

THE PEOPLE'S PILOT.

FOR THE FREE AND UNLIMITED COINAGE OF SILVER AND GOLD AT THE PARITY RATIO OF SIXTEEN TO ONE WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY OTHER NATION ON EARTH.

VOL. VI.

RENSSELAER IND., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1896.

NUMBER 15.



W. H. MCDOEL, RECEIVER.

The Direct Line to
Chicago,
Indianapolis,
Cincinnati,
LaFayette,
Louisville,
West Baden,
French Lick Springs
and
All Points South.
FRANK J. REED, G. P. A., Chicago.

Monon Time Table No. 28, in Effect Sept. 13.

NORTH BOUND.		SOUTH BOUND.	
No. 40.....	7.30 a. m.	No. 33.....	10.55 a. m.
No. 42.....	9.55 a. m.	No. 35.....	1.53 p. m.
No. 44.....	12.00 p. m.	No. 37.....	4.03 p. m.
No. 46.....	2.40 p. m.	No. 39.....	6.19 p. m.
No. 48.....	5.30 p. m.	No. 41.....	8.30 p. m.
No. 50.....	8.30 p. m.	No. 43.....	11.30 p. m.
No. 52.....	11.30 p. m.	No. 45.....	2.40 a. m.

No. 74 carries passengers between Monon and Lowell.
No. 32 makes no stops between Rensselaer and Hammond.
Train No. 5 has a through coach for Indianapolis and Cincinnati, via Roanoke; arrives Indianapolis 2:46 p. m.; Cincinnati, 6 p. m. No. 6 has through coach returning; leaves Cincinnati 8:30 a. m.; leaves Indianapolis 11:30 a. m.; arrives Rensselaer 3:30 p. m. daily. Tickets can be purchased at regular rates via this new route.

CHURCHES

FIRST BAPTIST. Preaching every two weeks, at 10:45 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Sunday school at 9:30; B. Y. P. U. 6 p. m. Sunday prayer meeting 7 p. m.; C. E. Voliva, pastor.

CHRISTIAN. Corner Van Rensselaer and Susan. Preaching, 10:45 and 7:30; Sunday school, 9:30; B. Y. P. U. 6 p. m. Sunday, 7:30; Prayer meeting, Thursday, 7:30; Rev. Findley, pastor.
Ladies' Aid Society meets every Wednesday afternoon, by appointment.

PRESBYTERIAN. Corner Cullen and Angelica. Preaching, 10:45 and 7:30; Sunday school, 9:30; B. Y. P. U. 6 p. m. Sunday, 7:30; Prayer meeting, Thursday, 7:30; Ladies Industrial Society meets every Wednesday afternoon. The Missionary Society, monthly.

METHODIST E. Preaching at 10:55 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Sunday school, 9:30; Epworth League, Sunday, 6:30; Tuesday, 7 p. m.; Sunday school, 9:30; Prayer meeting, Thursday, 7:30; Rev. F. L. Austin, pastor.

LADIES' AID SOCIETY every Wednesday afternoon by appointment.
CHURCH OF GOD. Corner Harrison and Eliza. Preaching, 10:45 and 7:30; Sunday school, 9:30; B. Y. P. U. 6 p. m. Sunday, 7:30; Rev. F. L. Austin, pastor.
Ladies Society meets every Wednesday afternoon, by appointment.

CHRISTIAN-BARKLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST. Preaching every alternate Lord's day, Morning, Sunday school 10:30; Preaching 11:00; Evening, Y. P. U. 8 p. m. Sunday, 7:30; Preaching, 8:00. Rev. R. S. Morgan, Pastor.

LODGES

MASONIC-PRAIRIE LODGE. No. 125. A. F. and M. W. meets first and third Mondays of each month. C. G. Spitzer, W. M.; W. J. Lutz, Secy.

EVENING STAR CHAPTER. No. 141. O. E. S. meets first and third Wednesday's of each month. Nellie Hopkins, W. M.; Maud E. Spitzer, Secy.

CATHOLIC ORDER FORESTERS. Willard Court, No. 415, meets every first and third Sunday of the month at 2 p. m. E. P. Honan, Secy.; Frank Maloy, Chief Ranger.

ODD FELLOWS-IRROQUOIS LODGE. No. 149. I. O. O. F. meets every Thursday, W. E. Overton, W. G. S. C. Irwin, Secy.

RENSSELAER ENCAMPMENT. No. 201. I. O. O. F. meets second and fourth Fridays of each month. T. J. Sayler, C. P.; John Vannatta, Scribe.

