

U. S. (UNQUESTIONABLY SNIDE) HALL, the Judas Iscariot of this, the Second congressional district, is reported as saying in last Tuesday's Kansas City Times: "Missouri will never send a free silver man to congress. If the silver men control the Democratic conventions, their candidates will be defeated at the polls. If the people cannot elect sound money Democrats they will send Republicans to congress."

DETECTIVES have been on the hunt of a gang of counterfeiters for months past, and have occasionally captured one. They were never fully satisfied of their achievements, being convinced the head leaders of the band were still at large. A few days ago they captured George W. Dyce in Kansas City and Wm. Graham, a farmer living near Paola, Kansas, who have been wanted for some time, and who, they have reason to believe, are the ringleaders in the manufacture of spurious \$10 bills, a large number of which have been set afloat in and around Kansas City and elsewhere. At Paola, Kansas, the officers found a box of the counterfeit \$10 bills, amounting to \$15,000, the largest find of the kind that has ever been made.

The last paragraph of an article published in the K. C. Times of the 23rd inst., headed "Silver Folly," reads as follows: "If you were present at the trial of the late Cleveland or Cleveland, you would do a very different thing from what you do now. You would not only side with the gold men, but you would carry out the wishes of the money power of this country and of Europe to the detriment of the masses of the people of his own country we will readily concede, but further than this the facts in the case do not warrant us to go.

THE VENEZUELAN SITUATION.

The action and report of the commission to be appointed by Mr. Cleveland to investigate the boundary dispute between England and Venezuela do not necessarily preclude war. They may be the means of establishing permanent peace between England and the United States. England says she has a just right to the territory which she claims, and that her right was established long before the Monroe doctrine was thought of. To investigate the matter properly the commission may have to go to Madrid, Spain, and the Hague, in Holland, in order to find access to the ancient official records of Spanish and Dutch claims, inherited by England and Venezuela. If those records show the claims of England to be just, as some Americans think they will, that will be the end of the trouble and the two great English-speaking nations of the world will go on in their career of prosperity and usefulness. However if England's claims should be proven by those ancient documents to be unjust and she should proceed to arbitrarily force her unjust claims most likely there will follow a bloody war in which several of the European powers will participate, all of them against the United States, perhaps, except Russia.

MINISTERS ON THE WAR EM-BROOLIO.

The ministers in many of the New York churches last Sunday spoke earnestly against war generally and the war spirit that seems prevalent in this country and in England just at this time. The newspapers that that print sensational headlines on the subject of war, calculated to arouse the people to desperate deeds and a war-like spirit, came in for their share of abuse from these worthy divines.

Dr. Parkhurst said in his Sunday morning sermon: "If Christendom waits to make the religion of Jesus with its Bethlehem, its angelic choir, and its anthem of peace on earth a laughing story to the ungodly and a contempt to the heathen, the best thing it can do will be to set the two first Christian nations of the earth to work blowing up one another's cities and blowing out one another's brains."

If England and the United States would join hands in the rather more gospel enterprise of rescuing the pillaged and outraged Armenians from the dirty, bloody grip of the Turk, these two brothered nations would soon find themselves in a good Christian condition of spirit, probably to settle that little question of civil engineering down in Venezuela in a way that would save both parties, not only their pride and their heads, but their Christian reputes."

Rev. D. Eaton, pastor of the Church of the Divine Paternity, said he believed the people would visit upon the head of any statesman or leader who dared to bring about war, without first trying to arbitrate with and terrible vengeance. "God forbid that a nation should shrink for fear and securities value of stocks the other, but God forbid, on should hand, that the nation ly, plunge into war unnecessarily, without first having tried every other means to bring about a settlement.

Dr. Peters, of the Reform church said: "The political demagogues who at this Christmas tide are spouting for war will be branded by the sober, second thought of the American people as the criminals of the 19th century. A war between England and America could never be determined until one or the other went into bankruptcy or had no more men to fill the ranks."

Dr. Hainsford in his sermon before the Y. M. C. A. society said: "Nothing could be more in direct conflict with Christ's teaching than that two Christian nations should fly at each other for a mere trifle."

Dr. Cadman, himself an Englishman by birth, after denouncing American people and newspapers, said: "The English people and newspapers, I am sorry to see, are no better than those on this side. The whole thing is characterized by a species of hydrophobia. At the treaty of Berlin, England offered to take care of the Christians within the territory of the Sultan. How has she done so? The slaughter of 1,000,000 Christians in the time that has elapsed sufficiently testifies." He also said that Lord Salisbury would fight.

