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HARRIS.

One-Price, Square-Dealing,

CLOTHIER,

ST. LOUIS BLOCK,

MAIN STREET.

SOME of the MERCHANT

Tailoring fraternity seem to take exceptions to our remarks in former advertisements. Now, we have only this much to say: We do not wish to take the bread from the mouth of any person who is "chasing the nimble sixpence," but we have no apologies to make for any remarks we have made and hereby announce we are willing and anxious to prove to anyone desirous of proof that our Tailor-Made Clothing, for Style and Fit, are ahead of any of the productions of the merchant tailors! who charge for good work and turn out a class of work inferior in fit, inferior in in style, inferior in all points that go to make a nobby, well-fitting and good-wearing suit of clothes. Sorry, very sorry, Gentlemen, to tread upon your corns, but you know we state the truth.

Among the novelties of this week's arrivals, of two things especially "cheesy:" One a Black Diagonal Cheviot. Flat Binding, Patch Pockets—very swell. We show them in Sacks and Frocks, and if you want a neat suit without taking chances of bankrupting yourself you cannot do better than on one of these. Another is a line of "Nigger Head" Cheviots. They are enough to make your mouth water, and you can't go astray if you buy one of them.

Those Fine Overcoats we have mentioned last as long in our stock as does a "June frost in sheol." People can readily appreciate a good thing, and they find on examining the stocks shown here in town how far superior ours are to any that are shown. Those English Box Coats, Strap Seams and Nobby Flannel Linings, are the "swell thing" just now. They must be seen to be appreciated. We have just received one hundred of them by express.

We would like to add a word about our Children's Clothing. A very large excess of our sales has been on fine goods, leaving us over-stocked on cheap lines. In order to get this stock to its proper proportions we will for a week only offer cuts in low-priced goods. We name a few Specialties, which will be gobbled up at once, so take hold:

500 Pairs Children's Pants,	35c
100 Suits Children's Clothing,	$1.15
100 Suits Children's Clothing,	$2.00
100 Suits Children's Clothing,	$3.00

Not an article shown can be purchased elsewhere for anything like the price.

HARRIS

The One-Price Clothier

ST. LOUIS BLOCK,

MAIN STREET.

THE TARIFF AND SILVER.

Secretary Windom Concurs in the Democratic View That a Revision Is Necessary.

The Injustice of the Lead Ore Ruling Admitted, but No Remedy Suggested.

Either a Limited or the Free Coinage of Silver Opposed—Depreciation of the White Metal.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—Secretary of the Treasury Windom, in his annual report referring to the revision of the tariff, says: Whatever differences of opinion there may be with regard to the best method of disposing of the surplus revenue, and preventing the accumulation of money in the treasury beyond the proper needs of the government, and however diverse may be opinions as to the abstract question of taxation for revenue purposes, customs and internal, there is general agreement that a revision of the tariff and customs laws is urgently needed.

One of the fundamental objects in the levying of duties on imports, declared in the preamble of the first tariff act passed by congress in 1789, was the encouragement and protection of manufactures.

It should, however, be remembered that the prime object in the imposition of these high duties was the raising of revenue, and rates were adjusted to that end, rather than to the protection and development of domestic industries. It came about, therefore, that the measure of protection was capricious and unequal, and some industries were greatly prospered, while others, equally favored by natural resources and conditions, either languished or failed of development.

The tariff of 1883 was hastily considered and passed. While intended as a protective measure, it was based on former tariffs, and perpetuated many of the inequalities and other defects with which those acts abounded, and which have not only been directly hurtful to certain domestic interests, but have afforded opportunities for evasion, and provoked constant dispute and litigation. Certain of these inequalities in the present law, arise also from the changed conditions of trade and manufacture since enactment. It is, therefore, urged that in revising the tariff schedules care be taken to avoid conflicting provisions and ambiguities, which have been productive of the evils mentioned; also that rates be so adjusted as to avoid the inequalities of the existing law so hurtful to domestic industries.

The law which imposes a duty of 1½ cents per pound on lead ore, and also exempts from duty ores of silver and gold, illustrates these conflicting provisions. Ore of this character is claimed to be commercially silver or gold ore if the value of either exceeds that of the lead, and such has been the decision and ruling of this department for the past ten years. It is submitted that the law as to lead ore should provide a duty upon the lead contained therein. As the law now stands, if the silver or gold is the component of chief value the lead escapes duty. On the other hand, if the lead is the component of chief value, the gold or silver is subjected to duty at the rate provided for lead. Thus the purpose of the law may be defeated in both cases.

