

The Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock, but they first found full expression in Boston. They were determined to worship God in their own way, and at first they gave themselves credit for not hanging anyone whom they found who did not approve of their way.

They have wanted their own way ever since and have been impatient when they could not have it. They have had many triumphs, they have suffered some results. The one that was most direct was in 1861-65.

Their Sumner and Motley, and Phillips and the rest early in 1861 decided that Abraham Lincoln was a boor and that a mighty mistake was made when he was elected president. They nursed this belief for four years and later had some strong reinforcements, such as Carl Schurz, London Punch, and nearly all the aristocracy of England.

Finally a great cemetery on the site where the greatest of modern battles was fought, was to be dedicated. Boston to add solemnity and splendor to the dedication sent down its most learned and eloquent representative to deliver the dedicatory oration. He spoke for two hours and reading the address no one can criticize it. Then the care-worn Lincoln arose and from some rude notes spoke for five minutes. Both orations were published in the next morning's papers, and then Boston was disillusionized.

It was obliged to confess that after all no mistake was made when the awkward man was elected president, and when a few more months passed and the news came that the patient man had fallen under an assassin's bullet, Boston put on real sackcloth and sprinkled its head with the ashes of its profound remorse and sorrow.

Nevertheless Boston is great. No other city can boast more great names among its citizens past and present than she. No other city can boast of higher accomplishments and varied great abilities than her citizens have possessed. Nowhere has the cry for freedom sounded more clearly and long-continued than in her streets.

When she calls over the list of great names which have given her splendor she has a right to be proud; the history of her achievements makes a sacred page; her influence upon the whole nation is a most potent factor in the nation's enlightenment, and entitles a native to a secret pride in his birth-place no matter where he goes.

We hope the city is keeping up her old prestige even if a good deal of provincialism is mingled with it.

History of a Great Crime

IN the quarterly of the Oregon Historical society devoted to the life and life work of the late Harvey W. Scott, his son, Mr. Leslie M. Scott, reviews some of the work of his deceased great father. With the rest is what he thought of and how he dealt with the silver question, which he called "the silver craze."

We make special reference to it, because as it passes into history, it is a grave injustice to a great many other people, who were not altogether ignorant nor dishonest. In his incisive way Mr. Scott, to the end of his life, rated all silver advocates as either ignorant or dishonest. In the meantime he assumed to draw his own conclusion from the facts of history, and the mathematical exactions of the science of money, which he believed to be infallible and he had that order of mind which when once convinced, he never changed an opinion.

He was sure that the compass of his own brain was exactly adjusted, and never stopped to think that some magnet on the shore or some current of the sea of his mind, might sometime draw him aside. After he reached his convictions on silver he refused to ever consider the question more, but treated those who differed with him, as he himself said, as men who were

trying to prove that twice two were five. The truth was he never understood the real question at all. Even the fixed stars have their aberrations.

While giving full credit to his masterful abilities and lofty integrity, in the interest of justice, we are bound to repeat a few things which we said during Mr. Scott's life time.

For fifteen hundred years prior to 1873, the financiers, the best minds of all the world, had gladly accepted silver as being as good as gold. The original ratio between the metals was 13 to 1, founded on the cost of producing them. When the silver of Mexico and Peru was poured into Europe, this ratio was gradually changed on the continent to 15½ to 1 and in England to 15 to 1. When our government came to adjusting the ratio it was decided by President Jefferson and his secretary of the treasury Mr. Gallatin, to make it 16 to 1.

This slight difference from the continental ratio caused the shipping away of all silver that came to us, so that to keep the needed change for the people's use, the subsidiary coins had to be debased.

As far back as the founding of Corinth, gold and silver were set aside as precious metals exactly fitted for money because of certain distinctive properties which they possessed and which no other metals did. Among these were malleability, indestructibility, ductility, luster, density and the impossibility of obtaining enough of both to serve the world's needs for money.

The only difference in the two is the greater density of gold.

When the great war closed the United States owed an interest-bearing debt of \$2,700,000,000. The bonds had been bought at from 90 cents down to 45 cents on the dollar, and some of them drew interest as high as 7.40 per cent.

