that we have lost their number. It may soon be wings against wheels. Then we'll fly instead of scorch.

The farmers are now gunning for chinch bugs; and some of them for gold

Boston's fifty divorces in six hours would indicate a vast domestic hubbub at the Hub.

The girl Queen of Holland rises at 7 in the morning. Are we to suppose that in winter she also builds the fires?

known, grows wild over the watermelon. We must commend Lieutenant Peary

The watermelon, it is said, grows wild

all over Africa. The African, it is well

as the most successful pole-chaser because he says he is never going to hunt the pole again. The new kind of Millerite calls the

Brooklyn bridge to judgment. He says

it will die of corrosion and rust in about five hundred years. This lets out the It is well that Yamagata and Li Hung Chang do not meet in this country. Probably there would be no war; but the

Chinaman, though good at running, is

not a champion.

"You can't leap across a pudéle in two jumps," says the Elmira Gazette. Here is one of those cases in which nature didn't do the square thing by us. We have long so regarded it.

Following the plan to check bleycles at the church comes the scheme of Rev. Dr. Crane of Chicago to offer a free lunch of lemonade and gingersnaps as an inducement to people to come out and listen to the sermon. It is thought the lemonade scheme will not work, because there's nothing in it.

A mad dog passed through Mt. Vernon, Ind., biting many cattle, State Veterinary Bolster and several doctors of the state live stock commission made an investigation and found several genuine cases of hydrophobia. A. Breiner was compelled to kill and burn thirteen fine Jersey cows and several calves.

The barbarous custom still exists among the Brahmins in India, of marrying young girls to old men that wander about the country in order that no family shall suffer the disgrace of having unmarried daughters. While he lives the girls can marry no one else, and when he dies they are his widows.

An authority says that they think in Spain that the Cuban rebellion must be crushed if every drop of Spanish blood is spilled in the effort. But men who talk that way do not join the Spanish army. They are doubtless brave enough, but the convicts and the poor nd the very young men who compose the army are the ones selected to lose the necessary gore. They talk to be noticed, but they fight by substitute. The last drop and the last ditch are old buncombea

Mayor Schott is struggling to determine whether or not a firecracker is a musical instrument. This problem arises from the giving of an open air the national hymn, "America," and in | ment. order to give the selection according to the score, detailed two of their number to shoot off firecrackers. Their is a city ordinance authorizing band concerts to pretense of procuring thereby a foreign be given in the park, and also one forbidding the exploding of firecrackers. The firecrackers exploded, and a bold policeman arrested the musicians. They have pleaded not guilty, and will have

The imports of rice into the United States for the eight months ending March 1 were 48,043 short tons, as against 64,087 tons during the same time the previous year. Included in this were 22,255 tons of clean rice, against 38,792 tons during the same time the year before. There were 24,-000 tons of rice flour, rice meal and broken rice imported, as against 23,141 tons the year before. The notable feature of these imports is the falling off in the imports of cleaned rice from 38,-792 tons in 1894-95 to 22,255 tons during the same period in 1895-96. The low prices at which home-grown rice has been selling seem to have had the effect of diminishing the imports of competing rice to the extent of some 16,000 tons. Our annual consumtion of rice, domestic and foreign, is estimated at about 100,000 to 110,000 tons. These reduced imports would seem to indicate a comparatively bare rice market this summer and better prices than last year when the new crop shall begin to

Ex-Mayor Cobb of Goshen, Ind., is stated to have found a live snake in a soft-boiled egg he was about to eat for his breakfast. This remarkable snake story would be hard to believe were it terly if it be the practice of an executive not for the fact that the ex-mayor called in the neighbors to verify the phenomenal discovery.

Miss Russell contracts with her managers to pay a fine of fifty thousand dollars if she marries within a year. Genius has its hardships. It is very pathetic to think of this lady weeping her eyes out every twenty minutes.

WALL STREET BOMB.

THEY AT LAST SEE VICTORY FOR FREE SILVER.

lanker St. John Comes Forward with a Genuine Free Coinage Bill and Ali the Other Bankers Will Support It-His Four Demands.

