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Iron County Register.

BY ELI D. AKE.

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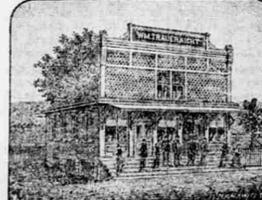
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What the Inside Pages Contain.

Second Page—Editorial Miscellany, News and Notes, Missouri State News and Cullings, Dun's Commercial Review, The Reign of Blood, etc.
Third Page—A Wildcat's Ways, The Sign of the Four, (a serial), The Protected Class, etc.
Sixth Page—Bold Bank Robbers, The New Waterway, etc.
Seventh Page—The Nation's Holiday, How the British Beat Phrastrus, Agricultural Hints, etc.

Coinage Laws of the United States.

From the St. Louis Journal of Agriculture.
In our last issue we considered the provisions of the general coinage law passed by the first congress of the United States in 1792. In this article we will briefly review all the coinage acts between February, 1792, and the general coinage act of 1837. The second coinage act of the first United States congress was passed May 8, 1792. It simply provided for the purchase of copper by the United States mint to be coined into cents and half cents. January 14, 1793, a law was passed providing that the copper cent should contain 208 grains of copper.

February 9, 1793, an act was passed regulating foreign coins, making them a legal tender and establishing their value, etc. The gold coins of Great Britain and Portugal were to be a legal tender for all demands, at the rate of 100 cents for every twenty-seven grains, the gold coins of Spain and France at the rate of 100 cents for every twenty-seven and two fifths grains; Spanish milled dollars at the rate of 100 cents. It further provided that at the expiration of three years that all foreign gold and silver coins, except the Spanish milled dollar, should cease to be a legal tender; and that all foreign coins except the Spanish milled dollar when received in payment due the United States should be coined anew.

A law passed March 3, 1794, made provision for receiving for metals at the mint. An act passed March 3, 1795, provided for additional mint officers; that the treasury of the mint should retain two cents per ounce of bullion deposited to be coined. It authorized officers to give preference to bullion of the standard of the United States. The president of the United States was authorized to reduce the weight of the copper coin, when he thought it to the benefit of the United States. The weight was changed by proclamation January 26, 1796.

By act of Congress, February 1, 1798, section 2 of the law of February 9, 1793, making foreign coin a legal tender was suspended for three years.
The act of April 24, 1800, authorized the purchase of copper equivalent to the amount of cents and half cents coined subsequent to March, 1799. An act of March 3, 1801, directed that the mint remain at Philadelphia until March, 1803. An act of March 3, 1803, continued in force act of March, 1801, for five years.

An act of April 10, 1806, regulated the legal tender value of foreign coins in the United States, and continued their legal tender quality for three years from April 10, 1806. An act of April 21, 1806, provided for the punishment of counterfeiting foreign or domestic coins. By act of April 1, 1808, the mint was continued at Philadelphia five years longer. December 2, 1808, continued the mint at Philadelphia another five years.

An act of April 29, 1816, provided that several foreign coins should at the expiration of three years, from the passage of the act, cease to be legal tenders in the United States. By act of January 14, 1818, the United States mint was continued at Philadelphia another five years.

Act of March 3, 1819, continued gold coins of Great Britain and Portugal as legal tender till the following November; and foreign silver coins were continued as legal tender two years longer.
Act of March 3, 1821, continued the legal tender qualities of French coins for two years longer. Act of March 3, 1823, continued the mint at Philadelphia for another five years, and provided for deductions as a charge for refining or alloying silver bullion. Act of March 23, 1833, provided that the French five-franc piece and crown should continue as legal tender in the United States for two years longer. The act of March 3, 1823, provided that gold coins of Great Britain, Portugal, France and Spain should be received in the United States in all payments on account of public land.

By act of May 19, 1828, the mint was continued at Philadelphia another five years. The brass troy weight was established as the standard troy pound of the mint. The director of the mint was authorized to assay bullion not intended for coinage at such rates of

charge as the director might establish. The act of June 25, 1834, provided that the dollar of Mexico, Peru, Chili and Central American of not less weight than 415 grains each, pass as money for the payment of all debts at the rate of 100 cents to the dollar.
Act of June 28, 1834, provided that all standard gold and silver should be paid for in coin under the direction of the secretary of the treasury. Section three provided that all gold coins minted prior to July 31, 1834, should be receivable in all payments at the rate of 94 cents per pennyweight. The act of June 28, 1834, regulated the legal-tender value of certain foreign coins.

