



CHAT OF THE CORRIDORS. I am delighted at the success which has been achieved by my slightly contemptible, Kate Field, with her Washington, a trim little weekly. She is a woman with ideas of her own—an inexhaustible quantity of them—and she has not the slightest hesitation about expressing any of them in lively, trenchant English. Every article she writes makes a popular hit, and her paper has made a popular hit. She has reduced the price to 5 cents a week, to bring it within the range of a larger number of readers.

"It's all nonsense," said Secretary Noble, when I asked him if he was not going to interfere with the proposed pooling up of the Cherokee Strip by syndicates of speculators. "There's no truth whatever in the story. I don't believe that any offer of \$25,000,000, or any smaller amount, has been made for the land. Nobody's got that much money to put into the land, and if they had they wouldn't do it, and if they would they wouldn't be allowed to. The government would not allow the Indians to sell the land, because it is not theirs to sell. They have the right of using it, but that is all. There's nothing whatever to the report."

From what I can gather from talks with the Republican Representatives it is very likely that the resolution to investigate whether any members of the House or Senate were in the ring which profited largely by the passage of the Silver bill will pass with little trouble. They really do not care who, if anybody, has been using his position to fill his pockets, and how much personal greed is at the bottom of the cry for silver legislation. It is understood that at the last meeting of the Committee on Rules Maj. McKinley expressed himself strongly in favor of investigation, and Speaker Reed was equally outspoken, with the saving clause that before an investigation was ordered it must be shown that there was more in the matter than the gossip of a sensational correspondent. Nor will Cannon, the other Republican member of the committee, be at all less anxious for an investigation the moment he is sure there is really something to investigate.

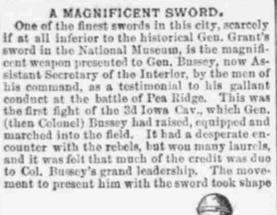
A strong suspicion that the Silver Boom is being craftily worked up by a ring of speculators has invaded the White House. The President and Secretary Windom have been warmly in favor of silver, as every one knows. In his first report the Secretary outlined a plan for absorbing all the silver in the country. More recently, he said the President has been openly in favor of a bill for buying outright all the surplus silver—estimated to be 12,000,000 ounces. But upon closer examination it was found that the whole of this is in the hands of a little ring of Wall Street speculators, who would receive all the benefits of the enhancement in price. This caused the President and Secretary to halt, and the former was furnished with a list of public men of both parties, who, it was said, were large holders of the script of the "Silver pool," and the profits of which are contingent upon the passage of the desired legislation. Their work is to help and hinder public opinion in favor of such legislation. Senator Stewart is understood to admit that such a pool is in existence, but says that the leading advocates of silver, in and out of Congress, have no connection whatever with it.

"You may call me a Gold-bug if you like," said a New York broker to me; "but you will at least give me credit for having some common-sense about financial matters, and to be able to express the same. Now, I ask you, in the silver boom, how in the world can it benefit the common people? If it makes silver as good as gold, it will be no better off, because then it will be as hard for them to get a silver dollar as it is now to get a gold one. Farmers can't dig up silver dollars from their fields any more than they can gold ones, nor mechanics hammer them out from their workbenches. The only folks who will be benefited will be a few mine owners and silver speculators, who don't seem to be suffering from poverty just now. On the other hand, if it fills the country up with a lot of silver dollars which are only worth 75 cents each, nobody will be benefited but the speculators and the speculators. If a farmer who is now selling his wheat for 75 cents a bushel gets a silver dollar for a bushel, and finds that dollar worth but only 75 cents, he is not getting for 75 cents, I can't for the life of me see how he is any better off. It is true that if he is owing somebody \$100 he can pay it off with 100 silver dollars which only cost him 75, and in this way it might be of assistance to the deeply-indebted portion of the poorer portion of the country; but it must be remembered that we are nearly all creditors just as much as we are debtors. The biggest creditor class in this country are the working people. There is constantly some owing to them that to everybody else combined. The millions of men who work for a week or a month before pay-day, and the men who have little savings in the banks, are the great creditor class. There are fully 12,000,000 people in this country who work for wages, salaries, or their equivalents. If we average their earnings at \$20 a week, we shall find that there is due them every Saturday night the enormous sum of \$240,000,000, or nearly half a billion dollars at the end of a month. If, for some lack of legislation you make it possible for employers to pay them off in dollars only worth 75 cents, you send each man out of quarter of what he has earned, or \$30,000,000 for the whole number each week, or more than a billion and a half dollars in a year. This would go into the pockets of the employers. It is the poor people who always suffer in these fluctuations of the currency. The rich take care of themselves, and the poor man is a dollar that has a fixed and unchangeable value. There he knows just what he is getting for his day's work, just as he knows that a pound of meat must weigh 16 ounces and a yard of cloth measure 36 inches. That's what I call the common sense of money."

THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA has been in session in Washington during the past week, and a number of interesting papers were read. The following officers were elected: President, Alexander Winchell, of Ann Arbor, Mich.; Vice-Pres., E. K. Gilbert, of Washington, D. C., and T. C. Chamberlin, of Madison, Wis.; Secy., H. L. Fairbridge, of Rochester; Treas., E. S. Williams, Cornell College; Members of the Council, G. M. Dawson, Ottawa, Canada; J. C. Bonner, Little Rock, Ark.; A. W. Chapple, Akron, O.; C. U. Hatcher, Havana, N. H.; I. C. White, Morgantown, W. Va.; J. J. Stevenson, New York, and Editor W. J. MacCoy, Washington, D. C.

The society banqueted at Willard's hotel and had what was considered an old-fashioned "ketch-up."

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria



A MAGNIFICENT SWORD. One of the finest swords in this city, scarcely if at all inferior to the historical Gen. Grant's sword in the National Museum, is the magnificent sword presented to Gen. Bussey, now Assistant Secretary of the Interior, by the men of his command, as a testimonial to his gallant conduct at the battle of Pea Ridge. This was the first fight of the 3d Iowa Cav., which Gen. (then Colonel) Bussey had raised, equipped and marched into the field. It had a desperate encounter with the rebels, but won many laurels, and it was felt that the credit was due to Col. Bussey's grand leadership. The movement to present him with the sword took shape

not know what will be the subsequent movements of his company, but thinks they are liable to be ordered to Pine Ridge, the seat of the war in the West. Col. Bussey's sword has a silver plate in his head now, which was the result of Sioux plevanancy on the plains several years ago.

THE WORK OF THE CENSUS BUREAU. Superintendent Porter, of the Census Bureau, has just submitted to the Secretary of the Interior a report of the operations of the Bureau for the last six months.

On the subjects of farms, homes and mortgages, Mr. Porter reported. One hundred and thirty-seven out of 157 tribes have been enumerated. The five civilized tribes have been completed. The Navajos (23,000), a fierce and warlike people, were reported as enumerated April 1, 1891—if then, the Six Nations of New York by Jan. 1, 1891.

Mr. Porter concludes: "The returns thus far made justify the conclusion that the statistics showing our industrial progress will be more complete and satisfactory in every way than I had a right to expect. In short, the scope of the work has been held strictly within the scope of the act, and the honor to lay before you in the Spring of 1892, and which met with your official approval, and I am looking forward to the completion of the census with the greatest interest and satisfaction. The work of the Bureau is a high standing, and deserves great credit for ability, faithfulness and industry."

CONGRESS. Hon. Harrison Kelly, Representative from Kansas, has introduced a bill in the House directing the Secretary of the Treasury to print fractional currency of the United States to the amount of \$25,000,000, in the denominations of 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents. Twenty-five millions of the currency will be in 50-cent notes, \$15,000,000 in 25-cent notes and \$5,000,000 each in 10 and 5-cent notes. The currency is to be a legal tender for all debts, but not exceeding \$10. It is thought the bill will become a law, as something of the kind is needed for use in the mails.

