

Not as They Would Have Us Believe.

In Duluth we are told by our gold bug friends that while bimetallism may be popular here, the conditions are exceptional and everywhere else the people are solid for the gold standard. In Stearns county, they say, everything is going for McKinley, Morris and gold. A gentlemen well qualified to give testimony informs us that at St. Cloud they tell the people that while free silver is rampant and dominant in Stearns county, in Duluth the sentiment for the white metal has dwindled until it is all but extinct. They are like the

* * "Man from Androscoggin
Or some down Eastern place
Who heard of a famous country
Away out in the west,"

and after following the elusive Eldorado for weeks that lengthened into months finally found it, for unknown to himself, having circumnavigated the globe in his pursuit of the phantom, one brilliant Sunday morning as he steered his canoe o'er the swelling billows,

"He found himself at home."

There is this difference though: "The man from Androscoggin" found the object of his quest. The gold bug follower should he set forth for that paradise where the free silver sentiment has "waned," would never find it.

The iron ranges is another region where we are told there are no populists, no free silverites, and everything even to the infant-in-arms is for McKinley, Morris and gold bug toryism. A little investigation, however, shows a different state of affairs. At Virginia expressions of opinion on the free silver side are much guarded. The gold bugs in consequence are bold and bigoted. They mistake the disinclination of the silverites to publicly parade their opinions for inability to defend the cause of the white metal. Failing, therefore, to realize the weakness of their own cause they take less trouble to study it up, and in consequence are even less intelligent than in Duluth. And how beautifully will they get left! Nowhere are the silver men better posted; nowhere are they working harder or more determined to "do" the tories at the

polls. And while a stranger might think Virginia nearly solid for Hannatism, confidence is expressed among the prominent silver men, and justified by intimate association with the people, that there is in that town a safe majority for the restoration to free coinage of the "dollar of our daddies."

At Eveleth the silver sentiment appears surprisingly strong. More work is being done in the mines and times might be much worse than they are. And while it is probable that the real sentiment for silver is no stronger than elsewhere it is more outspoken. Efforts to bulldoze those whose employment or business depends upon the favor of those who think their welfare is identified with the prosperity of the gold gamblers, can be heard of on all sides. But such attempts at bullying men into support of Hanna's candidate have aroused a spirit of defiance that will not always be suppressed. Consequently in that town one does not have to be recognized as a silver man to hear bitter denunciations of the tory policy, or to find free silver sentiments avowed and defended with energy and intelligence.

Nobody disputes the existence of plenty of money in the United States. The trouble is the supply is cornered. It is locked up in bank reserves and the national treasury. It has been locked up there for a purpose—that purpose being partially to force higher rates of interest, partially to depreciate certain kinds of property so that they can be purchased at a sacrifice and monopolized by the controllers of vast sums of money, and partially to embarrass business interests to the extent of causing panics that the people may be coerced into permitting the finances of the country to be dominated more completely by the money interests.

Now what is the way to break a corner? Why, increase the supply. A corner in wheat is impossible as long as there is a bountiful supply still in or coming into the market. They can corner the gold supply. They cannot, at least without greater effort, corner the supply of both gold and silver.

If a lot of dealers bought up

all the potatoes on the market none could be obtained except at their price. Instead of the ratio of a dollar to a bushel of potatoes being $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1, they could make it $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1, or 1 to 1, or 2 to 1; but if the supply of potatoes were increased by shipments from outside, or by the marketing of the new crops the corner would be broken and the ratio would return to the old relation.

Free coinage of silver means an increase in the crop of dollars and consequently lessens the quantity of labor and products necessary to be given for the dollar. The panic that strikes the gold bugs at the idea of more money is the same that would strike the potato monopolists at the thought of plenty of cheap potatoes and the consequent collapse of their potato corner.

Labor Crucified.

"If the single gold standard can be forced upon South America and Asia, as it has been since 1873 on North America and Europe, gold must inevitably appreciate to at least four times its present absurd value; or put it otherwise, commodities must decline to one fourth of the present price, and labor, all the world over, be crucified as it was never crucified before—in days of medieval serfdom or even chattel slavery. Such is the contest. If the money lords can force gold monometalism upon the whole world, they will succeed in establishing the most gigantic moneyed aristocracy among the rich, and worst system of peonage serfdom among the masses that has ever cursed the hapless sons of men."—From the London Times and Echo.

"Free coinage of silver will ruin the iron interests," persistently declare the goldites. Could anything be further from the truth? Who are the consumers of iron? It is the people engaged in agriculture, stock raising and the industries related thereto; the shipping, railroading, manufacturing and building interests. We have frequently heard of men being "busted up" in business because their customers were ruined. Have you ever heard of one being ruined because his customers became too prosperous? If these gold croakers believe