THE HICKMAN COURIER.

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THE HICKMAN COURIER.

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FINE JOB PRINTING
EXECUTED
WITH NEATNESS AND DISPATCH.

SALE BILLS,
ENVELOPES,
LETTER HEADS,
BILL HEADS,
INVITATIONS,
ETC., ETC.

CALL AND SEE US.

THE married women teachers of Illinois are in a state of excitement over the introduction of a bill in the legislature which prohibits their employment in the public schools. There are about 400 such women in Chicago alone.

SPEAKER REED, when he retires, will have served eleven years. He will receive a pension of $20,000 a year, and, if the precedents are followed, a peerage. There have been eight speakers of the commons since the beginning of the century.

A WAREHOUSE in Paris has been built with glass floors. The initial cost is considerably more than that of the ordinary floor, but in view of the fact that toughened glass is so much more durable than wood the experiment is likely to prove cheaper in the end.

ABOUT 500 pounds of the Holy Terror rock was so rich in gold that it was shipped direct to the mint from the Adams express office at Hill City, S. D. Parties who handled the ore say that one hundred pounds was more gold than rock, and that it would yield $10,000.

THE new Mauser rifle, loading with a smokeless, high-explosive powder, was tried at Fort Mellenry recently. It developed that the ball will hold up nearly two miles when the gun is fired from the level of the shoulder, and that at 2,000 yards "it will have force enough to go through the bodies of seven men."

THE difference between the business of the "Soo" and Suez now amounts to the difference between 10,647,263 tons and 7,659,000 tons, and the difference is in favor of the American canal. The Suez bears the tonnage between Europe and Asia and Eastern Africa, the Soo that between Lake Superior and the other fresh-water lakes.

THE Germans have lately been experimenting upon the effect of copper on potato vines. They found that a two per cent. solution of blue vitriol (sulphate of copper) in lime water, sprinkled on the plants, increased the amount of chlorophyll in the leaves, prolonged the lives of the leaves and increased the number and size of the potatoes.

THE ruler of Japan was born on November 3, 1852, and his birthday is celebrated not only in Japan, but at every place where Japan has a representative. It is said that a mikado is the purest-blooded sovereign of the world. He is the 121st emperor of Japan by direct descent from a line which began about six hundred years before Christ.

THE Cunard Steamship Co. report that their profits for last year were not sufficient to cover the usual reserve for the depreciation of property. The amount was only about half a million, which is over 400,000 less than the depreciation account. The loss was almost entirely in freight traffic, the passenger travel having been as heavy as the year before.

BERTRAM HILES, the armless artist of Bristol, whose pictures, sketches and designs have won for him several prizes, is only 28 years old, and, though he grasps the brush between his teeth and paints with much dexterity, he was not born armless. His arms were amputated above the elbow in consequence of a tram-car accident when he was 8 years old.

THE Dead sea of America or Medical lake is situated on the Columbian plateau in southern Washington. It is one and a half miles long and three-quarters of a mile wide, with a maximum depth of sixty feet, and stands at a height of 2,300 feet above the sea. Its waters have practically the same chemical composition as those of the Dead sea, in Palestine.

A DEPUTATION from Montreal has asked the government of Ontario for an appropriation of $250,000 for the proposed World's fair in Montreal in 1896. It is urged that Canada has much to gain from an international exhibition such as it is proposed to hold. It is intended to open the fair in May and continue it until fall, when the exhibits may be forwarded to Baltimore for the exhibition in that city.

D. W. PERKINS taught a term of school in Greene county, Mo. The school was so crowded that he let some of the older pupils hear the smaller classes, and for doing this the school board refused to pay him his salary on the ground that he had not complied with his contract. Of course Perkins resorted to law and was successful in the lower court. The board took the case to the St. Louis court of appeals, which body has just affirmed the decision of the trial judge.

EDWARD G. BRADFORD, whose name now appears in the Delaware contest for the United States senatorship, is a son of the late United States district judge of the same name. Mr. Bradford looks like a Spaniard, though he is of the old Delaware and Maryland stock. His law partner is Lewis C. Vandergrift, the present democratic United States district attorney for Delaware. The partners have long been conspicuous in the politics of Delaware, each as an advocate of his own party. Mr. Bradford has served in the legislature.

PHILADELPHIA has a Civic club, composed of women who aim, among other things, to make school life more attractive by placing pictures on the walls and flowers in the windows of the public schools of the city. They co-operate with and supplement the work of the board of education, which has no fund for this sort of schoolroom decoration. The Civic club has selected etchings, photographs and casts of works of art suitable for the purpose, and in various ways seeks to make the schoolroom homelike and to cultivate the tastes of pupils in art without the formality of lessons.