William P. St. John is president of he Mercantile Bank of New York. Three years ago he began to study the inancial question from an unselfish standpoint. Now he is crazy, as the Chicago Tribune (owned in England) would say. He has drawn up a platform for free coinage, which is as fol-

Leaving the domestic affairs of the several states to those party organizations already occupied therewith, and believing that the senate of the United States is quick to respond to the clearly expressed will of the people, we confine our present attempt to the election of the president, vice-president, and representatives in congress on the following demands:

First (a) That the mints of the United States shall be reopened to equally unrestricted coinage for gold and silver into the unlimited legal tender money of the United States; the gold to issue in the present standard gold coins, and the silver to issue in the present standard silver dollars. (b) Depositors of the gold or silver at the mint to receive in lieu of coin, if they prefer, at the coining value thereof, coin certificates which shall be redeemed on demand in gold or silver at the mint to receive in according to the convenience of the United States. (c) And as a safeguard against panic and money stringency the secretary of the treasury shall be empowered to issue such coin certificates additionally against deposits of interest-bearing bonds of the United States, the interest accruing on the bonds to inure to the United States pending their re-exchange for the coin certificates, which coin certificates when returned shall be cancelled; provided that such additional issues of coin certificates shall not reduce the per centage of coin and bullion reserved for coin certificates and silver certificates below sixty per cent of the aggregate sum of coin certificates and silver certifleates outstanding. The now outstanding silver certificates, gold certificates and treasury notes of 1890 to be retired as they come into the treasury.

This (a) is free coinage at 16 to 1, the convenient coin certificate (b) to take the place of gold certificates, silver cer-tificates and treasury notes of 1890. The safeguard (c) would provide for a temporary increase of \$300,000,000 of paper money against the silver on hand in the treasury April 1st.

Second. The threatened competition with our southern cotton mills of those of China and Japan, the increasing impertations of long stapled Egyptian in competition with our Sen Island cotton, and the ill effects of the abrogation of the tariff on woolen manufactures. combine to evidence the fact that the time has not arrived to abandon an adequate protective tariff system in vain pursuit of the phantom of free

The effect of the wool schedule of the Wilson bill has been to enrich the European manufacturer at the expense large the European market for foreign wools while lessening our home market for our domestic wools, occasioning an advance of two cents a pound for Port Phillip (Australian) wool in London. while unwashed Ohio wool has declined 11 cents a pound in Boston and New York; and producing such a depression of our home manufacturers as has caused a reduction in wages of operaconcert in the park. The musicians con- tives and threatens to throw this branch cluded their evening's performance with of domestic labor out of all employ-

> We are, therefore, opposed to opening our home markets of seventy millions of consumers to the foreigner on any market for the productions of the United States. But we shall exact of our manufacturers that they accord to labor a liberal and more continuously certain share of the protection accorded them; and that the tariff devised shall afford also a protection to the farmer and the planter, and provide sufficient revenues for the necessary expenditures of government.

This second demand meets the re quirement of the great mass of American labor, to whom McKinley threatens become the embodiment of the protec-tive tariff. While my reports from all sections, including the new south, are overwhelmingly in favor of protection, comparatively few manufacturers favor

the restoration of the McKinley tariff. Third.—We demand the application of the principle defined as the initiative and referendum, to all national legislation which involves any radical change in public policy.

A test of this principle, thus restricted to any radical change in public policy, seems warranted by the practice of Switzerland. The test may commend a broadening of the restriction, if found practicable. "Should the great trunk lines of railway become a possession of the government?" would seem to be such a radical change in public policy as might wisely be referred to the peo

Fourth.-We condemn Clevelandism utterly; that debauching of legislators with patronage to achieve legislation opposed to the will of the people is a vicious prostitution of executive influence, which we shall denounce as bit- mic reform. elected as a republican as when the

practice of one elected as a democrat. If all who have become distrustful of old parties and tired of boss rule will unite in these demands and nominate, on this platform, some man of such achievements as commend him to the conservative element of the country and who is not a seeker after the preferment, he can be elected in the approaching campaign to the presidency of the United States.

