

silver is kept at par with gold. In Great Britain the limit is \$10 but the amount of silver compared to gold is such that the values are considered equal for small payments. The opinion of Financiers in the United States is that silver currency will get that country into trouble some day.

Motion lost.
Section passed as amended.
Dr. J. Mott Smith moved to change the date in Section 3 so as to agree with the preceding sections. Carried.

Mr. Wilder advocated the speedy action in the matter of disposing of silver of all denominations, excepting silver coins of the Hawaiian Islands.

Mr. Dole moved that Section 6 be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Wilder moved the section pass as in the bill.

Mr. Smith moved the committee rise and ask leave to sit again to-morrow morning. Carried.

Report of the committee was adopted.
On the President taking the chair, Mr. Brown moved a re-consideration of Section 1. Carried.

He then moved to change the date from the 1st of January, 1885, to 1st December, 1884. Carried.

The sections as passed read as follows:
Section 1. From and after the first day of December, 1884, the gold coins of the United States of America shall be the standard and a legal tender at their nominal value in the payment of all debts, public and private, within the Kingdom.

Section 2. The standard silver coins of the United States of America and the silver coins of the Hawaiian Kingdom shall be, on and after the 1st of December, 1884, a legal tender, at their nominal value, for any amount, not exceeding ten dollars in any one payment.

Section 3. From and after the first day of December, 1884, gold and silver coins, other than the coin of the United States and of the Hawaiian Kingdom, shall be received in the Treasury at a rate not exceeding their bullion value, for Government dues, duties and taxes.

Section 4. Whenever it shall appear that there is such an excess of silver coins in circulation as disturbs the equilibrium between gold and silver coins, under the provisions of this Act, the Minister of Finance, in order to restore such equilibrium, shall replace sufficient silver coin which may be in the Treasury, either as Government realizations or on deposit, on account of any silver certificates with gold coins of the United States, in the same manner as hereinafter provided in Sections 5, 6 and 7 of this Act.

Section 5. Upon the approval of the Act the Minister of Finance without delay shall give notice by public advertisement that for six days, immediately following each notice, silver coins of all denominations, excepting silver coins of the Hawaiian Islands and of the United States, will be received at the Treasury at their nominal value in exchange for Hawaiian coins at their nominal value; and the Minister of Finance without delay shall arrange through advertisement for tenders, or otherwise, for the sale of all the silver coins which are or may be in the Treasury now, excepting Hawaiian silver coins in lots of not more than \$50,000 each, and the delivery of the proceeds of the sales of said silver coins into the Treasury in gold coin of the United States.

Third reading of a bill to abolish the Intermediary Court on the Island of Oahu. Passed.
At 4 o'clock adjourned till 10 a. m. to-morrow.

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THE PACIFIC COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER.

Tuesday, July 15, 1884.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

The business men of Honolulu, whose views upon this intricate question should certainly have more weight than those of persons less familiar with the subject, appear to be unanimous in their approval of the action taken by the Legislature. We think, however, that in a certain degree that action is experimental. At the same time we hope that the movement to establish a single gold standard for this country will be successful. The close intimacy existing between this Kingdom and the United States, politically and commercially, proves that the policy adopted is wise. That is, however, not everything that will have to be done. While we do not predict in that spirit of pessimism which afflicts some of our good people; while we have sanguine hopes of the continued prosperity and advancement of this country, we may be as other communities have been often, overtaken by a dull season. The Currency Act will not avert that; it may mitigate hard times, but the necessary course to pursue by the people of these

islands is to adopt another measure, not through the Legislature, but through themselves.

Economy both in the administration of public affairs, as well as in domestic management, will avert all the evils which low price of sugar, high rate of exchange and dullness in business may bring. Let this economy march hand in hand with the measure adopted by the Legislature and we may look with reasonable hope to the future, though the present appear somewhat clouded.

It has been expressed by some of the citizens who promoted this action on the part of the Government that the coin which may be needed will, in the natural course of business, find its place here. We believe that, but even though the Government should at some expense, find it necessary to make the start in the supply of sufficient gold for circulation, a wise frugality and economy in public and private expenditures, will deprive this extraordinary expense of nearly all its weight upon the taxpayers.