RENSSELAER-REBECCA DEGREE LODGE. No. 346, meets first and third Fridays of each month. Mrs. Mattie Bowman, N. G.; Miss Alice Irwin, Secy.

O. O. OF FORESTERS. COURT JASPER, No. 1703. Independent Order of Foresters, meets second and fourth Mondays. Geo. Goff, C. D. H. C. R.; J. W. Horton, C. R.

Cheap Farm Loans.

Call on Valentine Selb, Rensselaer, for the cheapest farm loans offered in Jasper county. Large or small accounts.

Electric Bitters.

Electric Bitters is a medicine suited for any season, but perhaps more generally needed, when the languid exhausted feeling prevails, when the liver is torpid and sluggish and the need of a tonic and alternative is felt. A prompt use of this has often averted long and perhaps fatal bilious fevers. No medicine will act more surely in counteracting and freeing the system from the malaria poison. Headache, indigestion, constipation, dizziness yield to Electric Bitters. 50 cents and \$1.00 per bottle at B. B. Meyer's drug store.

The Garden South.

The South is destined to be, and is rapidly becoming, the garden of the United States. Here life is easiest to live; the rigorous winters do not eat up the fruits of the toil of summer, nor are the summers so trying as many northern people have supposed. "I used to live only half the year" said a northern farmer recently settled in the south, "and I used to work all the time then. Now I work half the time and live all the year through."

Home seeker's excursion tickets will be sold over the Monon Route to nearly all points in the south at the rate of one first class fare (one way); tickets good returning on any Tuesday or Friday within 31 days from date of sale. Liberal stop-overs are allowed. These excursions start (and tickets are sold) August 17, 18 and 31; September 1, 14, 15, October 5, 6, 19 and 20. Call on W. H. Beam, agent of the Monon Route, for further information.

CONFRONTED BY A CRISIS.

It Is Not a Partisan Question, but One of Genuine Patriotism.

We are confronted by a money power that is seeking to fasten upon the people of this country an English yoke. We are now in the midst of the gravest crisis that ever confronted this republic. In 1861 the Union was confronted with dissolution which meant anarchy in respect to government and a perpetuation of the African slavery. In 1896 we are confronted with the question of perpetually enslaving the white race. We are confronted with the question whether we shall install the English Shylock as a taskmaster over all the generations of Americans that are yet to come. We are not proposing to wrong anybody. We are proposing to give every man his due. We are not suggesting experiments. We are demanding a return to the experience of the world for thousands of years, and we say that this experiment of trying to force the nations of the earth on to a gold basis for the benefit of European creditors is ruining the American people.

We propose to pay back the English creditors in the same money they gave us—gold and silver. We propose to give them dollars that shall have the same purchasing power, that will buy as much property and as much labor of every kind as had the dollars which they gave us—money having exactly the same purchasing power. We propose to pay them principal and interest in the same money exactly which they gave us, and we say that their acts in getting silver demonetized and gold made dear, after they had succeeded in getting our bonds and our notes, so as to compel us to pay in a different kind of money from what they gave us, to pay in dollars which cost twice as much sweat, twice as much blood, as did the dollars which they gave us—we say that that act was a fraud and was a crime against civilization.

This is not a partisan question. It is not a question of Republicanism or of Democracy. John Sherman and Grover Cleveland are sleeping together. It is a question of patriotism. It is a question of maintaining the institutions of the fathers, for if the present standard is to be maintained, if our people must go on paying interest and principal in dollars that require twice as much labor, twice as much sweat, twice as much blood to obtain, as did the dollars that were in circulation when the debts were created, then the doom of the American producers is sealed. Low prices will be made perpetual, and there will be no hope for the American farmer, the American mechanic or the American laborer.—John P. Altgeld.

A BUSINESS MAN.

Here Is a Merchant Who Investigated For Himself and Knows What Is the Matter.

One of the most encouraging interviews on the money question was that recently made in Chicago with Frank H. Cooper of the great dry goods firm of Siegel, Cooper & Co. of Chicago, and New York, and known the world over. Mr. Cooper has just returned from a trip to Europe, and to a newspaper man he expressed his opinions on the financial situation as follows:

"I am yet somewhat on the fence, but I can't see anything but good to result from the free coinage of silver. True, it will benefit the mine owners; it will also benefit the miners; give them work, and benefit the west. It will give the farmer money; it will make better prices for farm products; it will make the farmer a buyer in our markets."

