

THE INDEPENDENT

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NOTICE.

A. A. Campbell is the only authorized traveling agent of this paper.

THE WEATHER.

Reported for The Independent by R. M. Crawford, United States observer.

6 a.m. 6 p.m.  
Barometer... 30.113 29.981  
Temperature... 33.1 33.5  
Wind... w-7 n-4  
Maximum temperature, 47.  
Minimum temperature, 55.  
Local forecast for Helena: Wednesday, fair; slight changes in temperature.  
Helena, Mont., Dec. 4, 1894.

Talking of hogs, the blue ribbon easily belongs to the Great Falls Tribune, which opposes every form of irrigation enterprise lest some other section of the state than Great Falls should derive a possible benefit from legislation.

The Butte Inter Mountain does not discuss the senatorial candidates with that range and liberality to be expected from so able an exponent of republicanism. There are at least six west side candidates whom it has never once mentioned.

The Denver News is making a heroic struggle to induce the populists to be sensible and limit their activity to efforts to securing the free coinage of silver. Editor Patterson has his hands full. Nobody ever yet succeeded in inducing the populists to be sensible, and he is working against great odds.

Mr. Aldrich, the republican leader in the senate, announces that his party will not attempt to tinker with the tariff. That is very kind, to be sure. But if the republican party should attempt to tinker with the tariff, it couldn't. There is a big man at the other end of the avenue who would block its operations.

The Philadelphia Record is quite right. As it says, there is no room for democratic strife over the responsibility for the party's defeat. The cyclone struck the extreme advocate of free trade and the extreme conservative with equal force. The chief lesson of the elections is the necessity for harmony and for a thorough reorganization of the party.

There are two theories as to Weed's candidacy for United States senator. One is that Carter, Power and Sanders, in their anxiety to knock one another out, will make Weed their residuary legatee; the other is that each and all of them will see to it that whatever happens Weed is not the east side man. The uncertainty as to which of these two theories is correct adds interest to the situation. As the Independent is merely an impartial recorder of events as they occur, it has no opinion to offer.

All our democratic contemporaries throughout the country are speculating as to whether it will be possible for the democrats of New York to reorganize and get together before 1896. One thing is certain, the democrats of the country must no longer lean on New York. They would have carried the election in 1892 had the electoral vote of New York been cast for Harrison. They will carry it in 1896 should New York go republican, by nominating Adlai E. Stevenson, of Illinois, for president. It will be well to leave New York out of all calculations. Then whatever happens we shall not be disappointed.

Ex-Governor and Ex-Senator Joseph E. Brown, of Georgia, or Old Joe Brown, as he was more familiarly called, who died a day or two ago, was one of the most remarkable characters the south has produced. He sprang from the class known as "poor whites," a people supposed to be without energy or intellectuality. Yet under the greatest difficulties and disadvantages he rose to be several times governor of the state, United States senator, railway magnate, and the most potent force in the entire state. It is said that he could not read or write until he was over 21 years of age, and that he received all his instruction from his wife after his marriage. His career illustrates the possibilities that are within the attainment of any American lad, no matter how inauspicious his beginning may be.

The consolidation of the First National and Helena National banks, which The Independent announced as agreed upon a few days ago, was made an accomplished fact last night by the election of directors and officers of the new institution. The names of those gentlemen, which appear elsewhere in this morning's Independent, are so well known to the business public, and to the patrons of the old First National and the Helena National, that it is unnecessary to commend them to our people. They are men of the highest stand-

ing in the financial and commercial circles of the northwest and their names are a guarantee of the strength and solidity of the united institutions. The First National bank of Helena, by which name the consolidated banks will be known, stands to-day among the foremost financial concerns of the country. It is an institution in which our people may justly take pride and we predict for it a future of great and growing prosperity.

One of the worst blows that could be struck at silver would be the carrying out of the populist plan of issuing greenbacks up to fifty dollars per capita. Once let the principle of issuing greenbacks be established, and we shall have an end practically to the demand for the remonetization of silver. The people of all the states that do not produce silver would be satisfied with the greenbacks. They would not be satisfied long, however, with fifty dollars per capita. Whenever dull times or monetary stringencies were experienced the demand for an increase of the per capita would be heard and more greenbacks issued to meet it. This greenback business is the greatest menace to the free coinage of silver that it is possible to conceive. The only safety for the silver producing states is a monetary system which will bring us back to the constitutional declaration that gold and silver coin shall be the money of the United States. Any departure from this policy is not in the interest of that section of the country that produces the money metal.

The St. Paul Pioneer Press says: "Senator Power, of Montana, thinks that state will instruct its delegates to the republican national convention to demand the insertion of a plank in the platform favoring the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, or, in case of failure to withdraw from the convention. There is a certain intensity of local color about this deliverance. The next republican national platform will not favor free coinage at any ratio and Montana will not withdraw from the convention. It will learn a good deal before 1896, and among other things will doubtless give up the notion that the tail can wag the dog."

It is not often that we are able to concur in the opinion of the Pioneer Press, but in this instance it is exactly right. The party that demonetized silver in 1873 is as hostile to the white metal now as it ever was. Those republicans who are sincerely for silver, like Jones and Stewart, have renounced their party allegiance because they are fully aware that silver will never be remonetized by the republican party. The only way that Mr. Power can show his friendship for our silver interest is by absolutely withdrawing from the republican party in Montana. Has he the courage to take this step?

