

AN INTERESTING REPORT.

The report of the commissioner of Indian affairs, a brief synopsis of which appeared in yesterday morning's TRIBUNE, will be read with much interest by those who have studied the Indian problem as it presents itself to western people.

At present the Indian is treated as a ward of the government to which alone he is responsible for his acts. The government deals directly with him, the state in which he may be located having no voice in the disposition of his person or property.

The commissioner shows wisdom in his conclusions concerning reservations. While lands in severalty should be allotted to the Indians with the present restrictions, the reservation system should be broken up.

It will be noticed, as has been stated, that the essence of the government scheme to civilize its wards and make them useful citizens is to be found in the establishment and maintenance of schools, for it is through an education to be continued through generations of red men that the great change in their condition is to be brought about.

This seems to be the theory of the government. But how is it carried out? Are Indian children taught and cared for by the government? Are they receiving the instruction necessary to wean them from their savage ways?

The tax payers of Cascade county should be careful as to the men they elect as commissioners in the future. The office is one which should be filled by men of broad, liberal views, of well known probity, of good business qualifications, energetic and public-spirited.

Ocean transportation facilities are not equal to the demand for American wheat to feed the starving peasantry of Europe.

FALSE FRIENDS.

Ever since the foundation of this republic its financial and tariff interests have been more or less intimately blended. At no time during its history have they been entirely separated or independent of each other.

In view of them the newspaper which shelves the silver question as not a vital one before the people has but a limited comprehension of the real issues of the day. It has not grasped the situation. Some of them, especially in Montana, dare not take a positive stand in favor of silver.

ARE the republicans of Montana willing to sacrifice free and unlimited coinage of silver for Blaine? This becomes a pertinent question in view of his recent utterance upon the question. Southern and western democrats are practically a unit on silver.

SOME of our state exchanges are putting Montana cattle shipments for this year at pretty high figures. About 95,000 have been shipped to eastern markets thus far, but while shipments will continue till the middle of November it is now quite apparent the great bulk of fat cattle has been marketed.

THE Bismarck Tribune is responsible for the statement that the Northern Pacific owns 30,000,000 acres of land which is worth from \$5 to \$10 per acre, besides its 3,500 miles of track, equipments and terminals in Chicago.

It is intimated that the Prince of Wales will visit the World's fair at Chicago, and that he will be accompanied by Emperor William. The pair would the greatest drawing cards Chicago could secure, but little credence will be placed in the report.

CLEVELAND'S admission that he has recently been more interested in a domestic issue than in national political issues will account for his silence lately. However, he now comes to the front with the declaration that he doesn't want to be counted out in the fight now going on in New York.

A WASHINGTON special says ex-Speaker Tom Reed may resign from the house to accept a position with a New York corporation. A wise selection on the part of the corporation. Reed is the man it wants. On a pinch he can count ten dollars for his house where only one is in sight.

It is said the great and only John L. is stranded in Australia. Don't believe it. John is too good a fighter to be whipped by adversity.

DEATH OF PARNELL.

One of the most notable figures among the present generation of men has passed from earth. Charles Stewart Parnell is no more. Born in 1842 he was, as a public man, now regarded, in the prime of life, with many years before him.

Though great in his love for his country, great in his disinterested devotion to its cause, great in its advocacy and great in his sacrifices, he destroyed his usefulness and wrecked the fondest hopes of his life in an unhallowed love for a woman. In listening to the song of the siren he forgot his duty to his fellow-men, and the responsibilities of his high position, and fell.

McKINLEY AND SILVER.

Under the above head line the Salt Lake Tribune, a pronounced republican journal, gives Mr. McKinley a roasting that no other republican paper in the west dare give him. It sets out with the declaration that "Major McKinley is a great man, but in trying to follow the lead of John Sherman in Ohio he is making a sorry ass of himself on the silver question."

If any citizen should clip a silver dollar he would be guilty of a felony. Would not the government be equally culpable if it should fix upon us a clipped currency? It would no short measure nor false balance. The good book says: "A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is His delight."

To this aggregation of misstatements, sophistry, and veritable rot the Salt Lake paper replies: "If it were possible that Maj. McKinley could be beaten this year without having his defeat laid to the tariff we should pray for his defeat." And it could have added, tariff or no tariff a man is a knave or a fool who would utter such nonsense, and in either case deserves defeat.

