

THE RED LODGE PICKET.

Official Newspaper of Carbon County.
WALTER ALDRIDGE, EDITOR AND MANAGER.
Published at the Postoffice at Red Lodge, Montana, as second class matter.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1900.

FALSE PROPHETS.

Every calamity shouter in the land is just now denouncing as the height of political and financial infamy the gold standard bill which recently passed the house of representatives and is now before the senate. The following from a speech delivered against the measure by Congressman Norton of Ohio is a fair sample of the prophecies being made the country over by the opponents of the new financial bill. He said:

It will destroy the constitutional rights and privileges of the people and bring direct woe, desolation and ruin upon the agricultural and laboring classes, and deliver the great body of the people, hand and foot, over to the money power. * * * In the name of the people, whose servant I am, in the name of justice, honor, virtue, truth and the constitution upon which our government is founded, and whose teachings you are violating, I call you to witness that upon you and your party must rest the foul blot of this crime against the homes and fortunes of our land.

We take the above from the Congressional Record, and in the same publication find Congressman Henry of Texas inveighing in the same strain against the measure. His prediction is that by the passage of the bill "the toiling millions, the brawn and muscle of the honest yeomanry, will be chained for years to come as financial serfs to the money oligarchy of the nation."

This is all very pretty. It has a pleasing rhetorical effect and also a very familiar sound. We have heard these same calamitous predictions before. They did excellent service in the campaign of 1896. Then it was that Quack Bryan and the horde of political physicians and financial fakirs prescribed free silver coinage as the only panacea for the industrial ills of the country. We heard it proclaimed from every democratic stump and in every democratic newspaper that the single gold standard was alone responsible for the fearful state of affairs which then existed in every city, in every hamlet and in every nook and corner of the land. The adherents of the Chicago platform declared that the demonization of silver had proven to be the crime of the century and the curse of the country. In alluring catch phrases they contended that nothing but the free and unlimited coinage of the white metal could bring financial order out of industrial chaos and write, as if with a magic hand, prosperity and plenty over the threshold of every home. We have not forgotten how eloquently they declaimed on this subject. They said that unless silver was restored to its position as standard money, want and penury would continue to stalk abroad in the land. We all know with what confidence the prediction was made that in the event of the election of a republican president and a republican congress prices couldn't rise, industries couldn't be stimulated, factory fires couldn't be kindled, labor couldn't find employment and the farmers couldn't secure bread for their famishing families.

But just the reverse of this has followed the restitution of the republicans to power. Immediately upon the announcement of the verdict of the people, rendered at the polls three years ago, confidence took the place of distrust and the prophets of disaster soon crawled into their holes. When it became known that the Chicago platform, with its free silver fallacies and dangerous doctrine of tariff for revenue only, had been knocked gally west and crooked, the clouds of industrial adversity began to break and here and there through the ever widening rifts there shone the refulgent rays of the sun of prosperity. Then there came a general revival of industry. Labor is now everywhere fully employed. Within the past month nearly a million employes in the eastern and southern factories have had their wages raised

all the way from 7 to 25 per cent, and what is more, these wages will now buy much more of the things the workingman needs than a like amount of money ever bought before in this or any other country. Mills and factories are running to their greatest capacity to keep up with their orders. Thousands upon thousands of farm mortgages have been paid off since the present administration came into power, and the ships that cross the ocean are overburdened with the staples of American farms and American factories. * * *

Despite the predictions of the disciples of democracy and disaster, no contraction of the currency has resulted and none of the woes predicted have come to pass. Instead, the per capita wealth has steadily increased and there is so much money in the country that the rate of interest is lower than was ever known before since the republic was born. That the whole land, from ocean to ocean, is swinging along at a rate of progress at once marvelous and unparalleled is the universal verdict of those who have not been rendered deaf and blind by partisan zeal. We have before us Bradstreet's review of business for the year just passed into history. It is non-partisan and absolutely reliable. That report starts off by saying that "rarely have sanguine commercial and financial hopes or predictions found such adequate realization as they did during 1899." Continuing, Bradstreet declares:

The volume of domestic and foreign trade alone was the largest ever recorded, and the bank clearings, reflecting immense business expansion, active speculation in stocks and immense new industrial floatings, far surpassed all previous records. Prices, as a result, primarily of the stimulation proceeding from supply and demand conditions, scored probably the greatest advance in any single year and brought the general level of staple values to the highest point reached for more than eight years past. Failure statistics point to the smallest number reported for seventeen years past. These results have come to pass in the face of a considerably lessened production of wheat and an immense falling off in the yield of cotton. In industrial affairs, the year has been one of enormous expansion. Certainly nothing like the general advance in wages of industrial employes has been witnessed for many years, and this has been accomplished with a minimum of friction. * * *

And yet, in the face of all these incontestable and felicitous facts, the democratic demagogues in congress have the hardihood to stand up and proclaim in stentorian tones that the single gold standard and the other governmental policies advocated by the party in power are chaining the toiling masses to the oligarchy of wealth and threatening the destruction of all the business and industrial interests of the country. And, parrot like, every jim-crow democratic newspaper in the land repeats and reiterates the foolish and fatuous words of a lot of professional politicians and political mountebanks who ought to be backing wood in their back yards instead of chewing the rag in the halls of the American congress.