THE LIQUOR QUESTION.

Judge Hitchcock's amendment to the liquor law fixes retailers' licenses at \$1,000 instead of \$500 where the liquor is not to be used on the premises, and \$5,000 instead of \$1,000 where sold by the glass. This would be a virtual shut down upon the retail liquor business, and is warmly advocated by that devout total abstinence organ, the *Saturday Press*. It is by just such measures as these that total abstinence people make themselves ridiculous. They are so intensely radical, so outrageously intolerant, that conservative temperance men get disgusted and throw them overboard altogether. The liquor dealers pay a large tax towards the support of this Government. Indeed we know of no other part of this world where they are so heavily pressed. This proposition to double up on their licenses would virtually result in forcing the weaker lot out of business. It would be a persecution, and would not tend to make this population drink one glass less per day than they do at present, but that glass would have to be of an inferior quality.

Coercion will never make converts to temperance. In Maine, where the most rabid liquor laws prevail, there is more drunkenness than in California, where the utmost latitude is given to liquor dealers. Men will drink, no matter what cast-iron rules may be laid down to prevent them. If the temperance reformers would aim at inducing people to drink in moderation, and not endeavor to take them by the throat and force them to cease drinking altogether, they would effect some good. As it is, they alienate the common sense element of this community, and overshoot the mark. They make no converts, and it is a pity that this should be so, for we should like to see all men temperate, and keep within the bounds of moderation. There is no necessity for drunkenness in this world, and there is for total abstinence only in those cases where the drinking habit assumes the form of a disease, and its wretched victims find it impossible to touch liquor without plunging into a debauch. Let there be total abstinence people by all means, but let the rest of the world enjoy their wine without believing that hell yawns under every glass of the ruby liquor they raise to their lips. Temperance by all means, but heaven save us from that lean asceticism which believes that a man is fattening himself for the devil's gridiron if he enjoys, even moderately, the good things of life.

THE OLIVE BRANCH.

Is it not time that the dove made its appearance with the olive branch, and the rancorous animosities of the past weeks were buried out of sight forever more? Let us begin by extending a general forgiveness to our political enemies, exorcise the evil spirits of the campaign, let the small quarrels of the session expire, and join in taking measures for the promotion of the common good. There are hard times before us; but how much easier it will be to weather the financial squalls if we work patiently and conscientiously together. The small divisions of the past—mere trifles in themselves—are the un-

avoidable accompaniments of all legislative assemblies. They are not without their good; but when carried to extremes they work injury, and perpetuate disturbance. This we do not want. We are not prepared just now to encounter agitation. We have too much to think of in the coming struggle against the ebb-tide to encourage animosities, or take any interest in those petty and fruitless bickerings which interfere with the course of legislation. The small ambitions which prompt those controversies have no weight against the large importance of our future where union is needed above all things.

It is the misfortune of every isolated community to have within it men of narrow views, who cannot look beyond the insignificant necessities of the hour, and who are incapable of any personal sacrifice for the common good. To those a mole-hill to which they may hold the exclusive title deeds is of greater magnitude than a mountain wherein all are interested. Their eyes are glued to their mole-hill, and they have no patience with those who do not see in it more importance than the mountain. The mole-hill men are not conducive to the welfare of any community. They stand in the way of progress, and should be unceremoniously passed over by those of broader ideas, and less selfish sentiment. We expect to find this class foremost in obstruction in the Legislature, and we hope they will be, in all cases, promptly shouldered out of the road.

A CHANGE NEEDED.