The silver dollar of today is the silver dollar of ninety-eight years ago. It contains just as much silver as it did when mints were first established for its coinage. It contains just as much silver as it did when it was the measure of values and was at a premium over gold, and it contains just as much silver today as it did the day it was demonetized in 1873, and when it was partially remonetized in 1878.

What nonsense it is to say it is clipped currency, when it performs all the offices of a dollar. It will pay all debts, both public and private; it will redeem bonds, discharge mortgages and every other financial obligation. It is money as gold is money, as a national bank note is money, as a treasury note is money, standing side by side with them all, buying as much food and clothing and as much land or stock as either of them. How then can it be a "clipped currency?" McKinley is not an honest man or he would not have given voice to such a palpable misstatement—such an unequivocal falsehood. If he were an honest man and not a demagogue seek-

ing votes through appeals to the fears and selfishness of men he would have said to his audience: If you have a short-weight dollar, your bushel is just as much short-weight, your yard measure is just as much short in length as is that dollar, not because your measure does not contain four pecks; not because your yard-stick does not measure 36 inches, but because gold is inflated. Silver has not diminished in value, gold has simply increased; that is all. No wonder the Salt Lake paper exclaims:

If Governor Campbell only had the sense and the honesty to look this question square in the face, he would everlastingly smash Major McKinley in this campaign. He would tell the men of Ohio that this is all a false sympathy which is expressed for the poor man; that it is a sophistry invented by the interest-gatherers, the purpose of which is to keep the poor man always poor, to keep the honest business man who has a farm or a factory, and who is in debt, always in debt, by reducing the price of his products to a point which leaves no margin of profit to him for his work and his care.

This constant drumming of gold bugs about a "short weight" dollar and a "clipped currency" will eventually make the people very tired, or awaken them to an inquiry into the matter which will forever dispel their ignorance or false ideas concerning the metal. Silver has not been fairly treated by congress nor is it fairly discussed by goldites. What would be said of the strong man who, having knocked down the weaker and placed his foot upon his neck, damned him because he did not rise and take the place from which he had been hurled. Congress knocked silver down from the position it held as a royal metal beside gold. The gold bugs have thumped and beat and dragged it in the mire and dirt; they have their fingers gripped upon its throat and all have piled themselves upon its prostrate body, and just such men as McKinley are damning the silver they have degraded because it does not rise to its feet and ascend the throne from which it was so unjustly dragged.

Will the people never learn these facts? Can't they see that it is not a "clipped currency" they have to fear, but the stranglers of the white metal who would not only clip it but destroy it that gold and gold only may become the coin-currency of the nation. When this shall be accomplished—if it ever be—the true-wardness of this great fight against silver will soon let it be known. Their hoarded gold will come out and tell the story. It will be dear money; too dear for the common people to touch. A little of it will buy a great deal of labor and a great deal of farm produce. It will be gingerly paid out, for gold is aristocratic. It hunts warm nests, not the soiled palms of laboring men. Silver is the poor man's money. Kill it Mr. McKinley, and the rich man will not have to wait for his dividends, nor will the poor man get his dinner.

THE Denver News, speaking of an invention by which mineral under ground may be discovered from the surface, says: "The discovery of an electro magnet by which mineral can be located may tax the credulity of many people, but is no more wonderful than the telephone or phonograph, or any of the half dozen of inventions in electricity during the past decade. The invention was tested to the satisfaction of ex-President Batchelder of the Mining Exchange on his celebrated Emmons property. If further tests are satisfactory the discovery will have a most wonderful effect on the mining development of the country. It is only the discovery of a new application of electricity."

CONCERNING the recent sugar bounty payment the New York World of the 4th inst. says: "The first payment of bounty to sugar-makers, under the McKinley law, was made by the treasury on Friday. At two cents a pound a California beet sugar company was entitled to and received \$6,800 on 340,000 pounds made since July. Government officials estimate that \$5,400,000 will be required to pay the bounties on sorghum sugar in Kansas and beet sugar in Nebraska, Utah and California. The cane-sugar product of Louisiana will undoubtedly raise the total bounty to \$12,000,000 or \$15,000,000. Every dollar of this is of course drawn directly from the taxpayers. This, and increased taxes on other necessities, is the price paid for "free sugar" under the McKinley law."

CHILD'S claim that it has a right to arrest persons under the protection of the American legation will not likely be enforced. It may claim it as an abstract right and let the matter rest there. There will be no trouble over what the junta claims, but it will begin whenever its officers march into Minister Egan's apartments and forcibly take therefrom persons who have sought shelter therein. The refugees cannot do the junta any harm so long as they are bottled up within the legation building. It is when they walk the streets of Valparaiso and incite discontent and insurrection they may be feared and when they do the junta may have them. Until then hands off.