With prosperity rampant the country over, and with our money "as sound as the government and as untarnished as its flag," what possible chance is there for the democratic party to succeed in the campaign of 1900 by bellowing the hard-times cry of 1896? Who will care next fall, when he is getting his pay every day in good, bright gold coin, whether silver was demonized in 1873 or not? Who will stop to argue whether the ratio ought to be 16 to 1, 22 to 1 or 40 to nothing? Who will repeat the arrant nonsense of the last campaign that we ought to use silver as standard money for the reason that this country is big enough and puissant enough to establish its own monetary system irrespective of the other leading commercial nations of the world? Who will give up his right to receive an honest dollar for an honest day's work and accept instead a dishonest dollar worth but 45 cents in every enlightened and progressive country on the globe?

CORRESPONDENCE PROMPTLY FURNISHED.

The democratic attempt to play politics with the relations between the United States treasury and those national banks chosen not by favoritism, but because they put up United States bonds to secure the government from loss, as depositories for money collected for internal revenue taxation, was one of the latest failures ever seen in congress. Instead of delaying action on the resolutions calling for all the correspondence between these national banks and the secretary of the treasury, as the democrats were foolish enough to hope they would do, the republicans in both house and senate assisted in putting the resolutions through, and Secretary Gage promptly put a force of clerks to copying the records, in order that no time might be lost in putting the information before congress and the country. Instead of being opposed to furnishing this information, Secretary Gage was glad of being furnished an official opportunity for showing exactly how and why he had taken the necessary steps to keep the money in circulation, without risk to the government and without cramping the business of the country. Instead of making democratic political capital, the democrats have added to the esteem in which the administration is held business by the people, who know that our present prosperity isn't accidental, but the result of well-defined policies.

The decision of the senate committee on elections to report against Mr. Quay's right to be seated was no surprise and will not affect the final disposition of the case. It has been known for some time that Senator Burrows would vote with the democrats against Mr. Quay, and his vote was a majority, as this committee was not included in those upon which the republican majority was recently increased to accord with the republican membership of the senate. How soon the report will be made to the senate will depend upon how soon the case of Senator Clark, charged with bribery, which is now being heard by the committee, is disposed of. Mr. Quay's friends are still confident that he will be seated by the senate.

Under the caption "A Righteous Republican," the Bozeman Chronicle says:

There are some republicans and republican newspapers that are fair, honest and without fault. The Red Lodge Picket and its editor answers this description. This newspaper is republican to the backbone, but being fair and honest, despises the organs of its own party that abuse honest men without cause. The Picket differs in political belief with Congressman Campbell. Campbell is a silver man and The Picket glories in the name of gold bug. It will oppose Campbell on all party issues; nevertheless it nobly and boldly denounces the men who are making that able official the target of their causeless abuse.

Bozeman Chronicle: The Carbon County Sentinel, filled with the faith which moves men to argue that the new century is at hand, gave out the following in its last week's issue: "Before our next issue we shall have seen the dusk of the present century dissipated by the bright, clear light of the twentieth century." Several sheepherders who subscribe for the Sentinel understood this to mean that the paper would suspend publication for a year and come into town to get their money back.

The Livingston petrified man, as stiff a fake as ever captured a sucker's quarter, has reached New York and is being palmed off as the mortal remains of Gen. Thomas Francis Meagher, who fell from a Missouri river steamboat while acting governor of Montana and was drowned.

When a minister of the gospel begins to see snakes as large as elephants it would seem to the part of discretion for him to quit hitting the pipe and cease mixing his drinks.

It was comparatively easy to delude and humbug the toiling masses on the financial issue three years ago, but it is different now.

If you once have your laundry done at the Billings Steam Laundry you will never try hand work again. 253



We Want You.

To understand the great principle upon which our business is founded.

It all lies in the word **SATISFACTION!**

Every patron of our store, no matter what the amount of his purchase may be, shall have absolute satisfaction or his money will be quickly returned.

No "ifs," no "buts" in this policy.

If you are not a customer of ours put this policy to a test—give us a trial.

You'll find that we stand back of what we say.

Grocery Department.