ABOUT PEOPLE. Senator George Hearst, of California, is a well-known name in recent Illinois. He induced him to set his racing establishment in order, by making his son his partner, and having all the entries made for his horses for the transfer to Hearst & Co. Senator Hearst was at the races at Chicago, Ill.

The reported visit of King Kalakala, of the Sandwich Islands, to the East and Washington, His Majesty has been sailing at San Francisco, and has returned to San Francisco, and sailed for his island home Jan. 8, on the United States steamer Charleston, which had been placed under its orders by the Government.

THE WEATHER. BY LIEUT. J. P. FINLEY, U. S. SIGNAL SERVICE. (Correspondence invited, suggestions desired, and information cheerfully furnished. Every effort employed to make this Bureau of practical use to the public.)

shortly after the battle, and nearly all the members of the regiment claimed the privilege of contributing to the purchase of the blade. Three of the leading jewelry houses of New York were requested to furnish designs for the finest sword that could be made, and the contract was secured by the well-known house of Ball, Black & Co. The picture given above was taken from a photograph of the sword, and a detailed description of it is as follows:

The head of the blade is a globe with 24 stars in blue, and the globe is held with a row of brilliant diamonds. The hilt is a representation of the Union with one hand, and holds in the other a wreath with mouth at the eagle. The eagle in defiant attitude repels the attack. This eagle stands on a shield, on which, in raised letters, is the name of the battlefield—Pea Ridge. On the scabbard is a coat of mail, with appropriate and exquisitely-wrought designs. After this a representation of the battlefield during the strife is wrought in the gold, and the inscription stating to whom and by whom and the reason why the sword was presented. The hilt and scabbard are pure gold, said to be finer than the American coin. The blade is of the finest steel, beautifully ornamented.

THE BLAINE MANSION BURNED. Visitors to Washington will remember the magnificent house on Dupont Circle owned by the late Senator Blaine. It was a masterpiece of architecture, and was one of the finest in the city. This house was occupied by Mr. Blaine during his brief term as Secretary of State under President Garfield, and upon his leaving the city he was succeeded by Mr. L. A. Leiter. The family of Mr. Leiter was warned by neighbors on New Year's Day that the residence was on fire. Nobody was hurt in the accident, but the damage to the house, and the contents, was estimated at \$1,000,000.

A NEW CHIEF OF THE SECRET SERVICE. On Friday, Jan. 2, the Secretary of the Treasury appointed A. L. Drummond, of New York, Chief of the Secret Service. The duties of the office are to protect the President, the Vice-President, the members of the Cabinet, and other high officials of the Government. The office is one of the most important in the Executive branch of the Government.

Want a New Home?—The late Senator Blaine, of New York, has sent a petition to Hon. J. C. Cannon, praying for the passage of a law by Congress authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue a bond for the purchase of a new home for the late Senator. The law would authorize the Secretary to issue a bond for the purchase of a new home for the late Senator, and to pay the interest on the bond out of the Treasury.

Real Parolan Art. (Jeweler's Circular.) Mrs. Bullion—I bought to-day a genuine Parolan work of art. Mrs. Bullion—No. A best of some young woman named Hebe. The dealer assured me it is real Parolan art.

Army and Navy. Beverly Tucker's Epigram. (Note: This is a collection of epigrams and short pieces, including one about a young woman named Hebe.)

SCIENCE CHAT. New Ideas and Useful Hints. NEW WAY OF ANNEALING STEEL.—Heat the pieces as slowly as possible, and when at a low red heat put them between two pieces of dry boards and screw them up tight as a vise. The steel burns its way into the boards, and on coming together around it they form a practically air-tight charcoal bed. When it cools of itself it is not to be found thoroughly annealed.—Iron Age.