If the democratic platform demands the reopening of the mints to silver, as now seems likely, all the powers of the democratic (?) administraton will be used to compass the defeat of the democratic candidate. The prosperity to accrue to the people under the adoption of that policy would put in shameful contrast the current results of the ad-ministration's policy.

If the republican platform demands, unequivocally, the re-opening of the mints to silver the democratic platform will necessarily demand the same, and the contest will be narrowed thereby to a protective tariff against free trade. WILLIAM P. ST., JOHN.

Trade Conditions. Still no revival and more excuses. Dun's Review of Trade of the 16th says: "It is now the middle of May, too late for business to change materially until the prospects of coming crops are assured, and definite shape has been given to the presidential contest by the conventions. Until the future is more clear, there will be prudent disinclination to produce much beyond orders, or to order beyond immediate and certain needs. If this waiting spirit prevalls two months longer, it will crowd into the last half of the year an enormous business if the outlook is good. For the present there is less business, on the whole, than a year ago, though in some branches more, and the delay following months of depression is to many trying and the cause of numerous failures.

Ever since the repeal of the "Sherman law" the gold men have had prosperity looming up ahead; but there was always some little thing in the way. First, we must have a bond issue to replenish the gold reserve and "restore confidence." Then it was found that the bond issue had itself created some stringency which, however, would soon could be drawn out of the treasury again. Then another boad issue was required to give more "confidence." Then more stringency and then more bonds. Sometimes the weather was bad; cometimes it was too fine. For the last month or two the trouble has been "under consumption" and "lack of demand for goods." Now the lack of demand continues, the season is too far advanced, and no material improvement can be looked for antil after the conventions have been held and crop conditions assured. It will be more than two months before all of the conventions shall have been held, and we can safely rely upon the ingenuity of the trade experts to find a small volume of excuses by that time. Less business upon the whole than there was a year ago, with "good times coming" constantly ringing in our ears, is a condition that should open people's eyes,

Goy. Altgeld at the Auditorium.

The Chicago Tribune speaking of the assemblage that greeted Governor Altgeld at the Auditorium last Saturday evening says: "The audience for the most part was not of the sort usually seen at the Auditorium." That is true, There were no low-necked dresses and costly opera robes in sight. The boxes auditorium proper with rich merchants able as any ever seen within the walls property will reach \$150,000. of that splendid building, which was packed to the very dome. There may possibly have been a vacant seat here and there, but there were hundreds were blown down on the Mobile & Ohio standing in the foyer, and in numbers it railway. The opera house and union surpassed the Carlisle meeting. An depot was unroofed, numbers of trees even more significant fact is that the destroyed. The ferryboat Katharine audience was heartly in accord with was capsized at the mouth of the Ohio, the speaker, while the most strenuous efforts of the gold men to fill the house the captain, engineer and clerk. with their friends utterly failed to give Mr. Carlisle a sympathetic audience. If any man thought for a moment that the free silver issue was dead in Chicago, the Altgeld meeting should cause him to revise his judgment.-National Bimetallist.

How Little.

To show you, dear reader, how little coinago alone, let us make a state-

In round numbers our population may be called 70,000,000 people. It will could mature. take about all the American product of silver (after the arts are supplied) to give each man, woman and child \$1 per year.

That is, the coinage of \$70,000,000 per year would increase the amount of

money \$1 per capita, per annum. But the increase of population-from births and from foreign immigrationwill be about 1,000,000 people per year. and it will take \$25,000,000 of new silver to bring the newcomers up to the present per capita of, say \$25 per head. To simplify the argument, let us ad-

mit that foreign silver will be dumped on us sufficient for evening up-\$25,-000,000 per year, we'll say. What would be the result?

Why, it would take 25 years, at the rate of coinage we have mentioned, to reach the \$50 per capita limit that populists ask for.

And in 25 years hence, if the business of the country be doubled by that time, as is probable, we shall be no better off under free silver coinage than we are at present-not a bit.

Free silver coinage, from the very necessities of the situation can be but the beginning of financial and econo-

Figure it out for yourself .- Nevada Director.

Lowest Profession.