- Armour & Co's Sugar Cured Hams, per lb. 10c
- Armour & Co's Sugar Cured Breakfast Bacon, per lb. 10c
- Columbia River Salmon, 2 cans for 25c
- 2 lbs. English Walnuts 25c
- Flaked Rolled Oats, 7 lbs for 25c
- Everyone will look pleasant at Breakfast if our Alhambra Mocha & Java Coffee is used. Put up in one lb cans, per lb. 35c

Dinner Sets.

- It's a very common opinion with most buyers that the value of a dinner set is gauged by the number of pieces it contains.
- Don't let this fool you.
- Out of the same identical pattern we can make up a 100-piece set with \$2.50 difference in the cost.
- Our combinations are always selected with a view of practical usefulness to the purchaser and not to mislead by cheapening the set.
- 100-piece Set, decorations green and gold, for **\$17.50**
 - 100-piece Set, brown fern decoration, for **\$15.00**

MINERS' CASH GROCERY

Corner Main and Gatena Streets, BUTTE. Billings Avenue, RED LODGE, MONT.

Fashion and Economy

In our Winter Suits.

We are not going to blow to you about our January clearance sale, as most people do this time of the year. If we told you that a commodity was worth \$10 in December, and that we are going to sell it in January at \$5, we take it for granted you would not believe us. Our goods are marked down to the lowest notch in the first place, and are worth as much one day as another.



- Men's High Grade Serge Suits, also Fine Scotch Homespuns, made in the Latest Styles, Silk Faced, Lapels, designed exclusively for us—equal in fit and fashion to most \$20.00 Custom Goods—price **\$13.50**
- Men's Fancy crested Suits also Shepherd Plaids, in black and gray checks, with double or single breasted vests—the acme of style—the perfection of tailoring—per suit **\$9.50**

A BANKER'S OPINION.

He Says the Rate of Interest is Increasing and That Trusts Have No Cinch.

Hon. W. F. Meyer, the well-known lawyer and banker and modern Croesus, Monday returned from Ripon, Wis., where he spent the holidays with his venerable parents and old-time friends. While absent, Mr. Meyer took occasion to visit Chicago, St. Louis, Omaha, Watertown and other cities. He says that while industrial conditions appear to be in good shape in the sections which he visited, there was an evident tightening of purse strings, that the further east one proceeded the more noticeable became the financial stringency, and that in Chicago money readily commands 6 percent interest. His observations and conversations while out of the state lead him to express the opinion that the trusts problem is not such a serious one as some people seem to imagine. He says some of the combinations are in a fair way to go broke because of their inability to stifle competition and that but very few of the so-called trusts have the dead immortal cinch.

JUST A FEW FACTS.

Attorney Merrill of Bridger Falls of Carbon County's Many Advantages.

Miles City Stockgrowers Journal: Charles L. Merrill, Esq., whose light now shines for all, in Bridger, Mont., and where he is enjoying a lucrative law business and making a splendid reputation in his profession, spent the holidays with his family in Miles. Mr. Merrill is much pleased with the "coal county" and is confident that in a few years the wonderful resources of Carbon county will become well developed, as capital is now constantly being invested in the mineral fields. Besides the coal, there is timber, agriculture and stock raising to invite investors and prospective railroads to further enhance the value of the land. He expects to move his family to his new home in the spring.

Hay and Pasturage.

Good pasturage, with straw stack and open water, can be secured at reasonable rates, near Gebo. Also have 150 tons of hay which can be purchased for \$3.50 per ton. Call on or address, THOMAS COLLINS, Joliet, Mont. 244

The Spofford Drug Store

Directly opposite the Postoffice, Red Lodge, Mont.

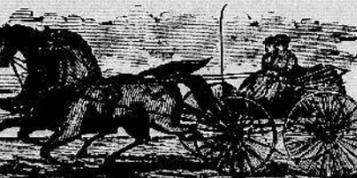
Makes a Specialty of Compounding Medicines in the most scientific manner at All Hours of the Day and Night.

WE also carry a Fine Assortment of Blank Books, Stationery, Wall Paper and Borders, Paints and Oils, Window Glass, Lamps and Fixtures, Toilet Articles, Silverware, Musical Goods, Fishing Tackle, Smokers' Articles, Cigars, Etc.

PIANOS AND ORGANS Sold on the Installment Plan in Six Quarterly Payments.

LIVERY AND STAGE

JAMES A. VIRTUE, Proprietor.



Style is the Staff.

Splendid Stock! New Vehicles! Stylish Equipage!

Daily Mail with Stage

HAVING assumed the mail-carrying contract to and from Wyoming, I have equipped the line with NEW STAGES and am prepared to carry Passengers and Express with safety and dispatch.

BETWEEN RED LODGE AND MEETEETSE

Rates Reasonable! Courtesy Pledged!

HOME STAGE AND EXPRESS OFFICE AT Half Block West Postoffice, RED LODGE, MONT. RED LODGE LIVERY STABLE