The verdict of acquittal in the Hearne-Stillwell murder case, rendered at Bowling Green last Saturday, does not give satisfaction, judging from the tone of some of our exchanges. Dissatisfaction does not come so much from the verdict of acquittal, as from the fact that in the trial of the case there was no clue developed, pointing to any other than the accused as the perpetrators of the terrible crime. Where the crime is not established in the courts against the individual accused, the verdict of the people is against the beneficiaries of the crime committed. For this reason there will, perhaps, always be, at least, a suspicion against the Hearnes if nothing more.

WOULD any sensible man give his note, bearing interest to secure the payment of a debt he owed when he had the money in his pocket with which to liquidate his obligation—money, for which he had no other use in the world, and which was doing him no earthly good? We think not. And this is a fair illustration of what Mr. Cleveland is urging congress to do in asking that body to issue treasury notes that bear interest, thereby putting the government deeper in debt when at the same time there are millions of silver dollars lying in the treasury besides millions more of silver bullion that might be coined and used in paying debts.

CONGRESSIONAL.

The recommendation made by Mr. Cleveland in his message for the appointment of commissioners to look into the matter of dispute concerning the boundary line between Venezuela and British Guiana, was readily responded to by both houses of congress, the vote in both being unanimous in its favor, which is something extraordinary in national legislation, and shows a disposition to maintain the Monroe doctrine inviolate.

The idea seemed to be prevalent in congress that if the finding of that commission should be favorable to Venezuela and the report adopted by congress, war with England would be the inevitable result, unless there was a backing down on the part of that government. In the event of war the thought occurred to President Cleveland that our financial stakes would need strengthening, and to that end he sent another message to congress and again made recommendations on lines embodying his peculiar financial views. As far as the sentiment of congress concerning the issuance of gold bonds, as recommended by Mr. Cleveland, has developed, it is decidedly against the proposition. In fact it seems to have but few advocates, and they express themselves freely as to the impossibility of passing such a measure as the silver men were opposed to it, and are bitterly opposed to the destruction of the greenbacks, which is also embodied in Mr. Cleveland's recommendations. The fight has already developed the fact that the silver men have a majority in the senate, who have revealed a disposition to couple silver legislation with any measure for the relief of the treasury that may be offered. They say the secretary of the treasury has the means for meeting the emergency in paying out silver and coining the silver bullion in the treasury, and say they will not give their consent to give further authority for the issuance of more interest bearing bonds. The gold men's extremity is likely to prove the silver men's opportunity, and so far they are manifesting a disposition to work it for all it is worth.

The only response made to Mr. Cleveland's financial relief in the senate last Saturday was from two silver members, Vest, of Missouri, and Butler, the Populist member from North Carolina, each of whom introduced a resolution favorable to silver. Mr. Vest's resolution reads as follows: Resolved, That the secretary of the treasury is hereby directed, in pursuance of the existing law vesting in him full power to do so, to coin as rapidly as possible the silver bullion in the treasury purchased under the act of July 4th, 1890, into standard silver dollars, and with such dollars to redeem, cancel and retire the treasury notes of the United States of July 15th, 1890, issued in the purchase of such bullion, and also to redeem the United States notes commonly called greenbacks in standard silver dollars, as well as in gold, using whichever may be most abundant and convenient.

It was announced some weeks since that the senior law class of the Missouri university had invited, or would invite Bob Ingersoll the famous infidel or agnostic lecturer to address them at Columbia during the next commencement. There was a vigorous kick made against Ingersoll's lecturing to the students of the highest grade of public schools by many of the newspapers of the state, both secular and religious, and for awhile it looked as though the better judgment of the students and faculty would prevail and that an invitation of the kind would not be extended to a man, whose lectures for years have consisted chiefly of invectives against the Bible and the Christian religion. But such, it seems, is not the case. The students at a late meeting are reported to have expressed a determination to invite Mr. Ingersoll, provided he will come, regardless of the wishes of the faculty or the sentiment of the people. In so doing they are not likely to make additional friends for themselves nor for the university. President Jesse says, however, that under no circumstances will Ingersoll be invited to deliver a lecture to the students of the university, for which the head of that of institution of learning is to be commended.

THE GREAT OVERFLOW.