WITH a population of hardly two and a half millions, Greece has a debt of some $164,000,000—or some $75 per capita. This debt is equal to fourteen per cent of the entire estimated national wealth, and to the total national income for two years. The forced currency aggregates $21,000,000, or $13 per capita—worth a little more than half its face; but our own greenbacks touched bottom at less than a third of its face value. This currency is not excessive—not sufficient in fact to do the money-work of the kingdom properly. It is not inflation that has wrecked it, not fevers, but exhaustion.

FATALITIES.

Mother and Babe Burned, Children Mangled by an Electric Car and a Suicide in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, April 13.—Accidents and self-murder Friday cost the total of five lives here. A mother and her babe were burned to death; the murderous trolley car claimed its sixty-ninth and seventieth victims within a year, and a despondent and poor old man hung himself.

While Mrs. Mary Kurzschenkel, aged 28 years, was preparing supper in the kitchen back of the little bakery kept by her husband, she replenished a gasoline stove. The fluid caught fire, and in an instant the woman's clothing was ablaze. She rushed through the dining room, setting fire to a baby coach in which her 8-months-old child was asleep, and ran on through the bakery shop to the street, and fell horribly burned upon the pavement.

The house was soon ablaze, and passers-by who attempted to enter were driven back by the flames. Kurzschenkel, who was asleep on an upper floor, was taken from the second story by means of a ladder when the firemen arrived. The fire was soon got under control, and the child was found terribly burned in the dining room. Mother and child were both taken to the hospital, where they died shortly after their admission.

Mary Millan, aged 3 years, was run over Friday morning and instantly killed by a trolley car. The child's body was horribly mangled.

Friday afternoon Mark Bloomberg, aged 5 years, was run down by a trolley car and had both legs and an arm crushed. The little boy was taken to the hospital, where he died Friday night.

John Brooks, aged 76 years, was found dead, hanging by a rope from a nail in the wall of his room at 937 south Thirteenth street. The old man came to the house about four weeks ago, and told the people there that he was trying to save enough money to enter the old men's home in New York.

A BRAVE MOTHER

Gives Up Her Life to Save That of Her Child.

NEW YORK, April 13.—Mrs. Eva Abrams, 23 years old, was frightfully burned by her clothes catching fire from an oil stove in her flat Friday. She at once picked up her infant and rushed out into the hall and cried for help. Her cries were heard by a neighbor on the same floor, who went to Mrs. Abrams' assistance, and took the baby into her own apartments.

Believed of the infant, Mrs. Abrams rushed back into her room to get her other child. By this time the floor was ablaze, and she was in flames from head to foot. Notwithstanding the agony she was in she picked up her second child and rushed out into the hall. The boy was slightly burned. Neighbors at once threw water over Mrs. Abrams and tore the burning clothing from her body, but it is feared she can not recover.

Fatal Riot in Arkansas.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., April 13.—A fatal riot occurred at Siloam Springs, near here, among the railroad men employed on construction work. Two of the rioters were killed in self-defense by Deputy United States Marshal Proctor, and two men who had previously quarreled among themselves were fatally wounded by each other. There has been trouble for some months on account of the laborers being divided as to nationality, the native Americans being arrayed against the foreigners.

The Cripple Creek Hold-Up.

CRIPPLE CREEK, Col., April 13.—Bob Smith, the driver of the express, is lying at the hospital from the effects of the murderous assault by the robbers who got away with the money. The men who did the job are still at large, although at least 100 armed deputy sheriffs, constables and citizens are scouring the hills in every direction. All the neighboring railroad towns and state roads are guarded and it seems as though the hold-ups will have a hard time to make good their escape.

Favorable to Annexation.

OMAHA, Neb., April 13.—Miss Wilson, stenographer for T. M. Orr, secretary of the Union Pacific, was in Cuba a short time ago, and says that there were abundant evidence of hatred of the Spanish government and a desire for annexation to the United States. The people talked constantly of annexation. One night at the theaters all the flags of nations were displayed in succession. The Spanish flag was received in silence, and the American flag was greeted with cheers and great enthusiasm.

The Cattle Shortage.

CHICAGO, April 13.—The shortage in the supplies of cattle at Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha and St. Louis, the principal western markets, thus far this year amounts to nearly 270,000 head, compared with one year ago. The shortage in pounds of dressed beef since the first of the year aggregates 175,000,000 pounds, or nearly 2,000,000 pounds a day. At the same time the price of live cattle has advanced about two cents a pound.

Cut His Throat.

ST. LOUIS, April 13.—Prescott Tatum, aged 17, son of a wealthy real estate dealer and descendant of one of the oldest families of St. Louis, committed suicide at 10 o'clock Friday night, in his father's house, by cutting his throat. No cause assigned.

An Abundance of Coal Coming.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., April 13.—There was a shipment of 2,676,000 bushels of coal south Friday on the river. The water has been at almost a flood stage but has now subsided so that boats can go out in safety. It is estimated that about 5,000,000 bushels will go out on the present rise.