Silver Coinage Question.

The continued coinage of the silver dollar, at a constantly increasing monthly quota, is a disturbing element in the otherwise excellent financial condition of the country, and a positive hindrance to any international agreement looking to the free coinage of both metals at a fixed ratio. Mandatory purchases by the government of stated quantities of silver, and mandatory coinage of the same into full legal-tender dollars, are an unprecedented anomaly, and have proved futile, not only in restoring the value of silver, but even in staying the downward price of that metal. Since the passage of the act of February 28, 1878, to November 1, 1889, there have been purchased 299,889,416.11 standard ounces of silver, at a cost of $286,930,633.64, from which there have been coined 343,638,001 standard dollars. There were in circulation on November 1 of the present year 60,098,480 silver dollars, less than $1 per capita, the remainder, 283,539,521, being stored away in government vaults, of which $277,319,944 were covered by outstanding certificates. The price of silver, on March 1, 1878, was 54 15 16 pence, equal to $1.20429 per ounce fine. At this price $2,000,000 would purchase 1,660,729 ounces of fine silver, which would coin 2,147,295 standard silver dollars. At the average price of silver for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1889 (42.499 pence), equivalent to $0.93163 per ounce fine, $2,000,000 would purchase 2,146,755 fine ounces, out of which 2,775,628 standard silver dollars could be coined.

The lower the price of silver, the greater the quantity that must be purchased, and the larger the number of silver dollars to be coined, to comply with the act of February 28 1878. No proper effort has been spared by the treasury department to put in circulation the dollars coined under this law. They have been shipped, upon demand, from the mints and sub-treasuries, free of charge, to the nearest and the most distant localities in the United States, only to find their way back into treasury vaults in payment of government dues and taxes. Surely the stock of these dollars which can perform any useful function as a circulating medium must soon be reached, if it has not been already, and the further coinage and storage of them will then become a waste of public money and a burden upon the treasury. It is freely admitted that the predictions of many of our wisest financiers, as to when the safe limit of silver coinage would we reached, have not been fulfilled, but it is believed that the principles on which their apprehensions were based are justified by the laws of trade and finance, and by the universal experience of mankind. While many favorable causes have co-operated to postpone the evil effects which are sure to follow the excessive issue of an overvalued coin, the danger none the less exists. The silver dollar has been maintained at par with gold, the monetary unit, mainly by the provisions of law which make it a full legal tender, and its representative, the silver certificate, receivable for customs and other dues; but the vacuum created by the retirement of national bank circulation, and the policy of the government in not forcibly paying out silver, but leaving its acceptance largely to the creditor, have materially aided its free circulation.

The extraordinary growth of this country in population and wealth, the unprecedented development in all kinds of business, and the unswerving confidence of the people in the good fa[illegible] nancial condition of our governm[illegible] been powerful influences in enabl[illegible] maintain a depreciated and cons[illegible] depreciating dollar at par with our gold coins, far beyond the limit which was believed possible a few years ago. But the fact must not be overlooked that it is only in domestic trade that this parity has been retained; in foreign trade the silver dollar possesses only a bullion value.

DEPRECIATION OF SILVER.

Referring to the causes which he alleges have caused the depreciation of the price of silver, the secretary says: The legislation of Germany in 1871-'73, immediately following the Franco-German war, adopting the single gold standard for that empire, withdrawing rapidly from circulation silver coins which prior to that time had formed almost exclusively the circulating medium, and throwing large quantities of silver at short and uncertain intervals upon the market, was the initial factor of the great monetary disturbance which destroyed the legal ratio between gold and silver that had existed for half a century. France and her monetary allies, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, and Greece, alarmed at the immense stock of German silver which was sure to flow into their open mints, immediately restricted, and soon afterward closed their mints to the coinage of full legal tender silver pieces. This action only hastened the catastrophe.

The other nations of Europe were not slow to follow the example of Germany and France. In 1873-'75 Denmark, Norway and Sweden adopted the single gold standard, making silver subsidiary. In 1875 Holland closed her mints to the coinage of silver. In 1876 Russia suspended the coinage of silver, except for use in the Chinese trade. In 1879 Austria-Hungary ceased to coin silver for individuals, except a trade coin known as the Levaht thaler.

