

CAMERON COUNTY PRESS.

H. H. MULLIN, Editor.

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Business cards, five lines or less, 45 cents per year; over five lines, at the regular rates of advertising.

No local inserted for less than 75 cents per issue.

JOB PRINTING. The Job Department of the Press is complete and affords facilities for doing the best class of work.

A FRENCH naturalist named Gallen has made the discovery at Nymes that if a sparrow is put in the same cage with finches it will soon learn to imitate their song like a mocking bird; also, the chirping of a cricket.

A RUSSIAN nobleman, Count Rambunsky, has written to Mayor Warwick, of Philadelphia, saying that he has a good-looking son, 24 years of age, who wants to make a Philadelphia woman his wife and a countess. All he requires is beauty and a dot of \$3,000,000.

An agent of an American firm has just been in England, and with but little difficulty obtained orders for 8,000 golf sticks.

The richest gold mine in the world is located under the thriving town of Ballarat, Victoria, Australia. It yields but half an ounce of standard gold to the ton, and yet the Band, Barton and Albion mine has yielded more than \$150,000,000 of gold since it was opened 30 years ago.

The prince of Naples is compiling an illustrated work on the coins of Italy, modern and mediaeval, and is anxious to have all persons who possess rare Italian coins communicate with him.

OFFICIAL reports have been received from Capt. Ray, who was sent to the Klondike country by the war department.

MISS MARY PROCTOR, the astronomer, gave a lecture a few evenings ago in the lecture course provided by the board of education of New York city.

VANCOUVER is enjoying a boom that presages a bright future and a verification that that city is the future great metropolis of British Columbia.

THAT New York and Philadelphia will eventually be connected by a trolley line seems to be assured.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has it in his power to have a curious and unequalled record made a part of the United States navy history.

WHEN the big department stores of Denver lately undertook to dictate advertising rates to the newspapers there and stopped advertising in order to enforce their demands the small stores took advantage of the boycott and began to advertise.

A NET of spiders' webs is being manufactured at the professional school at Antananarivo, and will be used as an experimental covering for a navigable balloon by M. Renard, the head of the French military balloon school at Chalais.

SOMETHING HE OVERLOOKED.

Bryan's Hit and Miss Description of Mexican Finances.

In the article praising Mexico, her alleged marvelous prosperity and her silver monetary standard, Mr. William Jennings Bryan neglected, as he usually does, to bring out the vital and material points of the questions which he discussed.

Mr. Bryan spent two or three weeks in Mexico, bought a sombrero trimmed with silver, and then came back fully equipped to tell us all about the affairs of our neighboring republic and ready to prove, to his own satisfaction at least, that this country ought to adopt the financial system from which Mexico has been for some time trying to escape.

Mr. Bryan is a political comet which has passed its perihelion, and is disappearing in the depths of obscurity, whence it emerged some 18 months ago. It occasionally still emits a gaseous explosion, however, which calls for comment on the part of the astronomers who have watched it with interest as it careened madly across the political firmament.

Ever since Mr. Bryan picked up the silver question as a supposedly convenient method of landing himself in the white house he has argued that the free and unlimited coinage of silver would give to this country a greater volume of money; that is, a larger per capita circulation. Now, if the free coinage of silver is conducive to a greater per capita circulation than the United States possesses, we would naturally suppose that Mexico, which conforms to Mr. Bryan's loftiest ideals of a proper financial policy, would have a larger per capita circulation than this country. Let us see. Consulting the facts and figures in relation to the amount of money in each country, we discover the per capita of each nation to be as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Country, Per capita. United States: \$19.55; Mexico: \$2.30; In silver: United States: \$8.78; Mexico: 7.70; In paper: United States: \$5.90; Mexico: 3.22; Total money: United States: \$24.03; Mexico: 8.41.

Evidently there is a cog loose in Mr. Bryan's logic again. Instead of having, thanks to the free coinage of silver, a greater amount of money per capita than the United States, Mexico has only about one-third as much money per capita as this country possesses.