In other countries it is customary to make the date at which appropriations lapse fall after that at which the Legislature is usually convened. Here the appropriations cease before the earliest date at which the ordinary session of the Legislature can legally begin, and it has been, as a rule, some three or four months before new appropriations were available, except for salaries and some other stated payments for which the provision is extended three months beyond the biennial financial period. In 1882 all street repairs came to a standstill for a lengthened period on this account. This inconvenience has been avoided by the present Minister of the Interior. There are, however, a great many minor accounts due by the Government, many of them incurred prior to the 31st of March, which cannot be paid until a new appropriation bill is passed. This is not a proper position for the Government of the country to be placed in, with regard to absolutely necessary services and expenditures. Either the date to which the appropriations extend should be fixed so that there will be time for the Legislature to make new provision for carrying on the routine business of the Government, or the Assembly itself should meet at an earlier date than the law now permits.

EXTRACT from a young lady's letter from Honolulu to a San Francisco friend: "Flies, fleas, and mosquitoes are the bane of our existence. Any one of these three sources of discomfort is enough to make life almost a burden. The flies are the boldest in the world. They settle down upon you and quietly refuse to 'arise and go hence.' It doesn't inconvenience them in the least to have you keep shaking yourself as if you had an aggravated form of the St. Vitus' dance. When night comes on, and the flies reluctantly retire, then begins the grand carnival of the mosquitoes. Many a night have we worked for half an hour clearing out every mosquito from the interior of the bed nettings, and the nettings are of the very finest material, and then tucked the screens in carefully all around. But invariably in the morning we find the space all occupied, and ourselves shockingly bitten. Our faces are scarcely presentable, and we have to wear gloves whenever we go out—despite the heat. Egypt always was a country for phenomena and sleight of hand; but the ancient plagues were no more remarkable than the way in which these mosquitoes force their way inside of the nettings."

THE news from Washington is that the Reciprocity Treaty had been the subject of a long discussion in the Senate Committee of Foreign Affairs,

and that the Committee recommended the definite extension of the Treaty for seven years; also that the President be recommended to make an inquiry as to whether Hawaii admits all merchandise free that is justly entitled to that privilege by the Treaty, and also as to the desirability of the United States possessing a naval station here. The resolution embodying these recommendations was discussed in the Senate on 5th July, and its further consideration postponed till December next.

ANOTHER VIEW.

We have heard but one side of the public opinion on Blaine's nomination, and that has been tinted with the most brilliant colors. Mr. A. G. Bierce of the *San Francisco Wasp*, and the *ADVERTISER's* correspondent from that city, in a recent issue of his journal sums up the political situation. Mr. Bierce is a strong, and satirical writer, and his views on the issues of the day are always interesting even to those who entertain different opinions.

"It grows clearer daily that Mr. Blaine is not going to have a walk-over. His nomination has not lighted the fire of enthusiasm in the East, the press dispatches to the contrary notwithstanding. Whatever he may do or say to rekindle a cooling zeal in the Republican party before the day of election, the fact is indisputable that to-day his candidacy is regarded with disfavor by those to whose opinions the largest class of reasoning voters pay a willing allegiance. In the great city of New York, center as it is of political impulses that strengthen as they spread, not a single one of the principal journals actively supports him. The bitterness with which the others are now being assailed by the partizan provincial sheets; the ingenuity with which these attempt to prove that the dissenting editors are foreigners, political free-thinkers, ex-assassins and companions of the damned generally; the shrill but rather quavering derision with which the opposition of these awful malefactors is met by the elect—these things serve to mark in a significant way how keenly the thick-and-thinners feel the unexpected defection. To the assertion of the *Times* that Mr. Blaine is unfit to be President, the children of political obedience reply that Mr. George Jones is an Englishman. When the *Nation* chillingly points out that from nominating persons not known, the Republican has taken to nominating persons known unfavorably, the sons of light nervously affirm that Mr. Godkin is not a typical Republican—which we believe is true. When *Puck* sets half the country laughing with a caricature of "the plumed knight" as a tattooed man in a dime museum, the other half retorts with tigerish ferocity that the paper is owned by Keppler & Swartman. When Mr. George William Curtis withdraws *Harper's Weekly* from the Republican communion of saints it is triumphantly explained that his publishers are attempting to introduce their monthly magazine into the effete monarchies of the Old World. All this goes to support the theory that the thick-and-thin politician gets his descriptive title from the properties, respectively, of his skull and his skin.