The result has been, that while prior to 1871 England and Portugal were the only nations of Europe which excluded silver as full legal tender money: since the monetary disturbance of 1873-'78 not a mint of Europe has been open to the coinage of silver for individuals.

Starting in 1878 with no stock of silver dollars, this country, standing alone of all important nations, in its efforts to restore the former equilibrium between gold and silver, has, in the brief period of eleven years, added to its stock of full legal tender money 343,638,001 dollars of a depreciated and steadily depreciating metal. What has been the effect upon the price of silver? The value of an ounce of fine silver, which on March 1, 1878, was $1.20, was on November 1, 1889, 95 cents, a decline in eleven years of over 20 per cent.

In 1873, the date at which purchase of silver for subsidiary coinage commenced, the bullion value of the silver dollar, containing 371.25 grains of pure silver, was about 1½ cents more than the old gold dollar; on March 1, 1878, the date of the commencement of purchases for the silver dollar coinage, it was $0.93, while to-day its bullion value is 72 cents in gold. In other words, there has been a fall of over 28 per cent. in the value of silver as compared with gold in the last sixteen years, and of over 20 per cent. since we commenced purchases in 1878. The downward movement of silver has been continuous, and with uniformly accelerated velocity.

While the demand for silver has been cut off by the closing of the mints of Europe to its coinage, and the usual demand upon the part of India reduced by the sale of council bills, the annual product of silver has largely increased. In view of these facts, while it is evident that the primary cause of the decline in the price of silver was adverse legislation by the principal countries of Europe, virtually ostracising silver, it is also true that the fall has been hastened by an increased supply falling upon a market for which there was a reduced demand.

HIS FINAL CONCLUSIONS.

It is unquestionably true that, in this country, public sentiment and commercial and industrial necessity demand the joint use of both metals as money. The utilization of both metals as a circulating medium and as a basis for paper currency is believed to be essential to our national prosperity. But the unprecedented change in the market value of the two metals within the last sixteen years, and the steady depreciation of silver in the face of the large purchases on the part of this government, arouse grave apprehensions and cause great difficulties.

Referring to the present policy of purchasing and coining $2,000,000 worth of silver per month, the secretary says it is approved by no one. As to the proposition to coin $4,000,000 a month he says: "The secretary of the treasury, in whom is lodged the discretionary power to purchase and coin $4,000,000 worth of silver per month, concurs in the opinion of all his predecessors since 1878, that there is a limit beyond which it is not safe to go in the coinage of full legal tender dollars, the nominal value of which is far in excess of the bullion value, and he has therefore confined his purchases to the amount required by law."

As to the free coinage of silver the secretary says: "It is difficult to conceive of a method by which a more swift and disastrous contraction of our currency could be produced. It is within the memory of all that for several years prior to 1879 gold was not in circulation as money, but, when resumption took place, the hidden treasures, which had so long been banished from actual use, at once flowed into the channels of business and produced the most substantial and satisfactory conditions of prosperity. The free coinage of silver dollars, under existing circumstances, would be to reverse the results achieved by resumption."

Mr. Windom then gives his own plan for the issue of treasury notes, based on deposits of silver bullion, as given at length in THE INDEPENDENT yesterday.

Fire Stops a Sale.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 5.—Shortly before noon the Monongahela house took fire and was damaged to the extent of about $100,000. It was one of the oldest and largest hotels in the city, occupying an entire block; it was seven stories high. Two hundred guests were in the house at the time, and several had a narrow escape. Most of them lost nearly all their personal effects. Papers had been drawn for the sale of the property at 3 p. m. for $475,000.

EAST TAWAS, Mich., Dec. 5.—The Miner House took fire this morning. A greater part of the hotel was destroyed. Two bodies were found among the ruins. Five men were injured

Fatal Fight at a Circus.

COLUMBIA, S C., Dec. 5.—A terrible tragedy is reported from Robison county, N. C. On Monday a circus exhibited at Lumberton. A crowd of drunken negroes began to quarrel, and a free fight followed. Pistols, knives, clubs and stones were brought into use. The conflict raged for twenty minutes. George Hunt, Tom Collier and Julius Embra were killed, and half a dozen others were injured. The uninjured participants fled, being pursued by a sheriff's posse.