If it is a good thing to have a large circulation, then free silver, as shown by the experience of Mexico, does not supply that benefit, nor does the free and unlimited coinage of silver in Mexico add one penny of value to the silver when it is coined. After that metal is minted it is worth no more or less, under free and unlimited coinage in Mexico, than it was worth as bullion.

While Mr. Bryan is sounding the praises of Mexico's financial system that country is striving to abandon it, and in a few years we will see our southern neighbor take its rightful place among the progressive gold standard nations of the world.

DRIFT OF OPINION.

Mr. Bryan is undoubtedly one of the men who are ahead of their times. The only date to which he pays attention is 1900.—Washington Star.

If the "investigation" could only have been held before the election Hanna's majority would have been much larger.—Cleveland Leader.

The "Bryan and Alford democracy" presumably has warned all persons of the name of Buck Hinrichsen to keep off the grass.—Chicago Record (Ind.).

The tightening grip of Dingley bill results on the windpipe of the calamity howler has reduced that organ to the vocalization of a piping treble.—Philadelphia Press.

Bryan's satirical telegram to the Maine cotton mill strikers is in keeping with his calamity record. When he sees a sign of prosperity he keeps quiet.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The "Curse of Gold" is described as a free silver melodrama. It will be remembered that "The Cross of Gold," which had a short run in '96, was a roaring farce.—Chicago Times-Herald.

The promptness and vigor with which the republican house killed the Teller silver bond resolution shows the scrupulous faith with which the republican party keeps its pledges.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Never was a robber or assassin caught in the commission of his crime condemned to swifter execution by public indignation, or more promptly gibbeted and buried out of sight and smell than the Teller resolution, with all its infamies on its head, was sent to its just doom by the house of representatives.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Bryan says: "The democrats of the United States have put their hands to the sixteen to one plow, and will not look back." Well, perhaps they won't. There is nothing very pleasant "to look back" at. Bryan firing off speeches with hair on end at the rear of a Pullman car, and defeated when the vote was counted, doesn't make a historic picture for any democrat to enthuse over.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

WAGES AND MONEY.

Factors Which Knock Out the Pretenses of Free Silverites.

A bond sale recently took place in this state which shows the extent to which the price of money has fallen in the past few years. The bonds were Missouri state securities, amounting to \$350,000, bearing interest at four per cent, and they sold at a premium. These bonds are to take up bonds drawing six per cent interest. Twenty years ago the latter were hard to sell at par, and they replaced bonds that drew ten per cent interest, which sold for 75 cents on the dollar in 1869, at a time when the regular currency of the country, greenbacks, which the republicans brought up to the gold line in 1879, was worth only 75 cents on the dollar in gold.

This is a little different sort of a story from that which the silver orators tell. They pretend that interest and fixed charges for farmers and others remain the same as during the war period, while the prices of farm products and the wages of labor have gone down. The figures here given, however, show that interest in Missouri is much less than half as high as it was 25 or 30 years ago. Allowing for the premium now on public bonds and the discount then, the present rate of interest is only about a third what it was at that time.

The facts knock out the rest of the silverites' pretense also. Prices of many farm products have dropped in the past 20 years, though wheat at its present price in 100-cent dollars is about as high as it was 25 or 30 years ago, if the currency of those days is reckoned on the gold basis.

Many officers of the Maine were ashore at the time of the explosion. Admiral Manterola believes the disaster was caused by the throwing of a grenade from the navy yard, near which the Maine was anchored, onto the deck of the American warship.

On the Defensive.

The Tippecanoe club, one of the largest permanent republican clubs in the country, has been sued to prevent its board of directors from expelling four members who took part in the effort to prevent the election of M. A. Hanna to the United States senate by the Ohio legislature.

"Gold Despotism."

Something must be said about the phrase "tyranny of gold," implying that gold is a cruel despot and an injury to mankind. It is strange that we never heard of this tyrant until silver fell below par. If the despotism of gold is so cruel to the human race it is strange that all other nations one by one are rushing to its embraces.

