

have the Winchester's deadly crack as wage slaves are made to know their places; instead of the eloquence of Adams, Webster or Choate, we have the lobbyists of the trusts and the special pleas of the paid attorneys of class privilege; instead of a prosperous and contented people, we have misery, unrest and despair. Instead of statesmen seeking to remedy these intolerable evils, they at once deny their existence and say they are natural and inevitable and to grumble at them is a crime.

Washington's and Jefferson's residences could be reproduced to-day for two or three thousand dollars each, but none were homeles than in America. One of the Vanderbilts has six residences in this country, costing from 1 to 5 million dollars each, and a palace in London; but 94 per cent. of the residents in New York city are tenants, and nearly one-fourth live in cellars or in single rooms, while the forcible evictions number 30,000 yearly.

Sometimes a sick nation does not die, but discharges its quack doctor statesmen, takes a dose of gunpowder and a bath of fire, expels its parasites, and at least partially recovers, as France did, a century ago.

Watchman, what of the night?

THE WINFIELD CASE.

The Non-Partisan "Medical Journal" Calls It Political Mud.

A political supplement of the Topeka Lance, of September 1, 1894, contains eight columns or more denouncing certain operations of Dr. Pilcher at the Asylum for Idiotic and Imbecile Youth, established by the state at the city of Winfield. It appears from the face of the article that there were castrations of several boys who had been long confirmed in a vicious habit, which had not yielded to prior treatment, and which operations had been openly discussed and intelligently considered by Dr. Pilcher and other medical men, and which had been sanctioned and advised by a council of capable and efficient physicians. The whole trend of the article alluded to was not in the interest of the science of health or right living, but had for its one supreme object the political purpose to envenom the voter against the administration under whose reign these operations were accomplished. It is hardly considered the province of a medical journal to seek opportunities to reply to campaign documents, but when they involve the honor and standing of the medical profession, it is necessary as a matter of defense, and the ordinary tribute demanded of a professional man to his profession. It appears by the statement of Dr. Wiles, a former superintendent, that several of the persons operated on had in his time been inmates, had long been addicted to the vice, and notwithstanding a course of treatment by him, which he designates as moral suasion, and consisting of good fatherly advice mingled with the persuasiveness of a straight jacket, these still persons continued to be under complete dominion of that vice, and riveted more firmly to it by the emasculated body and enervated mind that are necessarily incident to long continued processes of that kind. The article clearly discloses that moral suasion as practiced by Dr. Wiles in such cases was absolutely ineffective, and cost the state the expense of constant attendance to simply prevent and not to cure. The testimony undisputed throughout this article is as it had to be, if they proposed to speak

*ex cathedra*, that a surgical operation is a sure and lasting cure; that from the time of the operation the body, shorn of a diseased and brutal function, recovers and gets strong; that the mind, if the lapse has not been too extreme, also recovers and resuscitates all there is of the man to be saved. Dr. Pilcher met this state of affairs when he took charge. He had the futile methods and experiences of Dr. Wiles before him. He could have continued the same treatment and so could his successors, in the end having for the state, relatives and society, idioy and total bestiality, but without mayhem. Dr. Wiles was in charge four years and eight months, and it is no unjust criticism to say with such poor results from his course of moral suasion, he ought to have changed the treatment, more straight jacket and probably less advice, or *vice versa*. One thing is certain: prevention was all he sought at a constant expense to the state, and with increasing disability and a stronger passion as the habit continued.

Dr. Pilcher, like a brave and capable man, sought something better. There could be much saved from such wrecks. He could give back a restored mind and robust health, a bestial function destroyed, and he did it. He called around him a council of competent medical men; they determined on the operations, for here was cure, and the operations were performed, and for which he should have the profound respect and acknowledgment of the state, humanity and kindred.

This political article has sought among physicians for anathema, and found Dr. Wilber, of Kalamazoo, Mich., who declares that such operations are unlawful, unjustifiable, and physicians who counsel or practice it should be lodged in the penitentiary, and who declares it unlawful in most states. These operations are old as the profession, are the remedy, and only remedy, for extreme and reprobate cases, recognized as legitimate in the profession, and constantly practiced by men eminent in standing and learning. If any state or nation has declared it unlawful and punishable for the physician to make such an operation as a remedy for this devastating vice, and forbids him under the displeasure of its laws from so doing, we have not been informed of it. There may be, but Dr. Wilber must not confound the punishment meted out to offenders who, for some malevolent purpose, commit this sort of mutilation on the possessor of a sound mind in a sound body.

These operations are occurring constantly under the trained eye of skilled physicians, and all honor to the devoted man who seeks cure and restoration, and gives back to the state a restored citizen, to society an ornament instead of a burden, and who restores him to friends and family clothed in his right mind, robbed only of a beastly and execrated curse.

It is one thing to fling ordinary political mud, and it is another thing to denounce proper conduct and enlightened methods to accomplish the change of a few votes.—Kansas Medical Journal, September 8.

United States Gold and Silver Coins.

So many inquiries are received relative to the changes in United States coins that we present here a condensed statement of the facts derived from the article on "coins" in the American cyclopedia.

In 1796 congress provided for the

issue of the following gold and silver coins: The eagle to contain 246.263 grains of fine gold, value \$10, and the half eagle in proportion. The silver dollar to contain 375.64 grains of fine silver; a half dollar, double dime and dime in proportion.