To Form a Rag Trust.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 5.—A movement is on foot to form a straw and rag paper trust for the purpose of restricting the production and advancing prices. Headquarters will probably be in Chicago. If formed, it will be one of the greatest in the country, as there are over a thousand straw and rag wrapping paper mills in the United States.

IDAHO'S TEST CASE.

The New Constitution to Be Passed on by the Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—[Special.]—H. W. Smith, of Ogden, Utah, a special attorney representing Idaho, arrived in this city today. He comes to make an argument before the supreme court on a case which, though unimportant comparatively in itself, involves a question which will cut a figure in the early admission of Idaho and will settle a vexed question as to the Mormons and their rights. The case is an appeal from the decision of the Idaho court in habeas corpus proceedings, and involves the validity of the test oath now on the Idaho statute books and incorporated in the constitution recently adopted by that territory, which defines the qualifications for voting and shuts out the Mormons. If it is held valid in Idaho, the adjoining Mormon territory wants to know it. The case grew out of the political fight which resulted in the election of Delegate Dubois, who is fighting for the admission of Idaho. Regardless of the test oath provisions, about 1,000 men of Mormon belief took it and voted, holding that the requirements were unconstitutional. To make a test case, one man was arrested, charged with conspiracy. He was jailed and his friends began habeas corpus proceedings, but the court held that the writ would not hold, so the case is here. As there is politics behind the proceedings, and as a decision will determine whether the oath in the Idaho constitution is valid, it is easy to see that the supreme court's action will have a heavy bearing in that territory's chances of admission on the constitution which has been approved.

WOOLGROWERS ORGANIZE.

A National Association Formed to Take Care of their Interest.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—At the woolgrowers' convention to-day the National Woolgrowers' association of the United States was organized by the adoption of a constitution and the election of the following officers to serve one year: Columbus Delano, Ohio, president; J. T. Rich, Michigan, vice-president; C. H. Beall, West Virginia, treasurer; George H. Wallace, Missouri, secretary, and David Cassitt, New York, assistant-secretary; E. N. Bissell, Vermont, W. L. Block, Texas, John McDowell, Pennsylvania, were selected to act with the officers of the association as an executive board. A committee was appointed to draft an address to the woolgrowers of the United States. One of the principal subjects discussed to-day was the under valuation of the so-called ring waste. Last year the importation of this so-called waste equalled the entire wool clip of either Ohio or Texas. Is it superior for nearly all wool manufacturing purposes to the finest scoured wool in this country, and yet paid a duty of only 10 cents a pound, when it should have paid, upon proper and just classification, 30 to 60 cents per pound. Last year about twenty-four million pounds of this wool were imported, principally from England, and sold in the markets of this country at from 62 to 65 cents a pound, while in the same markets fine secured California wool sold at 55 cents per pound. It was also stated this fine grade of wool was manipulated by machinery before shipment, especially constructed to coil into fine rings in imitation of waste, for the sole purpose of evading the law and avoiding the payment of just custom duties. The committee waited upon Secretary Windom this afternoon and presented a protest. The secretary stated that he was engaged in a thorough investigation of the subject and full justice would be done the woolgrowing interests. The next annual meeting will be held at Chicago the second Wednesday in June next.

"THE NEXT REVOLUTION."

Farmers and Knights Agree on the Terms for a Combination.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 5.—Referring to the probability of a consolidation between the Farmer's Alliance, north and south, Mr. Clowse said to a reporter: "The Farmer's Alliance will consolidate with the Farmers and Laborers union when two-thirds of the number of states represented by the Alliance agree to do so. There are only nine states in question, and five of them have already expressed a wish to join the Farmers and Laborers union. We only want one more state, and we may get this before adjoining from St. Louis. The two organizations will undoubtedly be consolidated within a month."

This has proved a busy day in the "next revolution," as began by the Farmers and Laborers' Union of America, resulting practically in a combinrtion of the middle classes, with 4,000,000 voters in the ranks. The secret conference between Powderly, of the Knights of Labor, and President Jones, of the Farmers and Laborers' union, resulted in a thorough understanding being reached, and to-day President Jones said a combination was accomplished, a statement in which Powderly acknowledged there was much truth. During the day General Weaver, of Louisiana, the famous greenbacker, arrived. He was next to Powderly, the lion of the hour.

Iowa's Official Vote.