Caught by a Cave-In.

Pittsburg, Feb. 16.—Terror was spread yesterday by a report that a section of the ruins left by the Pike street fire disaster of last Wednesday night had fallen and buried ten persons, mostly boys.

Arbitration Bill Favorably Reported.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The senate committee on education and labor has decided to report favorably the bill prepared by the trainmen of the country and recently introduced in the senate by Senator Kyle, providing for the arbitration of railroad strikes.

Exit De Lome.

New York, Feb. 17.—Dupuy De Lome, former Spanish minister to Washington, sailed yesterday on the steamship Britannic for Liverpool.

THE MAINE DESTROYED

Explosion in Havana Harbor Wrecks an American Warship.

Scores of the Crew Killed and Wounded—Exact Cause of the Disaster Not Yet Fully Determined.

Spanish Naval and Military Authorities Assist in Caring for the Injured—One of the Worst Catastrophes in the Annals of Our Navy.

Havana, Feb. 16.—At 9:45 last evening a terrible explosion took place on board the United States warship Maine in Havana. Many were killed or wounded. As yet the cause of the explosion is not apparent. The wounded sailors of the Maine are unable to explain it.

The explosion shook the whole city. The windows were broken in all the houses. Several of the wounded sailors say that the explosion took place while they were asleep, so that they can give no particulars as to the cause.

The wildest consternation prevails in Havana. The wharves are crowded with thousands of people. It is believed the explosion occurred in a small powder magazine. At 10:45 p. m. what remained of the Maine was still burning. Capt. Sigsbee and the other officers were saved. It is estimated that over 100 of the crew were killed, but it is impossible as yet to give exact details.

Gen. Solano and the other generals have been ordered by Gen. Blanco to take steps to help the Maine's crew in every way possible. The correspondent of the Associated Press has been near the Maine in one of the boats of the cruiser Alfonso XII. and seen others of the wounded who corroborate the statement of those first interviewed that they were asleep when the explosion occurred.

Capt. Sigsbee says the explosion occurred in the bow of the vessel. He received a wound in the head. Orders were given to the other officers to save themselves as best they could. The latter who were thrown from their bunks in their night clothing, gave the necessary orders with great self-possession and bravery.

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The dispatch continues: "All but the surgeon were in the ward room at the moment of the explosion. Then came the stupendous shock. All the officers below rushed on deck, but could get no further forward than the middle superstructure on deck. Only a very few of the 350 jacksies ever got from below. The water rushed over them and many were stunned and drowned, but not mangled."

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The Maine was a battleship of the second class and was regarded as one of the best ships in the new navy. She was built at the Brooklyn navy yard and is 318 feet long, 57 feet broad and 6,682 tons displacement.

She carried four 10-inch and six 6-inch breech-loading guns in her main battery and seven 6-pounder and eight 1-pounder rapid-fire guns and four Gatlings in her secondary battery, and four Whitehead torpedoes.

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Steamer and 87 Lives Lost.

Tenerife, Canary Islands, Feb. 17.—The French line steamer Flachet, bound from Marseilles for Colon, was totally wrecked on Anaga Point, this island, at 1 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Explosion on the Maine Was Followed by a Wild Rush of Sailors to Reach the Deck—Few Succeeded—Description of the Appearance of the Warship After the Disaster.

Key West, Fla., Feb. 17.—Capt. Sigsbee's message to Commandant Forsythe, of the naval station here, received yesterday, reads: "Advise sending American vessel at once. The Maine is submerged except the debris. Mostly work for divers. Jenkins and Merritt are still missing and there is but little hope for their safety. Those known to have been saved are the officers and 24 uninjured of the crew. Eighteen wounded men are now on board the Ward line steamer; in the city hospital and at the hotels 59 so far as known. All the others went down on board or near the Maine. The total lost or missing is 258. With several exceptions no officer or man has more than a part of a suit of clothing and that is wet. The officers saved are uninjured. The damage was done in the compartments of the crew."

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