Arrested for an Older Murder.

FAIR HAVEN, N. Y., April 13.—Robt. E. Wright, aged 22, was arrested in this city for the murder of a woodman named Christian Drum, in Emporium, Cameron county, Pa., six years ago.

Powderly vs. K. L. Goes Over.

PHILADELPHIA, April 13.—By agreement between counsel on both sides, the suit of Terrence V. Powderly against the Knights of Labor for $4,500 unpaid salary, as well as the suit of A. W. Wright, ex-member of the general executive board for moneys expended in behalf of the order, will not be tried until the next term.

Guilty of Manslaughter.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., April 13.—John Murphy, who last December shot Hamilton Stevens, of Centerville, was Friday found guilty of manslaughter.

AN INQUIRY

As to the Cause in the Recent Advance in Cattle.

The Inquiries Will Be Carried on at Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Omaha, Neb., Sioux City, Hammond, Ind., and Other Points, Says Chief Salmon.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—Dr. Salmon, chief of the bureau of animal industry, is preparing instructions to agents in accordance with Secretary Morton's directions to investigate the cause of the high price of beef products and what influence the "trust" has on the prices.

The inquiry will be carried on at Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Omaha, Nebraska City, Sioux City, Hammond, Ind., and other points where the bureau has a force of experts. Dr. Salmon has heretofore made an inquiry in this direction, and his report on "conditions governing the price of cattle" gives some views applicable to the present inquiry.

He says: "The estimated number of animals from which the beef supply is drawn gives but little idea as to whether the supply has increased more rapidly than the demands or whether, on the other hand, it has diminished. Our rapidly increasing population and our fluctuating export trade must be constantly borne in mind if we wish to hold clear views on this important subject. At the first approximately accurate census of cattle in 1850 there were 767 cattle to the 1,000 of population.

This number increased in 1860 to 815, showing a large stock of cattle on hand at that time. In 1870, partly from the effects of the war and partly from an under-estimate of the number of cattle in the country by the census of that year, we find the number of cattle reduced to 618 per 1,000 of population. Ten years later the number per 1,000 increases to the extent of 120 and reaches 738. In 1881 there is an increase of 6 per 1,000; from 1881 to 1882 the increase is 14 per 1,000; from 1882 to 1883 it is 15 per 1,000, being the largest apparent increase in any one year; from 1883 to 1884 the increase is 14 per 1,000; from 1884 to 1885 it is 13 per 1,000, reaching the highest point since 1869, or 860 cattle per 1,000 population. From 1885 to 1889 there was a steady falling off in cattle, there being 758 to every 1,000 population in 1889. In considering the proportion of cattle to population and drawing conclusions as to the relative beef supply in different years, the fact should not be overlooked that there has been a great change within the last twenty years in the character of steers that have been sent to market. New and better blood has been infused into the old stock and the result is that steers are marketed younger, weigh more, and yield a larger proportion of carcass than formerly. The beef supply obtained from a given number of cattle is for this reason considerably larger than it was a few years ago. The increased number of cattle per 1,000 population does not, therefore, represent the whole increase in the beef supply which has taken place since 1870.

At the drain in prices the profits in cattle raising have been greatly reduced and in many localities this industry has been conducted at a positive loss. The inevitable tendency has therefore been to sell off the stock and reduce the business and consequently the proportionate number of cattle marketed has been much greater than during the years from 1881 to 1884, when the industry was paying and the stock on hand was being increased. For this reason the markets of the country have not felt the influence of the reduction of the stock of cattle in proportion to the population, which the tables plainly show has occurred and which must continue at an increasing rate from year to year. The tendency of prices with cattle will be probably to advance within the next year or two on account of the improbability of increasing the stock of cattle as rapidly as the population is augmenting, but this advance will be slow and uncertain for a number of years. It will be two years before the stock of cattle has been reduced to the proportion as compared to population which existed in 1878, and then the mean price of steers was, but $4.25 per 100 pounds or ten cents less than in 1889. In other words, the price of steers for several years in the future will depend more on the price of hogs, upon the value of the exports of cattle and beef products and upon the proportion of steers marketed, than upon any changes likely to occur in the number of cattle per 1,000 of population existing in the country."

The latest cattle statistics of the agricultural department were furnished by Statistician Robinson February 14 last. It says: "The decrease in number of oxen and other cattle since the estimate for January, 1894, has been very marked. It amounts to 2,423,932, or 6.13 per cent. of last year's number. The estimate for 1895 makes the number of such cattle 34,364,216, against 36,608,168 in 1894. Accompanying this considerable decline in numbers, there has been a falling off in the value per head. The decline in the per capita value has been from $14.66 in 1894 to $14.06 this year, a decrease of 60 cents. The decrease in the aggregate value is from $536,189,747 to $482,909,518."