DES MOINES, Dec. 5.—The official canvass of the Iowa vote shows Boies, (dem.) for governor, 180,111; Hutchinson, (rep.) 173,538; Boies plurality, 6 573. The remainder of the democratic ticket is defeated by pluralities ranging from 1,581 for lieutenant-governor, Poyner, to 8,480 for Railroad Commissioner Smith. The prohibition vote for governor has not been canvassed yet, but it will be about 15,000. Union labor vote about 5,000.

Emin Pasha May Die.

LONDON, Dec. 5.—A dispatch from Zanzibar announces that Emin Pasha has met with a probably fatal accident. Being nearsighted, he walked out of a window by mistake, and fell on his head, fracturing his skull. He now lies in a critical condition. All the doctors except Stanley's physician declare Emin's injuries will prove fatal. Stanley's physician is hopeful of saving Emin's life, but says under the most favorable circumstances his patient cannot be moved for at least ten days.

Guilty of Murder.

NEW YORK, Dec. 5.—The jury in the trial of Shuhok and Ingio, the Japanese sailors who murdered Muro Comi Contari, a fellow countryman Nov. 10, brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree.

Electric Sugar Swindlers Plead Guilty.

NEW YORK, Dec. 5.—Mrs. Olive E. Friend, Mrs. Emily Howard, Orrin A. Halstead and Geo. Halstead, the remaining Electric sugar swindlers, pleaded guilty to-day to grand larceny and were remanded for sentence.

JEFFERSON DAVIS DEAD.

One of the Most Prominent Figures in American History Joins the Majority.

Sketch of an Active Career Both in Civil and Military Life.

The Home Life of the ex-President of the Confederacy as Described by a Recent Visitor.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 6.—Jefferson Davis died at 12:30 this morning.

Jefferson Davis was born in Christian county, Kentucky, June 3, 1808. His father was an officer of Georgia cavalry in the Revolutionary war, and settled in Woodville, Miss., when Jefferson was an infant. The son entered Transylvania College, Kentucky, but left in a few months on receiving an appointment to the West Point Academy by President Monroe. On graduating in 1828 he entered the First infantry serving on the frontier in the Black Hawk war of 1831-2. He was made first lieutenant, and resigned from the service in 1835. His elopement in that year with the daughter of Zachary Taylor, afterward president of the United States, was a highly sensational affair, but the match proved a happy one. He settled in Mississippi, near Vicksburg, and became a cotton planter. In 1843 he first took an active part in politics, and in 1844 was an elector on the Polk and Dallas ticket. In 1845 he was elected to congress, and at once took high rank as a speaker on the tariff and on military matters. The Mexican war coming on, Mr. Davis resigned his seat to become colonel of the First Mississippi rifles. He performed distinguished service at Monterey, Buena Vista, being severely wounded in the latter engagement. After the close of the war he returned to his home in Mississippi, and in 1847 was appointed to fill a vacancy in the United States senate. He was re-elected for a full term, and served as chairman of the senate committee on military affairs. The slavery question was then uppermost, and Mr. Davis took a prominent part in its discussion. He fought the Missouri compromise with great earnestness and proposed that slavery should be extended to the Pacific ocean. His views on state rights were extreme then as ever. In 1851 he was the state's right candidate for governor of Mississippi and was defeated. The following year President Pierce made him secretary of war in his cabinet. In this office he displayed signal ability; he introduced an improved system of infantry tactics, iron gun carriages, rifled muskets and pistols and the Minnie ball; he strengthened our sea coast coast defenses, and made other improvements in our military equipment.

Mr. Davis was one of the earliest advocates of a railroad to the Pacific coast, which he urged as a military necessity, when in the senate. After he became secretary of war he sent out surveying parties to examine the various routes proposed.

In 1857 he left the cabinet to again enter the senate. Stephen A. Douglas, the champion of popular sovereignty, was then a member of that body and found in Mr. Davis his strongest opponent. Mr. Davis was the acknowledged leader of the democrats of the south at this time. He made a tour of the eastern states and the last in 1858, speaking at Boston, Portland, New York and other places. In 1860 he was a leading candidate for the presidency before the Charleston convention and was strongly supported by Ben Butler and other northern democrats who opposed Douglas. The country was then rapidly drifting towards civil war and Mr. Davis was summoned to Washington by President Buchanan for consultation in the crisis. Soon after the opening of congress December 10, 1860, Mr. Davis made a strong state rights speech, which represented the views of the ultra southern men. A month later he made another speech asserting the right of secession, denying the power of the government to coerce a state, and urging the withdrawal of the garrison from Fort Sumter. Two weeks later, his state having seceded, Mr. Davis withdrew from the senate in a farewell speech justifying the action of his state. Before he reached home he had been appointed commander-in-chief of the army of Mississippi, with the rank of major general, but a month later the provisional congress of the federal states elected him president of the confederacy. In his inaugural address he declared that "necessity, not choice," had led to secession. He condemned President Lincoln's proclamation calling for troops, and closed his address with the famous words that afterward became historic, "All we ask is to be let alone." Shortly after this the confederate capital was moved from Montgomery to Richmond.