The late rains have been very excessive in many parts of the country, producing an unparalleled overflow

of many of our streams in the month of December. The like has never been known before, not even by the "oldest inhabitant." The rains seem to have been heavier in the South and Southwest than elsewhere, as greater overflows and damage to crops and farming interests generally are reported from those sections. Along the Osage and other rivers to the south of us corn in the fields and growing wheat crops have been swept away, while thousands of cattle and other stock have been drowned. The occupants of farm houses on bottom lands have been forced to move hurriedly to higher ground, which will prove of great loss to them in many ways. Some of our bottom lands in this county are overflowed at this writing, but what will be the extent of the damage is not known, but it will be nothing like so great as in many other localities.

It looks as though the financial relief bill that will be offered in congress in the near future will have a tariff clause at one end and a silver clause at the other. The impression prevails that some measure for financial relief will pass as a matter of necessity, and the Republicans, who want a restoration of the protective tariff on wool and some other articles, have conceived the idea that the present would be a good time to get in their work. The free silver coinage men of both parties are likewise on the alert; they have a scheme to increase the finances coining all the silver bullion in the treasury, and paying out the millions of silver dollars lying idle in the treasury vaults to avoid the issuance of more interest-bearing bonds. The tariff men in the lower house will doubtless succeed in tacking on a tariff measure on any revenue bill that may be passed by that body, but it will not get through the senate without the silver men have their say respected. Neither of these "rider" measures would be acceptable to Mr. Cleveland, and although nauseating to him, he may have to swallow them or else veto them and shoulder all the responsibility of failing to give the country the financial relief for which it is suffering.

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DR. HEARNE ACQUITTED.

The case of Dr. J. C. Hearne, who was jointly indicted with his wife, Mrs. Fannie C. Hearne, by a Marion county grand jury at Hannibal for the murder of Amos J. Stillwell, the former husband of Mrs. Hearne, and tried in Bowling Green, Pike county, on a change of venue from Marion county, after able and exhaustive arguments by the attorneys on both sides was given to the jury last Saturday evening. The jury reached a conclusion on the first ballot, voting unanimously for a verdict of acquittal. The verdict created quite a sensation in the court-room. Doctor Hearne's oldest daughter, who had by her lady-like conduct favorably impressed all the spectators, embraced her father tenderly while he wept tears of joy. The doctor protested his innocence before God, and thanked the jury for their verdict.

For conviction the state had to rely upon circumstantial evidence altogether, and while this was pretty strong against the accused, it was not sufficient to remove all "reasonable doubts" from the minds of the jurymen, hence the verdict of acquittal.

The curious women, who had come to witness the proceedings and hear the conclusion of the whole matter, rushed wildly and hurriedly to congratulate Mrs. Hearne on the release of her husband. They lavished kisses upon her in rich profusion. Their conduct reminded us of the old saying, "there's no accounting for taste."

Mrs. Hearne, after the release of her husband, was permitted to give a \$5,000 bond for her appearance at the next term of the circuit court. It is thought, however, that the case will never be called again for trial. Most likely the prosecuting attorney will nolla pro's the case and avoid a large addition to the bill of criminal costs already accrued, and thus will pass from the docket one of the most noted and extensively advertised criminal cases ever found in the court records of Missouri.

Remember when you want groceries that Brill's stock is all new and fresh, and that he will make you bottom prices.

THERE is one thing that must be placed to the credit of Hon. B. F. Russell, late speaker of the Missouri house of representatives, who recently captured a nice plum as door-keeper of the lower house of congress at Washington. It was noticed that after establishing his headquarters at Washington for the more successful conduct of his electioneering campaign for the coveted place, there were no intoxicating liquors to be found about his room. Some one discovered the omission and ventured to suggest that without the use of stimulants he could scarcely hope for success. Whereupon Mr. Russell promptly replied that if he could not succeed without the use of whiskey he would not succeed at all. With the exception of his political make-up, Russell is certainly composed of good material. It is usually a bad cause and a bad man for whose aggrandizement the usual corrupt methods have to be called into requisition. If all candidates for political preferment had to depend alone upon their personal merit to secure the goal of their ambition, many of them would remain in obscurity, hence their employment of corrupt and corrupting methods. If only meritorious men were trusted with important positions the people would fare much better, and the sooner the people find this out the more readily will their interests be enhanced.

Mrs. Mary J. Bagby died at Estrelia, San Luis Obispo county, Cal., on Dec. 3rd, 1895, aged 72 years 7 months and 11 days. The deceased was born in Chariton county on May 11th, 1823, and lived for many years in the Forks of Chariton, but moved to California in 1877, where she had since made her home with her children.

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Miss Maud Mann, who is teaching music in Private institutions at Glasgow, is enjoying the holidays with Keytesville homefolks.