Madame Sakauri Sails.

VICTORIA, B. C., April 15.—Madame Chiki Sakauri, the Japanese reformer, who has been in this country for nearly two years studying the methods of the Women's Christian Temperance union and kindred organizations, sailed Saturday for home.

Nicaragua's Answer Satisfactory.

LONDON, April 15.—An answer to the British ultimatum to Nicaragua has been received at the foreign office. It is understood that the reply is so satisfactory that the action which the government threatened to take will not now be taken.

Nicotine Poison.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., April 15.—Thomas Kelley, an inveterate smoker of cigarettes, died Sunday afternoon. His system was poisoned with nicotine, and he was stricken with typhoid fever and failed to rally. Kelley was 22 years old and married.

Torpedo Boats.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—Secretary Herbert has decided to award the contract for the construction of two of the torpedo boats to the Columbian Iron works, of Baltimore, and one to the Union Iron works, of San Francisco.

BOGUS COIN

Passed by the Bushel Upon Harlem Storekeepers—An Outfit Found in a Prison Cell.

NEW YORK, April 16.—For the past three months or so the stores in Harlem have been flooded with counterfeit dimes, quarters and half dollars. The secret service squad have been trying to ferret out the gang distributing the bogus coin. They believe they have now got to the bottom of the mystery.

John Houghton was serving a sentence of five months for assault in the Blackwell Island penitentiary. His time expired Saturday. While in prison he worked in the blacksmith shop. A week ago Warden Pillsbury found counterfeit 10-cent pieces in the waiting room of the prison. He questioned the guards and prisoners, but could get no information in regard to the matter.

A quiet search of the cells was made. In Houghton's cell was found a counterfeiter's outfit and over $100 in bogus dimes, quarters and half dollars. The warden notified Chief Detective Baggs of the United States secret service, and Houghton was summoned into the warden's private room and confronted with the outfit which had not previously been disturbed. The prisoner denied any knowledge of the matter, and remained mute until Sunday afternoon last, when, as he was about to leave the prison, on a discharge, he was arrested by Baggs. He then broke down and made a complete confession. He said that at the suggestion of another prisoner, whose name could not be learned Sunday night, he entered into the scheme.

They secured some plaster of paris from one of the prison departments, and, borrowing some new coins from fellow prisoners, they used them to make impressions in the plaster. Houghton had no difficulty in obtaining all the lead he wanted and working it in the blacksmith shop. He did his work behind a huge pair of bellows. It is claimed that between $500 and $1,000 was made by the two men within six weeks. The man accused by Houghton is under sentence of nine months. He also was sent up for assault.

EARTHQUAKES.

The Earth Trembles in Southern Austria and Italy—Churches, Public Buildings and Business Houses Destroyed.

VIENNA, April 16.—Violent shocks of earthquake were experienced throughout southern Austria Sunday night, the manifestations beginning at midnight. At Laibach, 35 miles northeast of Trieste, twenty-one shocks were felt between midnight and 7:30 o'clock Monday morning.

All churches, public buildings and business houses and residences in the town were damaged. Several persons were killed by falling walls, etc., and a large number of persons were more or less seriously injured. At Velden ten shocks were felt, and at Trieste four.

Shocks were also felt at Abbazzia, Arco, Gorizia, Gottr and other places, in all of which buildings were damaged. The direction of the disturbances was from southwest to northeast. Slight spasmodic vibrations were felt in this city. Communication between Laibach and Trieste is interrupted. In many districts between the two towns as well as in the sections visited by the shocks, the people are camping out in the fields.

At the first shock in Venice the guests fled from the hotels to the public squares, and the inhabitants deserted their houses and took refuge in the available open spaces. Many of the guests, together with a large number of residents, left the city by early trains Monday morning, fearing a recurrence of the shocks.

Europe Against America.

PARIS, April 16.—The Echo De Paris advises Europe to form an industrial defense against the United States. With reference to the expression of sympathy upon the part of the senate of Florida with the Cuban rebels, the Echo De Paris protests against the manner in which the United States interprets international laws, and declares that American intervention in Asia and Europe in regard to Armenia should attract the vigilance of Europe.

Warden Left Ten Million.

PHILADELPHIA, April 16.—The will of Wm. G. Warden, who was prominently identified with the Standard Oil Co., and who died at his home in Germantown, a suburb, on April 6, was admitted to probate Monday. It is estimated that the value of Mr. Warden's estate will reach $10,000,000, all of which he left in trust for the benefit of his widow and children.

Crazed by a Tragedy.

ST. LOUIS, April 16.—Rose Fatelle, the servant girl employed in the household of Dr. Arthur Duestrow, the millionaire who murdered his wife and son last year, has gone insane as the result of seeing the horrible crime committed. She was present when Duestrow shot his wife and boy.