The story of his career through the civil war is too fresh in mind to need recapitulation. Mr. Davis was involved in many quarrels with party leaders over questions of policy and with his generals in the field over the conduct of the war. A large element of the southern people were strongly opposed to his administration to the end of the war and were disposed to blame him for the disasters that overtook the confederacy. On the downfall of the confederacy Mr. Davis was captured and kept in close confinement at Fort Monroe for two years, but was finally admitted to bail in $100,000, Horace Greely's being the first name on his bond. He was never tried for treason as was first proposed and after spending some time abroad, took up his residence in Memphis, Tenn., where he became president of an insurance company. In 1879 he retired to Beauvoir, Miss., where he lived a retired life on an estate bequeathed to him by Mrs. Dorsey, a southern woman. His career since that time has been uneventful and only on rare occasions has he appeared in public.

Mr. Davis' Home Life.

Of Mr. Davis' home life at Beauvoir, a recent visitor writes: "This place is certainly rightly named, for to those who are fond of water scenery no more beautiful view could be presented. Situated on the Mississippi sound, an arm of the gulf, no land is visible over the broad expanse of blue waters except that occasionally on clear days the trees on Ship Island, several miles distant, can be seen. It is an ideal southern home of the antebellum type, and exactly such a place as would be at once conceded as specially suited for rest and leisure. To one who has been in harness for months, with scarcely an opportunity to draw a long breath, a visit here is like retiring to bed for a good, long, refreshing nap after a hard day's labor.

"Home life at Beauvoir is delightfully simple and unpretentious, and it is that which here constitutes one of the great charms of existence. At present the household consists of Mr. and Mrs. Davis, Miss Winnie "the daughter of the confederacy," a title bestowed on her by Gov. Gordon of Georgia, and by which she is now universally known, and Miss Lizzie Waller, a niece of Mrs. Davis, of almost the exact age of Miss Winnie. Up to a few days ago Mrs. J. Addison Hayes, now of Colorado Springs, Col., and her three children were also here on a visit. She is the oldest daughter of Mr. Davis, and is still remembered by many residents of Richmond as the "Little Maggie" of the days of the confederacy.

"During her stay he was surrounded by all the surviving members of his immediate family; and your correspondent, therefore, had an unusually fine opportunity to witness the domestic life of this distinguished gentleman in all its attractiveness. It was simply delightful to see the tender devotion manifested by him to his entire household, but more particularly to his young grandchildren, all three of whom are remarkably bright, clever and winsome.

"The greatest charm of Beauvoir life, however—at least to your correspondent—consists of the many conversations which it is his privilege to enjoy with Mr. Davis. Though the ex-southern chieftain is in his 81st year, his form is yet erect and his mind as bright as ever. With a wonderfully retentive memory he has, in a life devoted largely to reading, study and thought, stored his mind with a remarkable fund of information, which he freely dispenses in the choicest language, while every topic of current daily note is read and considered by him with as much care and interest as when he himself was an active contributor to his country's history. This and the varied career through which he has passed from the days of his early manhood to the present time, added to his acknowledged pre-eminence as a fascinating conversationalist, are what make his society at once most entertaining and instructive."

THE FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

The House Has a Little Sensation—The Business in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—In the house this morning the speaker presented the following communication from J. P. Leedom, late sergeant-at-arms of the house, directed to the speaker: "I regret to report that C. E. Silcott, late cashier of the office of sergeant-at-arms, has disappeared from this city without settling his accounts, and I have been unable to ascertain his whereabouts, and that there is a deficiency in the cash of this office. In view of these circumstances, I respectfully request an immediate investigation under such action as the house of representatives may take in the premises."

Adams, of Illinois, presented a resolution reciting the above facts, and stating that the amount of the defalcation was $75,000, and providing for a select committee to be appointed by the speaker to investigate and report, which was adopted. The following were appointed: Adams, Stewart, of Vermont, Payne, Reed, of Iowa, Holman, Blount and Hemphill.