A very clear statement of the advantages claimed for the proposed new currency act is given by Hon. A. B. Hepburn, former comptroller of the currency, in the Forum for December. He says:

"The Baltimore plan proposes to amend the National Bank Act so as no longer to require government bonds as security for circulation, but provide a safety-fund instead; to allow banks to issue circulation to 50 per cent of their paid-up, unimpaired capital, and, in an emergency, 75 per cent. All notes of failed banks are to be redeemed by the government as under the present law. A guarantee, or safety-fund, equal to 5 per cent of the outstanding circulation, is to be accumulated and maintained by gradual taxation upon such circulation. From this fund the government is to redeem notes of failed banks. The government also retains a prior lien upon the assets of failed banks, including stockholders' liability, as now provided by law, in order to replenish this safety-fund and protect itself against possible loss. Practically, the only change is to substitute a guarantee-fund for government bonds as security, the other changes being incidental. The details are open to discussion and improvement, but I believe the principles to be right.

Just such a law as the one proposed by the Baltimore bankers is now in successful operation in the Dominion of Canada, except that the Canadian law allows circulation to the par of unimpaired capital, and the government assumes no responsibility for the redemption of failed banks' notes beyond the application of the 5 per cent fund. The law has proved eminently successful and satisfactory in Canada. In the light of these facts no one can dispute the safety of the plan."

A New York syndicate has been formed for the purpose of buying an island off the coast of Maine, stocking it with black foxes and engaging in the fur trade.

THE HOUSEKEEPER.

Wednesday, Dec. 5, 1894.  
Life is always interesting when you have a purpose and live in its fulfillment.—Beaconsfield.

BREAKFAST—Beefsteak, Warm Potatoes, Bread and Butter, Griddle Cakes, Maple Syrup, Coffee.  
DINNER—Barley Soup, Crackers, Celery, Baked Potatoes, Bread and Butter, Apple Jelly, Brown Betty.  
SUPPER—Biscuit and Butter, Honey, Cream Pie, Milk, Tea.

Barley Soup: Remove as much of the fat as possible from two pounds of a fore-quarter of mutton. Cut the meat into small pieces, add to it one quart of cold water, and two tablespoonfuls of barley, let it slowly come to the boiling point, then allow it to simmer about two hours, keeping it closely covered. Break the bones, and boil one hour in water enough to cover them; add this to the meat and barley, after straining. Skim off all the fat, and season with salt and a little pepper.

LA BELLE HORTENSE.

If there is one name more than another that is indissolubly associated with the history of the Napoleonic empire, it is that of Hortense Schneider, who, notwithstanding her advanced age—her years number considerably over three score—has just come once more before the public, not as a dramatic star, but in the role of a petitioner for divorce. And as no one has ever been able to resist la belle Hortense, she naturally got what she asked for—namely, the annulment of her altogether un congenial marriage.

The husband of whom she has just got rid bears the name of Signor Bionne, and is nothing more nor less than an adventurer who had counted on getting possession of the very considerable fortune amassed by the creator of "La Belle Helene" and of "La Grande Duchesse de Gerolstein." He had induced her to believe that he possessed the title of count and that he owned not only the historic castle at Bionne, near the town of that name, but also an immense amount of valuable property in the surrounding districts.

Born at Bordeaux of parents in most humble circumstances and possessed of scarcely any education, she made her debut at the Palais Royal in a piece called "Les Memoires de Mimi Bamboche," where her appearance on the stage brought to her feet the most brilliant and dashing of all the men of fashion of the day—namely, the Duc de Grammont-Caderousse. He became blindly infatuated in her Reubens-like charms. He lavished all the wealth he could command upon her, turned Paris upside down, so to speak, for her amusement, performing all sorts of reckless and extravagant feats, and finally, after three years of public association with her, died of consumption at her house.

From the Palais Royal she migrated to the Varietes, where she appeared in "La Belle Helene," but it was in the "Grande Duchesse" that she achieved her greatest success, all the more appreciated as Paris was crowded at the time with visitors to



Hortense Schneider.

the great exhibition of 1877. Indeed, her fellow citizens went perfectly wild about her, and the international character of her fame may be gathered from the fact that when Alexander II. of Russia and his two sons, one the late czar, visited Paris as the guests of Napoleon III., the autocrat telegraphed all the way from the frontier ordering a box at the theater at which she was performing to be retained for the evening of their arrival, and a supper of the most elaborate description to be prepared after the performance was over, at which she was to be his guest.

Thus, his first greeting, on touching French territory, was not for Napoleon III., or for Eugenie, but for Hortense Schneider, and it was not with the emperor or empress, but with her, that he passed the first evening of his stay in the French capital. The fact was that no one brought more fun and life into a post-theatrical repast than she, and there was scarcely a night when her infectious laugh could not be heard from the windows of some of the most chic boulevard restaurants.

Emperor Alexander II. of Russia completely lost his heart to her, and so, too, did the prince of Wales. Indeed there was not a single visitor to Paris of royal and imperial rank, who did not lay his homage, accompanied by more intrinsically valuable tokens of his admiration, at her feet. The only two, in fact, who remained insensible to her charms were old Emperor William of Germany and his son, the late Emperor Frederick.

Toward the close of the reign of Napoleon III. she forfeited a considerable amount of the good will of her fellow-citizens by entangling in the meshes of her net a young duke of a name almost as illustrious as that of the duke of Grammont-Caderousse, above mentioned. The lad—for he was little more—was in love with her to such an extent that he actually went so far as to recognize as his own and to confer his time-honored and historic name upon a child of Hortense Schneider's, born three months after he made her acquaintance. The young fellow's parents appealed to the courts, which annulled the act of recognition, but could not disinherit him of his inheritance. Like the duke of Grammont, he died of consumption, after two years' intimacy with her, a completely ruined man financially.

Let me add a fact known to very few, namely, that this otherwise absolutely perfect specimen of feminine physique left hand horribly deformed, indeed, in such a manner as to give one the cold shivers. Yet so clever was she that without wearing gloves she managed to keep it out of sight even in the moments of her greatest abandon and reckless gaiety.



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