

The Madisonian.

Established 1873.
The Capitol Times.
Established 1869.
The Montanian.
Established 1870.

THE CAPITOL TIMES was absorbed by THE MONTANIAN in 1870; THE MONTANIAN was absorbed by THE MADISONIAN in 1876.

WILL W. CHEELY, PROPRIETOR.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION.

One year.....	\$2.50
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Three months.....	.75

There is, after all, evidently more mamma than papa in the Cleveland family.

At their rushing rate of doing business, the capital site commission may succeed in carrying the life of the commission into the not very distant twentieth century.

Under the new game law, every citizen can kill 100 prairie chickens, catch so many pounds of trout, kill so many bear, deer and on down the list. The MADISONIAN bear allowance is for sale.

With every week the MADISONIAN subscription list increases. Before the end of the season we expect to reach the 1,500 mark, which will be in excess of any other country newspaper in the state.

CONCERNING SILVER.

The ratio of 16 to 1—means that 16 ounces of silver is of equal value with one ounce of gold. This ratio is fixed by weight of the metals and not by value, and has varied at different times and in different countries. 14, 15, 15½, and 16 to 1. It is supposed to be fixed or adjusted by the relative amounts of the two metals produced in the world.

When the production of gold is in excess the ratio falls, when the production of silver is the greatest the ratio rises, for example, in 1871 the world's production of silver was 91 9-10 ounces to 8 1-10 ounces of gold, this was in the ratio of 11½ to 1. In 1880 the production was, silver 95½ ounces to 4½ ounces of gold, a ratio of 21½ to 1. For the last twenty years the production has averaged 95 ounces of silver to 5 ounces of gold or a ratio of 20 to 1. This is the ratio fixed by the production only and has nothing to do with the commercial ratio which is quite another thing. There now being only a limited demand for silver for coinage purposes, the metal is sold on the market in the shape of bullion for its intrinsic value; at 65 cents per ounce, for silver the commercial ratio is 30 to 1, that is it takes 30 ounces of silver to buy one ounce of gold; or to reverse it one ounce of gold will buy thirty ounces of silver.

At the ratio of 16 to 1 the production of silver in the United States in dollars is now and has been for many years more than double the production of gold. In 1893 the value of silver in dollars was \$77,000,000 and the gold \$35,000,000. The production of silver is on the increase notwithstanding the fact that the coinage is suspended, only a portion of the silver comes from mines which produce nothing but silver, the larger share of it comes from copper, gold and lead mines. Silver is a by product of the treatment of all of these metals. There are very few gold mines which do not yield some silver, often 50 or 60 per cent. of the bullion is silver. And the copper mines in the west produce silver as do the lead mines of Colorado, Utah and Nevada, and but very little gold is found which is not associated with silver. It is from these sources that the supply of silver is kept up. The more copper, lead and gold ores that are treated the greater the quantity of silver produced.

There is an idea current in some parts of the country that the American dollar is a debased coin, that it is not a legal tender for the payment of debts in sums above five dollars, and that it is not the equal of the gold dollar, but this is not true, the coined silver dollar of the United States of which there are 421,000,000 in the country are made by law and are a full legal tender for all debts public and private and just as much lawful money in any respect as are the gold coins of the country. There is no difference in the money qualities of the coins made from the two metals. The silver dollar is not debased.

The facts from which this miscon-

ception arises are that in 1873 congress did pass an act by which the future coinage of the silver dollar was suspended, and that coin was reduced to the standard of the fractional silver. Its legal tender quality was limited to sums of five dollars and under. This law practically demonetized the silver dollar but it was repealed in 1878 and the coinage of dollars authorized to the extent of 24,000,000 per year. This was the Bland Allison law, and by its terms all the silver dollars coined under it and all dollars previously coined were made full legal tender for the payment of all debts public and private. This law has never been repealed so far as the character and quality of the dollar are concerned and this dollar stands to-day on its old original basis equal in every respect to the gold dollar. At the time of the passage of the act of 1873 there were no silver dollars in circulation, only eight million of these pieces having been coined in the whole period from 1792, when the mint was established, down to 1873, when the coinage was suspended, and the whole of this 8,000,000 dollars had been withdrawn from circulation and been melted up by reason of the fact that these dollars bore a three per cent. premium over gold.