THE St. Paul Globe truthfully remarks that "If there were a paper currency based on American tin there would be no danger of inflation."

CLEVELAND should feel happy because it is a girl. Harrison would feel happy if all his were girls.

THE BARNARD BROWN CASE.

THE TRIBUNE has purposely refrained from commenting upon the series of acts upon the part of the commissioners of Choteau county, which finally culminated in an appeal suit that was recently decided against them in the tenth judicial court of the state. The case is an important one as the final decision will measure the power of commissioners in the matter of awarding contracts. As the tax-payers of Cascade county may yet be compelled to protest in a court of equity against the squandering of their money by bitterly partisan, reckless commissioners the TRIBUNE will briefly give the points in the now somewhat famous Choteau county case, generally known down there as the Bernard Brown warrant case, as cause for longer silence has disappeared.

About a year ago the commissioners of Choteau county, who by the way are republicans, concluded that the county records needed an overhauling. Or to put it more plainly they wanted an investigation of the books of two or the county officers. It may be stated here that no charges of official corruption or crookedness had been made against the officials, not even a whisper had been uttered against their conduct and management of their respective offices. But the commissioners or rather one or two of their political friends, wanted the two gentlemen investigated, and as a majority of the board sneezed when their reputed owners and advisers took snuff an order was entered that the investigation should take place.

The next thing to be done was to find an expert to do the business. Excellent accountants were to be had in Fort Benton but a Fort Benton expert was not billed on the programme. He lived at Helena and a Helena man was employed. His name, Bernard Brown. It is not shown by the commissioners' records in Choteau county that any contract was made between Mr. Brown and the commissioners for experting work nor do the records show that any certain sum of money was to be paid for it. It is presumed, however, the parties to the compact—not contract—had a little talk "just around the corner" and a bargain struck. At all events Mr. Brown sent a couple of gentlemen down who were supposed to know something about "addition, division, and silence," and for a few days the smell of books grown gray and musty with age pervaded the court house in the quiet little village down on the river. Records which had been expeted and some of them re-expeted were brought to light and closely scanned by the eagle-eyed accountants. A mass of figures was fired into a few sheets of paper and the experts shook the adobe of the town from their sandals and hied away to Helena.

Then came a long, weary waiting for the expert report. As death and taxes surely come to the watchful and the unwatchful alike so came the all-important document to Fort Benton. After being submitted to the private inspection of a couple of the commissioners in a locked room of a hotel it was taken back to Helena for alteration and revision. Another weary waiting and the precious document was returned and publicly exhibited in the office of the clerk and recorder for Choteau county. There the thing itself was investigated by experts who can give Mr. Barnard Brown and his assistants a world of valuable pointers in accounting and in computing numbers. The result of the investigation was the discovery of about one hundred errors in Mr. Brown's expert report. These errors were shown and proved to exist. Yet notwithstanding their presence and the plainly evident worthlessness of the report, and the protests of taxpayers of Choteau county, the commissioners allowed Mr. Brown's bill of \$1,100 for his work, and a warrant was drawn for the amount.

That, however, didn't end the matter. The tax-payers of Choteau county feeling that they had rights which an arrogant and high-handed board of commissioners could not tread upon or ignore appealed, through a representative, from the action of the board. The following is the decision in the case as reported in the River Press:

In the Tenth Judicial District Court of the State of Montana, in and for the County of Choteau.

William H. Todd, appellant, vs. the Board of Commissioners of Choteau county, Montana, respondent.

In this action William H. Todd, who is a tax-payer of said Choteau county, having regularly prosecuted an appeal under the statute in such case made and provided from the action of the Board of Commissioners of said county of Choteau, in allowing at their June, 1891, meeting the claim of one Barnard Brown in the sum of eleven hundred dollars (\$1,100) and in issuing the warrant of said county thereon in said sum of \$1,100, which warrant is numbered 5,868 on the general fund of said county; and said appeal having duly come on for trial this second day of October, A. D. 1891, and no appearance being had in opposition thereto by said board of county commissioners, the default of said board in the premises was noted and application for judgment on said appeal was thereupon made by said appellant. The court being fully advised in the premises sustained said action.