The first move was to have all government indebtedness paid in specie (silver and gold). Then the too swift calling in of the greenbacks caused wide spread distress, for they were the only evidence of money that the people had for use in the daily conduct of their business. But peace had come, and it was clear that a great and mighty advance in the business of the country could not long be put off. Even then the interest-bearing debt had been reduced to a principle of \$2,200,000,000. The question with the national banks and the outside interest-gatherers who had bought the bonds with greenbacks at an average of probably 55 cents on the dollar, was how they could continue to draw an interest at an average of 5½ per cent on each dollar that had cost them 55 cents.

Silver had not depreciated one penny. It never did so long as it had equal recognition with gold. It has not yet in France.

There was good reason for it. There was not nearly enough of both metals to serve the people's needs for money.

The definition of money is "a measure of values" and "a medium of exchange." Gold and silver never had been a medium of exchange in our country except in the three Pacific coast states.

In 1873 a bill was prepared by the then controller of the currency, entitled "For the better regulation of the currency." In it was disguised a clause which when carefully read made clear that the bill if passed would demonetize silver. It was never carefully read. It passed both houses of congress and was signed by the president with no one suspecting the crime contained in it. Naturally silver began to fall as compared with gold. In truth gold at once began to advance in purchasing power for all property in the same ratio as silver seemed to fall. The realty and personal property of Oregon fell in the same ratio that silver did. Millions of men were ruined because of it. When the distress became

so acute that something had to be done, the Sherman silver purchasing bill was passed, which provided that should silver reach the old ratio with gold, then it should be fully restored. In three months it advanced to nearly the old figure when Dan Manning, secretary of the treasury, bought ten million ounces from Mexico and France and checked the advance. Manning was a national banker and full in the conspiracy to destroy silver as money.

Manning caused the nomination for president of Mr. Cleveland. To give him an excuse for calling the extra session of 1893, the panic of that year was sprung by the same crowd that had all the time fought silver. Mr. Cleveland, who was set aside for the purpose, bulldozed congress into repealing the purchasing clause of the Sherman act. The distress at the time was nation-wide. Crops were worth nothing, land was worth nothing, except in the cities, three-fourths of the railroads went into the hands of receivers. The election of 1896 was the most disgraceful in history. Mark Hanna, supplied with millions of dollars by the same enemies of the people who had made all the trouble, debauched the whole north and old west.

There was no relief until the famines abroad, which drove the outside nations to us for bread, in a single year turned to us a balance of trade of \$2,000,000,000 in gold. Then that gold combine lifted its club on the whole business of the land. In the midst of great seeming prosperity it sprung the panic of 1907 in order that the great steel combine might wrest the Tennessee iron and coal property from its owners, and then went squealing to Europe for a loan of a pitiable \$100,000,000, though our balance of trade for the previous ten years had been \$400,000,000 per annum.

The billion of dollars which the country owed when silver was finally demonetized, is still owing though in the meantime the people have paid more than the principal of it, in interest.

Through the operation of that same law of 1893, our export trade with two-thirds of the people of the earth has been killed.

By the operation of the same law the people of the orient can unload their products upon us at a discount—measured in our money—of 60 per cent below what they charged when the law was passed. In the meantime, from sources that no man could foresee in 1893, the world had been enriched by more new gold from the mines than all the silver in the world was worth when it was demonetized, and still J. P. Morgan says there is not money enough for the world's business.

The cost of demonetizing silver was more than the cost in money and property of the great war of the rebellion.

And the crime of it is still in full-bearing.

A Disgruntled Contemporary

THE Ogden Standard seems to be a good deal exercised because we do not approve of Theodore Roosevelt. It puts out in a headline that we want a boa-constrictor to get him.

That is a serious error on the part of our contemporary. We have nothing against the boa-constrictor so long as he remains in his own jungle. We do not want him to get even a stomachache.

We said, in agreement with the Oregonian, that President Wilson and the heads of all important committees with two or three exceptions, are southern born men. We stated it as a fact only, but the Standard declares that it is "a narrow view." In what way? We added that we believed that Mr. Wilson and his close advisers are anxious to do the best they can for the country. How does that seem narrow or sectional? And what did the article complain of have in it except the exact truth? Where in