequer.

Banking Capital—The capital employed in the principal countries is as follows: Great Britain, \$4,000,000,000; United States, \$2,650,000,000; Germany, \$1,425,000,000; France, \$1,025,000,000; Austria, \$830,000,000; Russia, \$775,000,000; Italy, \$455,000,000; Australia, \$425,000,000; Canada, \$175,000,000.

Within the Next Five Years.

Good for the south! She's got the cotton; she's got the labor; she's got the fuel; now let her make the cloth and the profits. A prosperous south does not mean an impoverished north. Would that the whole country and every industrious person in it could be prosperous, and that wealth could be more equitably distributed. But, as Mr. Dana once remarked, "We may be happy yet, you bet!"—New York Mercury.

Behind it all the south possesses the grit and energy. People are awakening up north out of the prejudices and mistakes with which they were inculturated by the teachings of false prophets and political sectionalism. They have discovered that malaria is not the chief ingredient of this malarious climate; that the people do not live on alligators, and the inhabitants roam about armed with six-shooters and Arkansas toothpicks, seeking some one to devour.

The south will be the home of cotton mills and great industries. It is beginning to prosper and thrive wonderfully, and in the next five years will take giant strides in population, wealth, prosperity, power and influence. It possesses every facility and ingredient for true greatness, both in material and intellectual advancement.—New York Times.

Spreading the Light.

There has been a good deal of talk and of rumor as to the purpose of the New York World to come out boldly and openly for bimetalism, a consummation most devoutly to be wished, on account of its vast circulation and commanding influence as well as the effect which such a departure would have upon other journals at the metropolis and elsewhere.

But whereas The World has up to date shown but slight indications of a change of front in this particular, it is doing more than all of the other newspapers of the land combined to throw light upon the subject and to furnish reliable information regarding the drift of sentiment abroad on the important and interesting subject. In a late issue it prints letters from a number of eminent men in Great Britain giving their views on bimetalism, all of which bear testimony to the growth of the movement across the water, and few of which are wanting in encouraging assurances.—Leadville (Col.) Herald.

Some months ago the States called attention to the fact that Anniston, Alabama, in sharp competition with England, Germany and Belgium bidders had sold a large quantity of water pipe at a good profit to Tokio, Japan. Referring to this transaction the Baltimore Sun truly says: When Anniston, Alabama, is able to supply Tokio, Japan, with water-pipe at a profit, in competition with England, Germany and Belgium bidders, how foolish and insincere seem the dolorous wails sent up from that quarter in 1893 when it was proposed to remove the duty from iron ore and pig. No protection was needed, it is clear, since Anniston can pay freight on its water-pipe to Tokio, via Liverpool, and yet underbid all competitors. Pittsburg is said to have sent 400 tons of pig to England recently, and Youngstown, Ohio, sent 1,000 tons of waste metal. The wool manufacturing industry prospers greatly with the free wool given by the Democratic tariff. The American Wool and Cotton Reporter states that there were on June 1, 1895, in operation in this country 8,458 sets of cards, 77,100 looms and 64,250 knitting machines, as against 7,794 sets of cards, 71,000 looms and 45,000 knitting machines in May, 1895, under the McKinley tariff and before the panic.

It costs \$10,000 to take one of our largest steamers across the Atlantic.

THE PEOPLE UNITED.

They Have for the Last Time Been Betrayed by a Kiss.

In a speech before the Memphis silver convention Senator Stewart, of Nevada, among other things, said: "The people are uniting in every section of the country to strike for liberty and recover their lost government. The American people have been betrayed with a kiss for the last time. They now know that every man who qualifies his determination to fight for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 by the United States alone is an enemy to the cause. All we demand is the 16 to 1 statutes of 1834 and 1873. There were no 'ifs' and 'ands' about these statutes. There are none in the creed of a true bimetalist. The advocates of free coinage at 16 to 1 by the United States alone comprise three-fourths of the voters of the United States. The only hope for gold monopoly is to divide and conquer. They have played that game for the last time. The hearts of the people are in a common cause, produced by a common calamity. Whatever politicians and time-servers may do, the south and west and all lovers of free institutions everywhere will come together and rescue this government from the rule of the gold kings."

SILVER AND PROSPERITY.

Business Keeps Pace with the Prospects of the Restoration of the White Metal.

The improvement in business reported from various portions of the country has had its natural effect in leading to increase of wages in many factories and mills, but this increase is still far short of making up the reductions of the past two years. As the prospect for the reinstatement of silver to its place continues to improve, business keeps pace with it step by step. The claim has been made by goldbug organs that better times will kill the agitation of free coinage. They are mistaken, because the masses of the people well understand that to the agitation is due the more buoyant tone manifested in the business world.

Could the announcement be made to-morrow that free coinage of silver will never be established there would be an immediate collapse, and within six months we would probably witness another financial crisis as disastrous to the country as that of 1893. If the silver sentiment continues to advance with the giant strides that have marked its progress during six months we shall see a measurable rise toward prosperity even before a free coinage law can be actually enacted.—Denver News.

A rumor has been circulated here that a negro woman has been making speeches at the negro churches in and around Bayne during this last week. It is said she advises the negroes to stand up for their rights; says they are smarter than white people and braver when it comes to war. Such speeches will serve to make the darky insolent, and we white folks won't stand it. The negroes and whites are getting along harmoniously around Bayne, and we cannot allow a disturbing element to hold sway. If this woman, who is trying to cause trouble between the races, should be caught, it might go hard with her, and we think she had better find another field to work in.—Bayne Tribune.

The following formula has always been found very effective in such cases:

For two gallons.
Feathers, one pound.
Peanut oil, ten feet.
Apply just before leaving town.
—St. Louis Courier.

A MODEL PLATFORM.

It is Very Brief, but it Tells the Whole Story.

The Jackson (Ga.) Bimetallic League has adopted a declaration "that the joint standard of both gold and silver is the money of the constitution; that it was the money of our fathers before 1873, when our people were happy and our country prosperous, and the same should be now the money of our fathers' children; and that it is a patriotic duty we all should and must perform to demand at the hands of our representatives in the halls of congress, that they restore to us the standard as it existed prior to the demonetization act of 1873; and to this end the league pledges itself to do everything in its power to secure the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, and that independently of any other country or government on earth."

This the Atlanta Constitution commends to an inquirer as a model platform. It is brief, but it covers the whole ground. It is simple, but it tells the whole story in a nutshell.

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