The act of March 3, 1835, established branch mints for the coinage of silver and gold, at New Orleans, and for the coinage of gold at Charlotte, N. C. The same laws governing the United States mint was extended to the branches.
This brings us up to the law of 1837. That law was a result of a reconstruction of all the coinage laws of the United States that had been passed since the first congress convened, and repealed all laws inconsistent with the act of 1837. We will discuss that law in our next issue.

Democracy and Silver.

The Democratic party has been denouncing the demonetizations of silver ever since that crime was committed. It has been voting for the full, free and unrestricted coinage of silver dollars at the ratio of 16 to 1 ever since that time. For more than twenty years every session of congress has found the Democrats of that body almost a unit for the free coinage of silver at the existing ratio. It has been a rallying cry of Democracy and a fixed part of the Democratic faith all these years. The men who are now urging free coinage are standing by the faith they have always held, advocating a doctrine they have always advocated, defending a course which they have always defended, denouncing a wrong they have always denounced.

It is only within the last two years that any Democrat has become the avowed defender of the crime of 1873. Indeed, it has only been within the last year that any of them has asked to share the honor or the odium of that stupendous crime. John G. Carlisle denounced that legislation as "the greatest crime of this or any other age," and charged that it was accomplished by means of a "conspiracy in this country and in Europe." John G. Carlisle voted for the free, unlimited and independent coinage of the silver dollar in 1890, and paraded that vote to prove to members of the Farmers' Alliance that they could trust him as the loyal friend of free coinage. There was not a living man in Kentucky that the knew or suspected that John G. Carlisle had changed his views or his attitude on this question up to the time he went into Mr. Cleveland's cabinet. There is not a word of his on record prior to that time out of line with his terrible denunciation in 1878 of the crime he now champions and defends—not one.

Thomas C. Catchings favored the free and unlimited coinage of silver until after the presidential election of 1892, and then became an advocate of the single gold standard. He wrote the free silver plank for the Mississippi Democrats for that year. No man in the Union ever revived Mr. Cleveland so bitterly or opposed his nomination with such fierce and furious antagonism.

Col. Josiah Patterson was never suspected by Democrats of being opposed to the free coinage of silver until after the presidential election of 1892. In his speeches throughout this district he declared that he occupied exactly the position of Senator Harris on that question. He said at Salsbury, on the same stump with Senator Harris, that if he had been in Senator Harris's place when the latter voted for a free coinage bill, he would have voted just as the Senator voted. There is not a word or a line of his on record prior to the year 1893 indicating opposition to the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

Gov. Oates of Alabama was a strong champion of the free and unlimited coinage of silver up to the year 1893. Mr. Bynum of Indiana was an enthusiastic champion of free coinage and went to Denver, Col., to persuade the silver men there that they could trust the Democratic party on the silver question. He changed front after the election.
Mr. Springer of Illinois, from being a rampant free silver advocate, became a blatant howler for the single gold standard in 1893.
Hon. Henry Watterson and the Courier-Journal made the air blue with characteristic oburgations of the

"Money-Devil," and it was he that invented the term, "gold-bug," as a designation of the advocates of the gold standard. He heaped unmeasured denunciation upon Mr. Cleveland and his administration for their opposition to the free coinage of silver.
The Democratic conventions of all the Southern and most of the Western States have all these years been denouncing the "crime of 1873" and demanding the repeal of that act and the opening of the mints to the free coinage of silver upon equal terms with gold.