Nicaragua Answers England.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—It is authoritatively stated that Nicaragua has made a reply to Great Britain's ultimatum. It is in the nature of a counter proposal, and not a direct acceptance or rejection of the British demands, and as such it is not yet known whether Great Britain will accept it as responsive to the ultimatum.

Farmer Fatally Hurt.

HARTFORD CITY, Ind., April 16.—Edward Coleman, a farmer, was thrown from a wagon in a runaway, but caught on the double tree and was dragged two blocks. He was frightfully mangled, he died in three hours.

Adm. Meade Squadron.

COLON, April 16.—The American squadron, under command of Adm. Meade, has arrived here. A ball will be given in honor of the officers. It is reported that two vessels of the squadron will leave shortly for Greytown, Nicaragua.

Perished in the Flames.

ST. LOUIS, April 16.—A gasoline stove exploded at 7 o'clock Monday night in the residence of Nathan Meyer, 3916 North Grand avenue, setting on fire the house. Henry Meyer, aged 17, who was sick in an upper room, was burned to death. The damage to the house is small.

Cloth Works Burned.

BERLIN, April 16.—Blumenthal's immense cloth works, situated on Kopnicker strasse, were burned Monday morning. Two firemen were killed by falling walls.

SOUND MONEY.

Cleveland's Letter Declining An Invitation to a Public Reception.

What is Needed Now is a Plain and Simple Presentation of the Argument in Favor of Sound Money—He Wants Monometallism Put Down.

CHICAGO, April 15.—Mr. Henry Robbins received from President Cleveland Sunday evening a letter declining the invitation of the number of business men of Chicago to attend a public reception here to himself and Mrs. Cleveland.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, April 13.

To Messrs. William T. Baker, George W. Smith, John A. Roche, T. W. Harvey, David Kelly and Henry S. Robbins:

Gentlemen—I am much gratified by the exceedingly kind and complimentary invitation you have tendered me on behalf of many citizens of Chicago to be their guest at a gathering in the interest of sound money and wholesome financial doctrine.

My attachment to this cause is so great, and I appreciate so highly the hospitality and kindness of the people of Chicago, that my personal inclination is strongly in favor of accepting your flattering invitation; but my judgment and my estimate of the proprieties of my official place oblige me to forego the enjoyment of participating in the occasion you contemplate.

I hope, however, the event will mark the beginning of an earnest and aggressive effort to disseminate among the people safe and prudent financial ideas.

Nothing more important can engage the attention of patriotic citizens, because nothing is so vital to the welfare of our fellow countrymen and to the strength, prosperity and honor of our nation.

The situation we are confronting demands that those who appreciate the importance of this subject and those who ought to be the first to see impending danger, should no longer remain indifferent or overconfident. If the sound money sentiment abroad in the land is to save us from mischief and disaster it must be crystallized and consolidated and made immediately active.

It is dangerous to overlook the fact that a vast number of our people, with scant opportunity thus far to examine the question in all its aspects, have nevertheless been ingeniously pressed with special suggestions, which in this time of misfortune and depression, find willing listeners prepared to give credence to any scheme which is plausibly presented as a remedy for their unfortunate condition.

What is now needed more than anything else is a plain and simple presentation of the argument in favor of sound money. In other words, it is a time for the American people to reason together as members of a great nation which can promise them a continuance of prosperity and safety only so long as its solvency is unsuspected, its honor unsullied and the soundness of its money unquestioned.

These things are ill-exchanged for the illusions of a debased currency and groundless hope of advantages to be gained by a disregard of our financial credit and commercial standing among the nations of the world.

If our people were isolated from all others and if the question of our currency could be treated without regard to our relations to other countries, its character would be a matter of comparatively little importance. If the American people were only concerned in the maintenance of their precious life among themselves they might return to the old days of barter, and in this primitive manner acquire from each other the materials to supply the wants of their existence.

In these restless days the farmer is tempted by the assurance that, though our currency may be debased, redundant and uncertain, such a situation would improve the price of his products. Let us remind him that he must buy as well as sell; that his dreams of plenty are shaded by the certainty that if the price of what he has to sell should be enhanced the cost of the things he must buy will not remain stationary; that cheap money proclaims are unsubstantial and elusive, and even if they were real and palpable he must necessarily be left far behind in the race.

It ought not to be difficult to convince the wage earner that if there were benefits arising from a degenerated currency they would reach him least of all and last of all. In an inevitable adjustment of prices an increased cost of all the needs of his home must belong to his portion, while he is at the same time vexed with vanishing visions of increased wages and an easier lot.

The pages of history and experience are full of this lesson. An insidious attempt is made to create a prejudice against the advocates of a safe and sound currency by the insinuation, more or less directly made, that they belong to financial and business classes and are, therefore, not only out of sympathy with the common people of the land, but for selfish and wicked purposes are willing to sacrifice the interests of those outside their circle.