THE *S. F. News Letter* of our latest dates thus discusses the Democratic nomination possibilities: "Amidst the ruling chaos it is impossible to discern the identity of the coming man; but at this present writing he looks more like Governor Cleveland, of New York, than anybody else. Yet it is said that if he is nominated John Kelly will defeat him with 50,000 Tammany votes; and as that would defeat him in New York, the principal purpose sought to be gained by his nomination would be lost, and Blaine's election would be beyond a peradventure. The supreme necessity is upon the Democrats to find a man to carry the Empire State. That is the pivotal point of the whole campaign. If half the stories be true of the strength of the Independent bolt, and the opposition of certain leading Republican journals, it ought not to be difficult to beat Blaine in that State. The much greater difficulty seems to be to control John Kelly. Without him it appears to be settled that New

York cannot be carried, but that with him it can. He is the modern Warwick. If not a King-maker, it would appear to be conceded that he is a President-maker, which is, perhaps, a much greater affair. Refined down to a logical point, the agreed fact is that John Kelly rules the United States. If his position in the pivotal State is what is claimed for it, then he can defeat the candidate of either party; and if that is not supreme power, we would like to know what else it is. Those who like this view of our national politics are welcome to it. Yet if the whole history of the period is not being wrongly written, it is the true view.

Mr. Blaine's nomination was not a strong one, but he is a strong man—a man of abundant resources, alert, adroit, daring and dowered with that self-confidence which, when based upon a just knowledge of capacities and powers is at once the child and parent of success. The declination of Mr. Tilden compels the Democrats to nominate a man who in these respects is distinctly Mr. Blaine's inferior, for they have no other who is his equal. We expect, on the part of the Republican candidate, a campaign aggression. We think his opponents will have little time for discussion of his demerits and great opportunities for debating their own. There will be lightning and thunder and a smell of scorched flesh—a moan of lame ducks in immemorial pools and murmuring of innumerable shot-guns; a pattering of cudgels on cracking crowns by Herculean gentlemen indifferent to the lifted whites of entrancing eyes—the customary campaign music. Let it begin; it is good for us. If once in four years we could not openly defame our political opponents, we should habitually slander our grandmothers. If we had not this quadrennial outlet for the brutal passions of our savage dispositions, we should beat our wives until they would fear us as much as we now fear them. For the next few months let us immerse our souls hog-wise in the mud of moral turpitude—liars and vulgarians by conviction out of our own mouths, felons in general practice by indictment of our neighbors. "We are on the eve of an important election;" let us manifest our deep sense of the situation by constructing of ourselves John-donkeys of superb earlength, brayfully bent upon saving the country and damning our own souls. We must beg the Democrats to put a good man—a man who is vulnerable on every side of his character and in every act of his career—a man upon whose rusted and abraded reputation some of the mud that we mean to discharge will stick. The Republicans have done pretty well in this particular, and there should be fair play and chivalry in politics. It is desirable that there be a "saturday" of vituperation, lest we be all sick. Let the fountains of political opinion slowly fill with a sipage of dead cats.

THE *Hawaiian* fell against the Loan Act last week and sprained its brains. If it will refer to the *ADVERTISER's* article of some twelve days back explaining the provision and motive of that Act it will not again fall into this error, which, it is due to the "intelligence" of that journal to state, we believe is a wilful one. We are tired of going over the same ground when we see that mis-construction is an integral part of the *Hawaiian's* policy.

THE man who was seen speeding wildly down Fort street last Friday was not a lunatic. He was the only man in the town who had not an original opinion on the currency question and he was afraid some fellow would shut him up in an iron cage, and charge the public for inspecting him as a curiosity.

THE passage of the Subsidy Bill Saturday was a wise measure. The Oceanic Steamship Company has done so much, and can do so much in the future for these islands, that the corporation certainly deserve a hearty recognition at the hands of this Government.

THE *Press* calls the liquor amendments "the burning question of the day." Is this a reflection on the quality of the Honolulu gin?