"Times can be no worse than they are at present. Our currency is not expensive enough for the demands of the people. France has \$40 per capita of money in circulation, and its people are prosperous and happy. We have but \$20 per capita. We need more money, and free silver coinage will put an end to business stagnation."

"Our factories are closed and our artisans and mechanics are out of work. More money will make higher prices, better demand for goods and a revival of prosperity."

"Goods and produce are too cheap because people have no money to buy them. The depreciation in prices on some lines of goods has been more than 50 per cent in the past six months. Can merchants and manufacturers stand this?"

"The Wilson bill that reduced the tariff on goods about 10 per cent, except on wool, which is made free, is not the cause of all the hard times."

"Do you think that putting back the old tariff would cause a return of prosperity?"

"There are many ways to view this matter. The poor and the middle classes pay all the taxes. I believe the multimillionaires should pay their proportion. I believe in a graded income tax as a partial panacea for the ills we have fallen into."

"With free silver the price of wheat and corn would enhance in value at once. Dollar wheat for the farmer makes him look at his clothes. When they are frayed he buys new. He refurnishes his house, if it is needed, and so helps to start the furniture factories going again. It is so in all lines. More money, the greater demand for goods."

"A single gold standard would bring prices still lower and more failures and more disaster for the people. It is hard to say what is exactly right. We are partially upon a bimetallic basis now, and that is in a measure our salvation. Take that away, and where are we?"

"Contract our currency to \$15 or \$12 per capita, and the result would be such



HANNA: "HE DIDN'T KNOW HIS BUSINESS."

—San Francisco Examiner.

as no one could figure. Talking of free silver, our mints could not turn out over \$60,000,000 per year, less than \$1 to every inhabitant. Would that flood the country? It would restore prices, confidence and resuscitate business. That's about, I think, what free silver would do for us. This question is near to the people, and they are carefully discussing it. We want to take care of ourselves first. European countries are able to take care of themselves."

REAL AND SHAM FRIENDS.

Silver Has Been a Great Sufferer From Those of the Latter Kind.

The opponents of the Bland law in 1878 were waiting for international bimetalism. Mr. Cleveland mentioned the prospect of it in his message in 1888 and again this year. It was a valuable weapon in 1890, when the Sherman bill was passed and the Brussels conference was called in time to carry us over the last presidential election. We are still waiting, and those are waiting most patiently who favor a gold standard.—William J. Bryan in House of Representatives.

It is unfortunate for the opponents of independent free coinage that all of our presidents since the silver agitation began have been gold monometallists in the disguise of international bimetalists. If the dealings of the executive branch of the government with the majority of the people for 20 years had not borne the aspect of a prolonged confidence game, we probably never should have had to force the present crisis.

President Cleveland has been by far the worst offender. His entire administration has been devoted to discrediting the international bimetalism in which he has professed to believe. When he took office, he found the Brussels conference hopefully awaiting his summons to reconvene. He refused to give the word and allowed that dignified gathering to fade out of existence in a humiliating way, that gave monometallists an opportunity for much gloating enjoyment. Later silver became so strong in Germany as to force the reichstag to vote in favor of another conference. Mr. Cleveland gave this advance an icy reception. Congress provided for accepting the German invitation, if one should be received, and the president's intimates exultingly showed how the technical wording of the resolution would allow it to be evaded, how the delegates appointed by congress could be deprived of their credentials and the United States could remain unrepresented.

If Mr. Cleveland had really desired to carry out his professions of regard for international bimetalism, he would have exerted the diplomatic activity of his administration in that direction instead of against it. He would have instructed every representative he sent abroad to sound the government to which he was accredited and see how far it would be willing to co-operate with us. The Indian mints were closed three months after he took office. That could have been prevented. The fear that the United States would abandon its support to silver was the chief cause of the abolition of free coinage in India. Germany would willingly have entered into an engagement not to sell her remaining stock of old silver coins. Each country could have been led to pledge some assistance toward the restoration of the old bimetallic par, even if it did not go to the length of free coinage, and in the end the situation would have been found so effectively guarded at all points that the United States could have opened its mints without frightening any but persons of abnormal nerves.

President Cleveland has missed his chance. He has lost the opportunity to secure enduring popularity for himself, unity for his party, harmony among sections for his country, prosperity for its people and the settlement of the financial question by amicable agreement instead of by a tug of war. He has bequeathed a hard and disagreeable task to his successor, but he has made evident that the country needs a president whose wishes are in harmony with

its own. The American people have been very patient, but after 20 years of broken promises they demand a change.—New York Journal.