The speaker also appointed the following committees: On rules, The speaker and McKinley, Cannon, Carlisle and Randall; on accounts, Spooner, Boothman, Kelly, of Kansas, McCord, Hansborough, Hays, Grimes, Lee and Kerr, of Pennsylvania; on enrolled bills, Kennedy, Townsend, of Pennsylvania, Moore, of New Hampshire, Kilmour and Williams. Adjourned until Monday.

In the senate to-day, among the bills introduced and referred, was one by Hale, for the relief of the sufferers in the Samoan disaster; to regulate immigration. By Spooner, for the protection of federal officers in the discharge of their duties. The bill declares supervisors of elections officers of circuit courts of the United States and charges them with the enforcement of the national election and naturalization laws. By Ingalls, to aid and secure the commemoration of the fur hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America. The vice president having notified the senate he would be absent two or three days next week, Ingalls was elected president pro tem. Adjourned till Monday.

The First Gun for Tariff Reform.

Voorhees offered a long preamble and resolution in the senate to-day in reference to tariff taxation, which he asked to have laid on the table for the present. It declared the existing tariffs and taxes on foreign merchandise should be so revised, repealed or amended as to provide, first, for the collection of a sufficient amount of revenue to pay the expenses of the government economically administered, the principal and interest of the public debt as they fall due, and liberal pensions, but not a dollar more. Second, for the taxation of all articles of luxury at the highest practicable rates, and for the reduction of taxes on all the necessaries of civilized life to the lowest possible rates, consistent with a tariff for nothing but revenue. Third, For the curtailment and overthrow, as far as possible, of all monopolies in trade by the enlargement of the free list to the full extent that the same can be done without impairing and endangering the necessary revenues of the government, having in view at all times and under all circumstances a liberal policy of trade with the people of foreign countries, and the establishment of equal and exact justice amongst our own citizens with exclusive privileges to none.

A World's Fair Bill.

Ingalls' bill to aid and secure the commemoration of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America, provides for the appointment by the president of a commission consisting of two members from each state of different political affiliations, and one from the territories, the extension of an invitation to all American nations and states to participate, and to European powers if they desire to join. The commission is to decide on a site for the exposition and the purchase of grounds, of not less than 300 acres. The president shall apportion the land for the buildings of the various countries, each one to select its own style of architecture. The appropriations are as follows: For purchase ground, $5,000,000; for grading and clearing, $1,500,000; for buildings of the United States, $500,000; for incidental expenses, $1,000,000; total, $8,000,000.

FOUGHT TO A DRAW.

The Meeting of McAuliffe and Daly at Boston.

BOSTON, Dec. 5.—A fifteen-round glove fight for a purse of $1,000 between Mike Daly, of Bangor, and Jack McAuliffe, lightweights, to-night, resulted a draw. McAuliffe weighed 144 pounds and Daly 139 pounds. Fram the first McAuliffe lead, landing his blows when and where he pleased, and Daly acted on the defensive most of the time. In the second round Daly got in a terrific right-hander on McAuliffe's wind that fairly took him off his feet, but McAuliffe landed a blow that split Daly's left ear. Daly got in a telling blow on McAuliffe's nose in the eighth round, but drew no blood, and in the ninth McAuliffe caught Daly on the jaw with a staggering blow. Daly returned a stinging hit that swelled McAuliffe's lip. In the next four rounds McAuliffe showered blow after blow upon his opponent, in several instances nearly knocking him over the ropes. In the fourteenth and fifteenth rounds Daly was groggy, but kept up and the contest was declared a draw.

SWINDLED BY SILCOTT.

Carter and Other Northwesters Have Their Salaries Taken Over the Line.

The Question Now at Issue, Shall Uncle Sam Shoulder the Losses?