THE EFFEL TOWER.—The Eiffel tower is to be utilized in obtaining a very high pressure by means of a fan running from top to bottom and forcing air into the tower. It will give a pressure at the bottom of some four hundred atmospheres.

FINDING A CRACK IN METAL.—A crack in a piece of metal is prevented from extending further by the well-known means of drilling a hole where the rent ends; but when the hole is not bored on just that spot the crack is apt to continue beyond the hole. To facilitate the search of the crack, the inventor, Mr. L. A. Leiter, recommends moistening the cracked surface with petroleum, then wipe it and then immediately rub it with chalk. The oil that has penetrated the crack will be moistened and indicates with precision where the crack stops.—American Engineer.

WHAT IS GELATIN?—The substance known as gelatin is obtained from animal skins, bones, and hoofs. It is a protein compound, and is used in a variety of ways, including the manufacture of photographic plates and the production of artificial leather.

A NOVEL FLYWHEEL.—We read in an excellent issue of the Engineer, a description of a novel flywheel, which is made of iron, and is in the place of spokes two disks built of steel plates are bolted to the hub. The wheel is made in two parts, and is of a diameter of 30 feet, and is used in a steam engine.

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HEALTH HINTS. For Old and Young. BY FELIX L. OSWALD, M. D. Author of "Physical Education," "Homesick Remedies," "The Bible of Nature," etc. CHAPTER XXVII. CHRONIC CATARRH.

"Is chronic catarrh not a sort of disease?" a lady asked a military surgeon of my acquaintance. "Yes, madam," said the old doctor, "it is certainly an incurable sort of disease, so long as the patient can get all the whisky he wants."

"Is it much the same with other chronic disorders, scalded, then, as you say, while the cause continues to operate, and on the removal of that cause would speedily cease to be chronic?" "Chronic catarrh is merely a protracted form of a common cold, but nevertheless a very serious disorder, as it may at any time develop into genuine consumption. The difference between catarrh and consumption would, indeed, not be easy to define, except upon the significance of the circumstance that in consumption the organism has more or less lost its power of resistance to the progress of the disorder, thus making the decay of its tissues rapid and fatal, when the patient should aid Nature by a radical change of habits.

Chronic catarrh can generally be traced to one of the three following causes: 1. Habitual residence in a house or room infected with the seeds of the disorder. Hundreds of patients who have been partially cured to the fresh air theory of respiratory diseases follow the doctor's advice, and after a few days' rest for a daily hour of outdoor exercise, but upon returning to their lodgings breathe in another supply of catarrh germs, and wonder why the cure is so short-lived.

In that way the trouble is often perpetuated week after week, even in homes where an abundance of spare rooms would make it easy for the patient the daily benefit of an apartment ventilated by a two draft of air. Even a single room can be thoroughly purified by a cross-draft of air at night, and during the temporary absence of the invalid, and in his absence, a quiet, sunny room, of such proportions, short outdoor rambles can do more good than harm. During the daily hour of outdoor exercise the lungs are filled with the fresh air of the open air, and the patient's return to his study sitting-room the floating disease germs get a first chance to penetrate every pore of the pulmonary system. For these reasons, the sanitary organism of the human body has a faculty of preventing infection by precautions of its own in cases where the influence of the contagious principle does not operate too swift and sudden.

Thus, if a traveler is first to enter a street car or a "made-up" train (at a distance from the starting station) he may take a seat at a distance from the stove, and calmly await the arrival of the car, and in the meantime the patient's return to his study sitting-room the floating disease germs get a first chance to penetrate every pore of the pulmonary system.

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2. Frequent visits to localities infected with the seeds of lung disease, a short visit to the crowded dining-room of a public house, the waiting-room of a railway depot infested with lung-sore tramps, may frustrate the most careful system of home precautions, for there the crowded atmosphere, and the close proximity of the catarrh microbes, and the patient's return to his study sitting-room the floating disease germs get a first chance to penetrate every pore of the pulmonary system.

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