I believe that capital and wealth, through combination and other means, sometimes gain an undue advantage, and it must be conceded that the maintenance of a sound currency may in a sense be invested with a greater or lesser importance to individuals according to their condition and circumstances.

It is, however, only a difference in degree, since it is impossible for any one in our broad land, rich or poor, whatever may be his occupation and whether dwelling in a center of finance and commerce or in a remote corner of our domain, to be really benefitted by a financial scheme not alike beneficial to all our people, or that anyone should be excluded from a universal interest in the safe character and stable value of the currency of the country.

In our relation to this question we are all in business, for we all buy and sell, so we all have to do with financial operations, for we all earn money and spend it. We can not escape our interdependence. Merchants and dealers are in every neighborhood, and each has its shops and manufactories.

Wherever the wants of man exists, business and finances in some degree are found, related in one direction to those whose wants they supply and in another to the more extensive business and financial to which they are tributary. A fluctuation in price at the seaboard is known the same day or hour in the remotest hamlet. The discredit or depreciation in financial centers of any form of money in the hands of the people is a signal of immediate loss everywhere.

If reckless discontent and wild experiments sweep our currency from its own support, the most defenseless of all who suffer in that time of distress and national discredit will be the poor, as they reckon the loss in their scanty support, and the laborer and workingman, as he sees the money he has received for his toil shrink and shrivel in his hand when he tends it for the necessaries to supply his humble home.

Disguise as we may, the line of battle is drawn between the forces of safe currency and those of silver monometallism. I will not believe that if our people are afforded an intelligent opportunity for sober second thought they will sanction schemes that, however cloaked, mean disaster and confusion, nor that they will consent by undermining the foundation of a safe currency to endanger the beneficent character and purposes of their government. Yours very truly,

GROVER CLEVELAND.

To the North Pole.

QUEBEC, April 15.—The honor of equipping and sending out the next polar expedition will probably belong to Canada.

At the approaching meeting of the Ontario Land Surveyor's association a report submitting the basis of such an expedition is expected from a special committee appointed for the purpose.

It is certain now that nothing but money will stand in the way of the early fitting out and dispatching of the proposed expedition, and this is not expected to be long wanting, as a large measure of government assistance is absolutely certain.

Villard's Friend Suicides.

TACOMA, Wash., April 15.—Paul Schulze, general land agent of the Northern Pacific railroad, committed suicide by shooting himself. He was about to lose his position and it is thought this fact, coupled with financial difficulties, caused him to commit the rash act. Schulze was a friend and protege of Henry Villard.

An Easter Suicide.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., April 15.—Simon Schmidt committed suicide Sunday because of family troubles. While his folks were at church Sunday morning he shot himself through the stomach.

STRANGE OVERSIGHT.

Does Minister Ransom Hold His Office Illegally?—Apparently the President Had No Right to Appoint Him.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—The Mexican mission is vacant. This will be news to ex-Senator Ransom, who has just settled himself comfortably in a berth in the pleasant confidence that he is to draw $17,500 a year out of the United States treasury. It will be news to the president who appointed him, and probably to his old associates in the senate, who so gallantly sprang to the rescue and confirmed his nomination almost as soon as it was sent in.

The trouble is that the president had no right to appoint Senator Ransom at all. There happens to be a clause in the constitution of the United States which reads as follows:

"Article I, Section 6, Clause 2. No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time."

The salary of the minister to Mexico was increased from $12,000 a year to $17,500 by a provision in the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill, which was passed in the second session of the Fifty-first congress. Senator Ransom was then in the middle of the six years' term which expired March 4, 1895, and he was, of course, not eligible at the time his nomination was sent in during the preceding week.

The little incident concerning the salary of the Mexican minister had been forgotten by most of those who originally knew about it, and the matter of salary cut no figure in the case.

The worst of the matter is the fact that Senator Ransom was actually present in the senate when the bill carrying an increase of salary for the Mexican mission was agreed to, and made no objection to its passage. There was no roll call, and the conference report on the bill was adopted by a viva voce vote in the closing hours of the congress.

What makes the case especially hard is the fact that, if the government officials refuse to pass his accounts on constitutional grounds, there will be no redress. If this is done, the president will doubtless endeavor to repair the mistake by reappointing Mr. Ransom at once, but, unfortunately, this will not do Senator Ransom much good. Section 1761 of the revised statutes, approved February 9, 1863, provides that:

"No money shall be paid from the treasury as salary to persons appointed during the recess of the senate to fill a vacancy in any existing office if the vacancy existed while the senate was in session, and was by law to be filled by and with the advice and consent of the senate, until such appointee has been confirmed by the senate."

Judge William B. Lawrence, for many years the first controller of the treasury, and now practicing before the supreme court, said Tuesday that if the case were to come before him as controller he should certainly disallow the salary. He said that not to do so would be a plain violation of the intent of the constitution. State department officials privately admit the same thing, although they do not relish the idea of opening the question up.