From 1792 to 1873 there had been coined in the mints of the United States silver to the amount of \$163,000,000, of this \$155,000,000 was in fractional coins and 8,000,000 in silver dollars. Fractional silver is not a legal tender for the payment of debts or for any purpose in sums above five dollars. This was established by an act of congress passed in 1853. During the period above referred to, viz: from 1792 to 1873, eight hundred millions of dollars in gold had been coined in this country against \$163,000,000 in silver.

Under the Bland law of 1878 and the Sherman law of 1890 421,000,000 of legal tender 16 to 1 silver dollars have been coined, of these \$395,000,000 remain in the treasury and \$56,000,000 are in circulation.

When the recoinage of the silver dollar was resumed in 1878 the market price of silver bullion was \$1.15 per fine ounce, this price fell off from year to year until 1894 when the coinage was again suspended and the figures had fallen to 63 cents per ounce.

WOMEN IN FRANCE.

They Are Not Only the Stronger but the Better Half in That Country.

Women are the stronger as well as the better half of France. They do everything but build houses. The best inspector in the French custom house is a woman. She is in the Havre office, and she has a nose that can detect dutiable goods without opening a lock. She is naturally amiable and slow to anger, but woe to the foreigner or countryman who provokes her ire.

There is no sadder spectacle in the republic of France than the women shoe polishers, who doze under the sheds of the markets and quay, one eye shut and t'other fixed on the bootbox over the way, patiently waiting for trade. They ask 5 cents and accept 2 cents for their unwomanly work.

At Thiers, the blackest town in France, the women sit outside of the grimy little machine shops mending scissor blades and polishing knife and scissor handles. The stream that turns the 10,000 little mill wheels is blacker than the Chicago river, and as the furnaces never burn without belching the toilers and their devoted lifelong apprentices are sometimes Malay and sometimes Mongolian, but seldom Caucasian in color.

Not long ago a college woman went down to Thiers to teach school for the winter. The promise of 80 pupils was a temptation, but on reaching the colony of soot begrimed and smoke stained smithies she found that the position paid \$5 a month, and the teacher was expected to furnish the fuel for the winter.—Philadelphia Times.

Sweet Peas.

Whether sweet peas can be successfully planted in autumn depends largely on the latitude, says Garden and Forest. In the southern states fall planting is a necessity, for this is the only way to give the plants a cool soil in which to make a strong, early root growth. Coming farther north, fall planting is safe up to perhaps the latitude of Washington, where the chances are about equal between planting in late autumn and in February. In southern California peas must be brought into bloom as early as February, although the nights are so cool there that they may be planted during any month in the year. The rule observed by the large seed growers is to plant just ahead of the rainy season. Indeed they have acres of volunteer sweet peas—that is, from seed which were scattered on the ground during the harvest—and 45 miles south of San Francisco these volunteer plants are in bloom by the 1st of May and often early in April.

WE ASKED CONSENT.

We asked consent, my love and I,
All in the early morning,
A golden promise lit the sky,
The dewy earth adorning.
The day was just beginning,
The hour of all for winning,
But the old man lifted up his head
And scanned the sky and briefly said:
" 'Tis nae the time for coortin'.
Nay, nay," said he.

We asked consent, my love and I,
The maiden moon was slender,
A starry mist rained down the sky,
And the eve was new and tender.
The mother, she lay sleeping
Where stars their watch were keeping,
The old man sighed and bowed his head,
"She's but a bairn—the child," he said,
"But life's aye short for lovin'.
Aye, aye," said he.
—Ida Whipple Benham in Independent.

Apparent.



Mrs. Dix—My way has always been to govern my children by love.
Mrs. Hicks—I knew that.
Mrs. Dix—How?
Mrs. Hicks—By the way they act—

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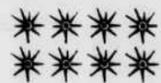
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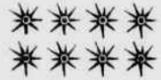
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