Preemption Law Decision—The First Gun for Tariff Reform—In House and Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—[Special.]—Edward Silcott, cashier of the sergeant-at-arms of the house of representatives is missing from his accustomed place and $72,000, belonging to members of the house, will materially aid him in his flight. A number of representatives were in the habit of keeping individual deposits with the sergeant-at-arms and their losses when ascertained, may swell the sum total considerably. The defalcation of Silcott recalls an incident of the Forty-eight congress. John Westly Reid was a member from North Carolina, but he left the house and went out to Washington territory. There were some unpleasant circumstances connected with the affair, and Reid sent his resignation to the governor, but he did not notify the house, and his salary was drawn by some one, and Silcott is probably the man. Reid remained in Washington territory and became a member of the constitutional convention. His absence from the house induced another North Carolina member to inquire if he had resigned. The governor furnished the information, and the member had Reid's pay stopped. Silcott treated him as if he had done him a personal injury. "Reid," said the North Carolina member, "is trying to redeem himself, and I hope he will succeed in the new state."

Representative Hansbrough has been drawing checks on the sergeant-at-arms, and thus collected the greater part of his November salary. Mr. Carter is in for a full month, but Wilson, of Washington, drew all his salary a few days ago, and has not lost anything. Delegate Dubois, of Idaho, has about $2,100 in the cashier's hands and is out that sum unless the house decides to reimburse the members. Mr. Dubois had agreed to pay Mr. Smith $1,000 as a fee to argue the Idaho oath question, and was about to pay him a few days ago, when Smith told him to postpone it a few days. The Idaho delegate remarked to-night that he had just five dollars to last him until next salary day. Hermann, of Oregon, fared even worse. He has not drawn any salary since May, and had about $2,800 coming to him. He expects, of course to get the money, but he wants it now, add he has no way of getting it until some action is taken by the house.

Silcott was a trusted employe, who came here from Ohio. He was appointed by Leedom six years ago. He had good business qualifications and soon possessed himself of the unlimited confidence of his superior. Last Saturday he notified Leedom that he was going to New York and would be back Sunday. A message was received from him, dated New York, Monday morning, saying that he had been detained, but would return that night. A similar message reached his wife in this city. As he did not appear Tuesday Leedom was fearful that he had been overtaken by some accident, but to satisfy his suspicions, began an investigation. Information that Silcott had drawn his bank balance deepened these suspicions and the inquiry was pursued. The enormous office safe could not be opened in a moment, as Silcott had the combination, but when an entrance was effected it was found that some $30,000 set apart for the paying teller was intact. Inquiry was next made at the treasury department, where Leedom was informed that Silcott had called there Saturday and had drawn about $72,000. It was possible for him to draw this large sum without exciting comment, as he had for a long time been charged with the duty of collecting money with which the salaries of representatives are paid. Silcott was under bonds in the sum of $50,000. This is, however, an indemnity bond given to the sergeant-at-arms, and Leedom, who is himself bonded in the sum of $50,000, is directly responsible for the shortage.

Persons who know Silcott do not give him a good name. It is said he was intimate with a disreputable woman giving the name of Louise Barnett, whom he supported for some time. He also had the reputation of playing races steadily, and of lending money to his associates at the capital to back horses. Silcott leaves a wife and three children behind. The oldest is a married son employed in the house document room. The object of Silcott's visit to New York Saturday, it is said, was for the purpose of collecting $12,000 from ex-Congressman Page, of Ohio, which amount Silcott had loaned him out of the funds in his custody.

What concerns members of the house the most deeply, is whether in giving signed certificates to the sergeant-at-arms, on which he obtained money from the treasury, they have not released the government from liability for their salaries. Opinions on this point vary.

Pre-emption Law Decision.

Acting Secretary Chandler, of the interior department, gave a decision to-day in which he discussed briefly the pre-emption law briefly. The case came from the land office at Huron, S. D., and involves title to a part of section 11, township 117, range 69. H. S. Esty had the first claim, but did not live on the land when he made his cash entry. J. H. Wallace, who filed on the land afterwards, was the contestant. Esty thought that having resided for six months on the claim, he did not need to continue his residence until he made his cash entry. Secretary Chandler says that the law undoubtedly contemplates that the residence of the pre-emptor must be upon the tract pre-empted at the date when he offers proof and payment for the land. Accordingly he sustains the decision of the Huron land office.

Northwestern Nuggets.

Representative Baker of New York, will no doubt be made chairman of the committee on territories. This is at the earnest request of Delegates Dubois and Carr, who are aware that Baker is favorable to the admission of these territories. Mr. Dubois, in the house, and Senator Platt, chairman of the committee on territories in the senate, will introduce bills simultaneously for the admission of Idaho.

Charles Miles was to-day appointed postmaster at Laurel, Yellowstone county, and Mrs. C. B. Scribner at Rumsey, Deer Lodge county, Montana.