It is difficult to see how the president can avoid revoking Minister Ransom's commission at once and announcing the vacancy in the mission. If he then decides to re-appoint Mr. Ransom to the vacancy there will be nothing for the North Carolina statesman to do but to serve his country without pay for nine months.

WILD SCENE.

Oil Goes Up to $2.25 Per Barrel—Believed It Will Go Higher.

OIL CITY, Pa., April 16.—There was a wild scene of excitement at the opening of the oil exchange Monday morning. The first sales Monday were at $2.10, and from that point the quotation quickly bounded upward to $2.25.

At that price the offerings were so liberal that the quotation soon dropped back to $2.13, recovering again to $2.25 on the strength of a further advance of a cent in the price of refined.

It then broke to $2.20, and stood at $2.21 at noon. The prices paid by purchasing agencies are: Pennsylvania, $2; Tiona, $2.35; Corning, $1.85; Barnesville, $1.75; Newcastle, $1.75; North Lima, $1.17; South Lima, $1.15; Indiana, $1.05.

Flood Disasters.

VIENNA, April 16.—Rains and snow floods have caused the rising of the river Danube to such an extent as to completely inundate the Knert district and other parts of the city of Presburg, Hungary. The volume of water was so great as to wreck hundreds of houses, many of whose inmates were drowned.

Go On With the Hanging.

CHICAGO, April 16.—Maggie Tiller, the colored woman who was convicted of murder, has declined to accept Judge Clifford's offer to grant her a new trial on condition that she plead guilty and her sentence be reduced to life imprisonment. "I would as lief be hanged as to go to Joliet for life," said she Monday.

Going to Greenland.

LAWRENCE, Kas., April 16.—Prof. L. L. Dyche, the naturalist of the Coast Arctic expedition, which ended so disastrously last summer, will sail for Greenland May 15 in the schooner Golden Hope, Capt. Harvey Gadnor, to make a collection of funds.

Mexican Cattle.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—In view of the great rise in the price of beef and the scarcity of cattle, the chief of the bureau of animal industry, Dr. Salmon, has recommended to the secretary of agriculture the admission of Mexican cattle into the United States, under stringent regulations calculated to insure a rigid inspection of all cattle admitted. Secretary Morton issued the necessary order. It is hoped by this means to check the tendency to excessive prices to the consumer without injuriously affecting the interests of the beef producer.

A Ministers's Tragic Death.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 16.—Rev. J. M. Jessup, an aged primitive Baptist preacher, met death in a horrible manner at Sandy Ridge, Ala. While delivering his sermon he suddenly fell to the floor in spasms, and died with his awe-struck congregation about him. It afterward developed that he had taken a lot of strychnine which he carried in his pocket on bread crumbs to poison English sparrows that infested his yard. He was also in the habit of carrying sugar in his pocket to clear his throat for his sermon. He took the strychnine by mistake.

LOOKING TOWARD SHERMAN.

Indications That Ohio Is Wavering in Her Choice.

The McKinley presidential boom in the eyes of many politicians is the most interesting boom of all. These men are very fond of dwelling upon certain features it is thought to possess. They regard it as a sort of test boom.

Shall the next campaign be waged upon the tariff issue? If so, who is the foremost representative of the tariff issue on the republican side? All of the republican aspirants for the nomination are protectionists and all have declared time and again for the fostering of home industries by high customs duties. But whose name is found at the head of the list when the champions of protection are called off? And if there is one man among them so conspicuous that he stands singled out both by his own and the opposing party as the most pronounced protectionist of them all ought not he to carry the banner when protection is the issue? This is the McKinley case. The friends of other candidates feel that the tariff must be the issue and that he is the foremost republican representative. It is not his only merit in their eyes. They are willing to match him against any of his rivals on any score. For all-around ability, for high and attractive personal character, for patriotism and the best order of Americanism, they maintain that he is the peer of any man in either party, and would prove an exceptionally strong presidential candidate. They expect to see him nominated.

Another point of interest attaching to the McKinley boom relates to what may be termed its home embarrassments. How is it to shake off these and the different interpretations put upon them at a distance? For a time there was a misunderstanding as to Gov. Foraker's attitude. A doubt existed as to his real interest in McKinley's success. An opinion prevailed that this doubt ought to be removed. Friends of the two men conferred and the doubt was removed. Foraker in an authorized interview declared unequivocally for McKinley for president, and McKinley as unequivocally declared for Foraker for senator. All seemed clear then so far as Ohio was concerned, and a full delegation to the national convention, well selected and cordially pledged, was guaranteed.