By the law of April 2, 1792, the gold and silver coins were made as follows: Gold, the eagle of \$10, to weigh 270 grains, the half eagle and quarter eagle in proportion, 916 $\frac{2}{3}$  thousandths fine. Silver, the dollar to weigh 416 grains, the half dollar, quarter dollar, dime and half dime in proportion, the fineness to be 892.4 thousandths.

The same act declared the dollar to be the unit of federal money, and directed that all accounts should be kept in conformity to the decimal system.

June 28, 1834, the weight of the eagle was reduced to 258 grains, 232 grains of which were fine gold. This was an increase of 6.68 per cent. on the former value of gold as compared with silver, which remained unchanged.

January 18, 1837, the French standard of fineness was adopted, .9 fine for both gold and silver. The weight of gold coins remained as fixed in 1834, and the silver dollar was made to contain 412 $\frac{1}{2}$  grains, and the lesser silver coins in proportion.

By the act of March 3, 1849, there were added to the gold coins the double eagle and the dollar; and by the act of February 21, 1853, the three-dollar piece. By the act of March 3, 1851, there was added to the silver coins a three-cent piece (a legal tender for sums not exceeding 30 cents) of the fineness of .75 and 12 $\frac{3}{4}$  grains in weight. April 1, 1853, its fineness was raised to .9, the standard for other silver coins and its weight was reduced to 11.52 grains.

By the act of February 21, 1853, important changes were made in the silver coinage. Pre-existing laws made both gold and silver coins (except the three-cent piece) a legal tender for any amount. At the ratio of silver to gold of 16 to 1, silver was undervalued in the United States as compared with Europe, and our silver coins were largely exported. The remedy provided was a seigniorage upon the silver coins, and making these smaller, then provided for a legal tender only for \$5. The weight of the half dollar was reduced from 200 $\frac{1}{4}$  grains to 192 grains and the smaller coins in proportion. The government ceased coining silver for individuals, but purchased silver at the market price and made the coins for government account. The silver dollar remained 412 $\frac{1}{2}$  grains of standard silver and it continued to be a legal tender to any amount.

By the act of February 12, 1873, the gold and silver coins were made as follows: Gold, a one-dollar piece, 25.8 grains, which was made the unit of value; a quarter eagle, or two-and-a-half-dollar piece, 64.5 grains; a three-dollar piece, 77.4 grains; a half eagle, or five-dollar piece, 120 grains; an eagle, or ten-dollar piece, 258 grains, and a double eagle, or twenty-dollar piece, 516 grains. These were legal tender for any amount.

The silver coins specified in this law were a "trade dollar," 420 grains; a half dollar, 192.9 grains; a quarter dollar and a dime, respectively one-half and one-fifth the weight of the half dollar—all the above .9 fine. These silver coins were a legal tender for any amount not exceeding five dollars. It was by this act that the standard silver dollar of 412 $\frac{1}{2}$  grains was dropped from the coinage of the country. The Bland-Allison act was passed

For Tired Mothers



"I feel very thankful for what Hood's Sarsaparilla has done for me. I have taken three bottles and the medicine has made a great change. I was

All Run Down

from trouble and overwork, and had other complaints common to my sex at my age, 44 years. Now

Mrs. G. W. Warnock since taking Hood's Sarsaparilla I am much stronger and am gaining in flesh. I would advise all overworked, tired, weak mothers to take Hood's Sarsaparilla to build them up." Mrs. G. W. Warnock, Beverly, Nebraska. Remember,

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

Hood's Pills act easily, yet promptly and efficiently, on the liver and bowels. 25c.

over the veto of President Hayes February 28, 1878. It restored the standard silver dollar of 412 $\frac{1}{2}$  grains to the coinage, and authorized and directed the secretary of the treasury to purchase, from time to time, silver bullion at its market price, not less than 2 million dollars' worth per month and not more than 4 million dollars' worth per month, and cause the same to be coined monthly, as fast as so purchased, into standard silver dollars, which were again made a legal tender for all debts and dues except where otherwise expressly stipulated in the contract.

Under this law, which remained in force up to the adoption of the so-called Sherman law of July 14, 1890, the secretary of the treasury always exercised the discretion which the law gave him to purchase and coin the minimum amount provided for.

By the act of July 14, 1890, the secretary of the treasury was directed to purchase 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  million ounces of silver, or so much thereof as might be offered, at the market price thereof, not exceeding \$1 for 371.25 grains of pure silver, each month, and to issue in payment for such bullion United States treasury notes, redeemable on demand in coin, and a legal tender in payment of all debts public and private, except where otherwise expressly stipulated in the contract.

Section 2 of this act provided that upon demand of the holder of any of these notes the secretary of the treasury should redeem the same in either gold or silver coin at his discretion. Section 3 provided that he should coin each month 2 million ounces until July 1, 1891, and after that time as much as might be necessary for the redemption of the notes. As the secretary invariably exercised the discretion given him by section 2 to redeem the notes in gold, he never found it necessary to coin any of the bullion after July 1, 1891.

The purchasing clause of this act of July 14, 1890, was repealed at the special session of congress in 1893, and this is the status of the silver question at this time. There is now no law requiring either the coinage of silver or the issue of any more treasury notes for the purchase of bullion.

Six Thousand Square Miles of Wealth.

The vast fertile valleys of the two Indian reservations in northeastern Utah, soon to be opened to settlers, comprise about 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  million acres of the finest agricultural and grazing land. The direct line to Uintah and Uncompaghe reservations is by the Union Pacific system via Echo and Park City. E. L. LOMAX, G. P. & T. A., U. P. System, Omaha, Neb.

When writing to our advertisers always mention the ADVOCATE.