We refer to these things with no view of criticising these gentlemen for changing their opinions. We mention them only to show the dishonesty and untruthfulness of those who charge that the advocates of free coinage have deserted the Democratic faith. No man makes this charge honestly. The men who are now publicly insulting white-haired and life-long Democrats because they have kept their faith, and who are doing everything in their power to drive honest Democrats out of the Democratic party, are the very men who were most profuse in their assurance to the Populistic element that was no issue between them and the Democrats on the silver question. They know that there was no such issue. They know that the populists never laid any stress on the free coinage of silver, but that the points of antagonism between them and the Democrats were the subtreasury, land loan, government ownership of railroads and other kindred schemes. Col. Patterson in his debates with Terrell of Texas over and over again declared that he endorsed the free silver plank of the Ocala platform. There is not a word or a line of his prior to 1893 indicating that he regarded the free coinage of silver as a Populistic idea. Neither he nor any other prominent Democrat so far as we know, ever uttered one word against that policy from the first to the last of the fight against Populism in this State. On the contrary, all united in showing that the Populist program was utterly and fatally inconsistent with silver coinage and that the Populists were the worst enemies of silver without knowing it. Col. Patterson and all the rest of the gold standard advocates in this section know that the fight against Populism was led by free silver Democrats, and that the promise of the free coinage of silver as a substitute for their wild and impossible schemes was the most potent plea for holding wavering Democrats in line and bringing wanderers back to the fold. While the power of Populism was at its height there is not a one of those now engaged in publicly insulting free silver Democrats that would not have bit off his tongue or cut off his right hand rather than oppose the free coinage of silver. The free coinage of silver is "Populistic doctrine!" Yet while the fight against Populism was raging hot throughout these Southern States John Carlisle, Josiah Patterson and T. C. Catchings were preaching it from every stump! It was with the slogan of "free silver" that these men helped to rally and hold firm the hosts of Democracy against the assaults of Populism. It is by denouncing every free silver man as a fool, an ignoramus or a knave that they are seeking to destroy it now. The cry of "Populist" is the desperate resort of men beaten in fair argument and seeking to lower the debate to the level of their crawling controversial faculties. It is beneath the dignity of decent debate and only worthy of a campaign in which misrepresentation comes to the relief of pompous ignorance.—Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal.

Religious Intolerance.

The dispatches announce that the governor of Tennessee has pardoned the eight men who were serving sentences in the jail of Rhea County for violating the Sunday law of that State. The pardon was granted on recommendation of the judge in whose court the men were convicted, and who had previously remitted the fines, leaving only the costs of the trial charged against the prisoners, which could not be remitted. It is also reported that a number of other citizens of Rhea County have been arrested for violating the Sunday law, in that they attend to their usual duties on the first day of the week, after having rested on the seventh day, as they believe the Lord commanded them.
This Rhea County affair seems to be literally persecution, as in many other parts of Tennessee as well as in that county, ordinary avocations are followed by the people who profess no religion, without the law being enforced against them. At any rate, the punishment of citizens of any State in the Union for the non-observance of a religious law, or of a law commanding

obedience to a religious doctrine, is contrary to the spirit of our Government and repugnant to our ideas of justice and equality. The State has as much right to command its citizens to join a particular church as to religiously observe a particular day as holy. To admit the States right to do either, is to admit its right of control over individual conscience.
California has already admitted the entering wedge of obnoxious laws by the passage in the last legislature of the barbers' Sunday closing law, which compels every barber to close his shop at noon on Sunday. Such a law is so clearly unconstitutional, in that it is the grossest kind of class legislation, that all the lawyers in the State are wondering how the governor could have signed it after a duped legislature had passed the bill. If barbers must close at noon on Sunday, why not everybody? Why should they be particularly favored, or otherwise? Let us stop stages and trains and buggy riding and fishing and picnics, in fact everything but going to church and Sunday school, and arrest every man, woman and child who does not attend church at least once on Sunday without a valid excuse.

That is the logical conclusion of the movement. And then, to complete the scheme, there should be an annual tax to support the church. Either that, or keep Church and State apart, as the builders and defenders of our Constitution decided we should, and let each person worship God as seemeth best.—California Cost Advocate.

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A Home Needed.

It occurs to us that the railroad lobby ought to provide some sort of a home for statesmen who serve it faithfully and are turned out to grass by the people. Missouri is dotted with the political graves of men who served the railroad lobby in the place of the people. A very bad feature is that the lobby, after debauching a public official, refuses to give him shelter when he flees from the wrath of the people. This is ungrateful, to say the least. When a public official ignores his constituents and serves the corporation, the latter should remember him with gratitude in the days of his adversity.
But no one ever heard of gratitude on the part of a corporation lobby. An official is used until the people repudiate him and then he is dropped like a lemon with all the juice squeezed out of it. The lobby neither knows nor cares anything about the future of officials who serve it. Naturally a shrewd lobbyist despises the men who serve him, and when their mission has been performed he don't care if they starve to death.—Jefferson City Tribune.

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