But a bigger man than Foraker is now the subject of talk well calculated to disturb not only the friends of McKinley, but the friends of all the other aspirants as well. McKinley is most in interest because this man lives in McKinley's state. All speculation about the next presidency has come to include the name of John Sherman. His great abilities, his past eminent services, the influence he exercises in matters of finance, are the subject of much comment. His face is again one of the most prominent in the pages of the pictorial press. No colored cartoon representing the presidential aspirants is complete without it.

Whenever it is suggested that the financial, and not the tariff, question should be the issue for next year the suggestion follows that Mr. Sherman would best represent that issue. It is even insisted that his nomination would be so conspicuously fitting in such circumstances that if the party failed to make it the contest at the polls might be lost. The people, it is claimed, would resent the presentation of such an issue without the candidacy of the man best entitled to stand for it and best prepared to give it form and substance in office.—St. Louis Republic.

DECISION ON THE INCOME TAX.

Democratic Opinions of the Action of the Supreme Court.

The law is practically a dead letter, for what is left of it is most unjust, since it taxes energy and brain instead of accumulated wealth and idle capital.—Denver Times.

If you pay rent you pay income tax; if you receive rent you do not pay income tax. Thus say the wise men of the United States supreme court.—Chicago Times-Herald.

As the income tax law now stands it should be entitled an act for the discouragement of thrift in the producing classes. The incoming congress should repeal it at the earliest possible moment.—N. Y. Herald.

Though the central principle of the income tax remains, the decision of the supreme court invites further attacks and the law cannot be deemed settled until a positive affirmation or rejection is obtained.—St. Louis Republic.

It looks as if the income tax would not bear very heavily on the wealthiest families in this country. The immense fortune of the Astors is largely invested in real estate, and its enormous income is chiefly in the shape of rents from the same.—Boston Herald.

With rents and state and municipal bonds exempt from taxation under the income tax law there is mighty little left of it, and the tie vote on the remainder of the law renders it certain that every little popgun in the land will be turned upon it, and the upshot of the whole matter will be that litigation enough will result to almost eat up the receipts.—St. Paul Globe.

The supreme court has performed a traditional feat of driving a coach and four through the income tax law. There is very little left of its effective provisions, even in its present condition, and there will be still less when the lawyers of the land have accepted what is practically the invitation of the court to submit the undecided questions to a full bench.—N. Y. Times.

As it now stands landlords and bondholders are the men with incomes who are exempted, and yet it was these that the prime movers in securing the enactment of the law were the most anxious to have placed under an additional burden of taxation. It is now the business and manufacturing interests of the country that must pay most of the twenty-three million dollars which it is expected to derive from the income tax, and nothing could be more unsatisfactory to the sentiment which originated the chief features of the measure.—Detroit Free Press.

——Now that it has developed to the senses of Gov. McKinley, as the result of personal observation and inquiry, that the industries of the south are reviving and expanding, he suddenly discovers that the one thing they need is protection of the McKinley brand. The major is the dangerous man dominated by one idea.—Detroit Free Press.

——Hon. Thomas B. Reed seems to have taken time by the forelock and gone to the woods in advance of the rank and file of his party. But they will come after him.—Kansas City Times.

WHOSE BILL WAS IT?

Where the Responsibility for the McKinley Law Belongs.

The adjournment of congress has not been sufficient to stop the mouth of Senator Frye, of Maine. His jaw is like death, in that it has all seasons for its own. In a speech in Connecticut last week Mr. Frye said:

"The McKinley bill was the best tariff measure ever enacted. McKinley did not make that bill. The United States senate made it. Reed, of Maine, had more to do with it than McKinley."

Mr. Frye professes to be a friend of Reed. Does he call that backing his friend? If so, it is a dangerous kind of backing, to say the least of it. Yet it chimes in admirably with the claim recently put forth by some of McKinley's friends that he is not responsible for McKinleyism.

In a sense it is true that Reed was responsible for the McKinley law. Had he not taken the position he did, and pushed on the work of stealing democratic votes, until the republicans got a good working majority, the law would never have got through the house. But it is not apparent, in the present state of our knowledge of the secret history of the period, that Mr. Reed had very much to do with the framing of the bill.

Mr. McKinley was chairman of the committee that reported the bill to the house, and he defended it from first to last. His responsibility for it, therefore, is as complete as it could possibly be. But, if it comes to a question of credit (?) for framing the bill, the case is somewhat different. It is perfectly well known that many parts of the bill, and these the essential and objectionable features, were not written by Maj. McKinley at all. On the contrary they were written by men who during the campaign of 1888 had bought the right to tax the American people for their own benefit. The iron and steel manufacturers of the Pittsburgh district had Henry W. Oliver as their head representative at Washington, and when his work was done he went back and reported that "the metal schedule was that offered by the manufacturers," or words to that effect. Mr. Wilson humorously said that the ways and means committee had their tables covered with blanks and that all manufacturers whose standing with the committee was good were invited to come there and write such sections of the law as they desired. This is unquest