Wherefore by virtue of the law and the premises it is hereby ordered, adjudged and decreed, that said claim of Barnard Brown is illegal and not a proper charge against Choteau county and the said action of said board of commissioners in allowing the same is hereby disapproved, reversed and set aside. And it is further ordered, adjudged and decreed, that the warrant issued by the board of county commissioners on

the general fund of said county, the same thing being numbered 5868 is hereby ordered to be canceled and annulled. And it is further ordered, adjudged and decreed, that the said appellant do have recovered his costs incurred in this action amounting to the sum of \$7.50.

Done in open court this fifth day of October, A. D. 1891.

DUDLEY DuBOIS, Judge.

It may be seen by the foregoing that county commissioners are not a law unto themselves, and that in the awarding of contracts in which the county is a party some little deference must be paid to common decency and common justice. The commissioners of Choteau county made no defense for they could make none. They or Mr. Brown will doubtless take an appeal to the supreme court. The action of that court in the matter will be awaited with much interest by every taxpayer in the state, as the case is one in the determination of which every property-holder in Montana is vitally interested.

THE editor of the TRIBUNE is kindly invited by the Brazos River Channel and Dock Co. to visit Velasco, Texas, at his earliest convenience. From the wording of the invitation it is presumed it is extended for the purpose of giving the visitor an opportunity to see deep water at the mouth of the Brazos river. While thanking the obliging gentlemen for their thoughtful consideration he is constrained to confess that deep water is no novelty to him. He has been in it so often that he must deny himself the pleasure of going down to Velasco to see more of it. But as the company has attained the object of its invitation in this notice it is probable it doesn't care a continental whether he go or not.

YOUNG JAMES G. BLAINE'S answer to his wife's petition for a divorce is such a direct contradiction of the published statements concerning the causes which led Mrs. Blaine to apply for a legal separation from her husband, that one or two conclusions is forced upon the mind of the public: That the lady is crazy or young Blaine is a stalwart liar. As the fight has virtually turned upon the possession of the child that is now with its mother, it may be easily surmised who the boss prevaricator is. The Blaines want none of their blood to learn wisdom at the feet of a plebeian woman.

AND now comes the story that a sheke coined B. C. 142 was recently found at one of the eastern states. It is authoritatively stated that it is the identical coin which was given to Susan B. Anthony—Johnnie Read's sweetheart—by the superintendent of the mint that struck it off, when she was a little girl.

THE fact is Cleveland has devoted so much of his time in working out a tariff reform that he has no post for himself on the silver question. But now comes that blessed baby to remind him daily of the value of "short weight" issues. Cleveland will soon be all right on silver.

THE death of Circuit Judge Sawyer creates a vacancy which Judge Hiram Knowles is anxious to fill. Barring his politics, which it is not supposed he will carry on the bench, no objection can be urged against the judge for the position.

EVEN the New York Sun will now admit that for a "stuffed" prophet Cleveland has shown there is pretty good leather in him.

MELBOURNE made only a partial success in rain making at Goodland, Kansas. He said it was too cold. Why didn't it snow? Snow is only frozen moisture.

HARRISON has his Baby McKee, Cleveland his Frances, Jr., and Blaine—well Blaine isn't in it.

THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC.

Twice a Week for One Dollar a Year. The unprecedented success of the new "Twice-a-week" edition of the St. Louis Republic shows that this original, enterprising and liberal departure is thoroughly appreciated. The weekly Republic has long been recognized as the leading and representative democratic paper of the west and southwest. By making it a semi-weekly its field has been extended, and its circulation phenomenally increased everywhere. It is a six-page paper, issued on Tuesdays and Fridays for only one dollar a year. Special editions are issued for Missouri, Illinois, Texas, Arkansas and Kansas; also a general edition for other states. Local agents wanted at every postoffice. Send for sample copies and premium catalogue. Address the Republic, St. Louis, Mo.

Hot roast beef lunch from 11 p. m. until 2 a. m. at the Hoffman.

Wilson Bros.' goods in our Men's Furnishing department.—The Manhattan.

Charles W. Cole, the well known backman, is now running a night hack and will attend promptly to all orders. Telephone No. 16.

We have two good organs for sale cheap. Dyas & Jones.

Wanted. Any one having good house and lot for sale on North side at a bargain should see us at once. Dyas & Jones.

Have you seen Conrad's line of Fall and Winter Garments. They are stylish and cheap.

Montana wool for sale in the North Star blankets at Joe Conrad.

We have some very special bargains in blankets. Joe Conrad.

Take a look at the all wool blankets at all prices at Joe Conrad.