The stage is, in China, the lowest of professions. Actors share with barbers the pain of exclusion from competition at literary examinations. Every other man in the empire can compete, and every successful candidate is a probable mandarin. Actors and barbers was soon afterward, found dead in her alone can ever attain to the privilege. I thair.

TAKE THEIRS STRAIGHT.

National Prohibitionists for Prohibitio A New Party in the Field.

The seventh national convention of the Prohibition party was held at Pittsburg. A fight was precipitated at the start, Samuel Dickie, of Michigan, chairman of the national central committee, after replying to an address welcome, introduced A. A. Stevens. of Pennsylvania, as temporary chair man. The name of E. J. Wheeler was presented in opposition. Chairman Diekle refused to listen and insisted that Stevens take the chair. The hall became a scene of wild turmoil and it was not until the police were called that order was restored. Wheeler then withdrew for harmony's sake. A. B. Wilson was made temporary seere tary. The next struggle came on the platform, when the minority of the resolutions committee reported in favor of free silver, equal suffrage, government control of railroads, English language only in schools, popular vote on president and vice president, liberal pensions, strict immigration laws, naturalized citizens to be naturalized one year before voting, and against publie funds for sectarian institutions The silver plank was downed by the faction which stood for a prohibition platform only and then a substitute was adopted which excluded everything but prohibition, even woman, suffrage and was the narrowest kind of a narrow gauge declaration. Mrs. Helen M. Gongar attempted to save the woman suffrage plank, but in vain John P. Levering, of Maryland, was

cominated for President of the United States. Mr. Levering is a prominent offee merchant of Baltimore. He is 5 years of age, reputed to be very wealthy, and is president of the Y. M. C. A. He was formerly a Democrat. but has been connected with the Propass away-just as soon as the gold hibition party since 1884. He ran on the Prohibition ticket last fall for governor, receiving the highest vote ever east in the state for the party.

Hale Johnson, of Illinois, was nomirated for vice president. Mr. Johnson was born in Indiana 49 years ago and served through the war. He is a past commander in the G. A. R. and a colmel in the veteran legion.

A resolution was offered and passed that in the opinion of the convention the right of suffrage should not be abridged by sex.

A New Party Organized.

The broad gaugers then organized a rump" convention. Twenty-four states were represented. Among the prominent bolters are Helen M. Goacar, of Indiana; ex-Gov. John P. St John, of Kansas; R. S. Thompson, of Ohio, editor of the New Era: John Lloyd Thomas, of New York, and L. B. Logan, of Ohio. A new purty was or ganized and named the National party, and its motto is "Home Protection."

Cloudburst Kills 28.

Two cloudbusts occurred in Newton county, Mo. Cne life was lost at Neosho and 27 at Seneca. The condition of Seneca is pitiable. It is a town of 1,200 inhabitants and is situated in a valley. The water extended from bluft to bluff and was from four to six feet deep in every business house. Many were not filled with bankers, and the buildings were washed away. Two were swept away at Neosho, but the posing as "workingmen" and repre- loss is slight. The damage to crops sentatives of labor. But, as predicted and furniture is great, as many houses last week, the gathering was as respect- were flooded. The damage to Seneca

A hurricane and cloudburst struck Cairo, Ill., five miles of telegraph poles drowning 13 people, all on board but

At Bird's Point, Mo., opposite Cairo, a church and ten other buildings were moved from their foundations, and other damage done.

Andrew Fisher's barn and two others were burned by tramps at Battle Creek. A beavy wind storm accompanied by

high wind and hail visited the vicinity of Benton Harbor doing much damage to fruit and shade trees and unroofing financial reform can come of free silver many small buildings. Fully onefourth of the peaches in its wake were blown off, but this is beneficial as the trees were loaded heavier than they

THE MARKETS.

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Judge Allen C. Adsit, of Grand Rapids, while learning to ride a bicycle ran into a grocery wagon and was kicked by the horse and otherwise injured.

Mrs. Ferdinand Heekman, of Mt Temens, who was thrown into the celar of her house, died from fright. She had been in a nervous state since the eyelone, but appeared to be recovering from her injuries. When the thunder and lightning began two nights later she became greatly freightened and



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