INSURANCE AND SILVER.

What Is There In the Solitude of the Managers For Their Policy Holders?

The champions of the gold standard are now very much exercised at the thought of having insurance policies paid in cheaper money. It is a singular circumstance that almost every argument (?) in favor of maintaining the present monetary standard has in view the interests of those classes which are in the enjoyment of exceptional advantages. The owners of fixed incomes, depositors in banks, creditors generally and holders of insurance policies are objects of special solicitude with those who oppose the free coinage of silver. Life insurance is usually payable to persons other than the insured. However good and meritorious these people may be, there is no equity whatever in their behalf which entitles them to be paid in depreciated dollars. In many cases the policy comes to the payee as a mere bonus for which he or she has given absolutely nothing. It is very true that the beneficiaries of such policies should be fairly treated and not be defrauded with "cheap" money. But it is not proposed to defraud them with "cheap" money. The hub of the whole question is that under present conditions, with money constantly appreciating, insurance policies are now being paid with money more valuable than the money in circulation at the time the policy was issued and more valuable than that in which the premiums have been paid.

If this concerned nobody but the policy holder and the insurance company, the silver men would give themselves no trouble about it, but in fact a rising measure of value concerns everybody, just as enlarging measures of weight, length and bulk would. While the payee of an insurance policy is benefited by receiving money of augmented value, other classes are ruined by being obliged to meet their obligations in such money. The latter are entitled to much more consideration than the former, first, because their necessities and sufferings are greater; secondly, because they are much more numerous, and, thirdly, because they are the victims of the first wrong.

That of gold and silver together to that of gold alone. If this primary wrong cannot be righted because a few innocent persons might lose something, then it would be impossible to ever change any vicious monetary law, however destructive to the best interests of the country, for all such changes injure somebody.

In considering policies of insurance there is another point that must not be overlooked. While it is a very nice thing for the beneficiary to get "big dollars"—dollars of high value—this same appreciation of money makes it harder for the insured to pay the premium and thus keep the policy alive. It is matter of common knowledge that in seasons of monetary stringency hundreds and thousands of persons are unable to pay the premiums and are obliged to allow their policies to lapse. They either lose the entire amount paid in premiums or are driven to the necessity of surrendering the original policy and taking a "paid up" one for a mere fraction of the sum actually paid in. Such cases are not isolated and occasional, but on the contrary they make up a very considerable fraction of the total number of insurance policies taken out. Every case of the kind involves a hardship and a wrong, which find no compensation or offset in the fact that some widow or orphan receives payment in depreciated money.—National Bimetalist.

Great Britain's Luck.

The London Financial News says, "It is a great streak of luck to Great Britain that the United States does not take the matter of its finances in its own hands and issue its own silver without waiting the convenience of this country."

JOHN CLARK RIDPATH.

Our Great Historian Gives Out His Platform as a Candidate For Congress.

We want our currency system put back precisely where it was under the statute and constitution for the first 81 years of our existence as a nation. Our statutory bimetallic system of currency was taken from us in 1873 by a process which I do not dare to characterize in fitting terms. Now we propose to have it back again. The restoration of our silver money to the place it held before is the people's cause, and the people in this contest are going to triumph. They are going to triumph in the open light of day under the clear gleam of light and truth.

The silver dollar was from of old the unit of money and account in the United States. That dollar to this hour has never been altered by the fraction of a grain in the quantity of pure metal composing it. Every other coin, whether of gold or silver, has been altered time and again, but the silver unit never. The silver dollar was the dollar of the law and the contract. It is to this day the dollar of the law and the contract. To the silver unit all the rest, both gold and silver, have been conformed from our first statute of 1792 to that ill-starred date when the conspiracy against our old constitutional order first declared itself. The gold eagle of the original statute and of all subsequent statutes was not made to be ten dollars, but to be the value of ten dollars. The half eagle was not made to be five dollars, but to be the value of five dollars. The quarter eagle was of the value of two and a half dollars, (and the double eagle was of the value of twenty dollars). Even the gold dollar of 1849, marvelous to relate, was not a dollar, but was made to be of the value of a dollar. The subsidiary coins were all fractions of the dollar, and the dollar was of silver only. Not a single dictionary or encyclopedia in the English language before the year 1878 ever defined "dollar" in any terms other than of silver. In that year the administrators of the estate of Noah Webster, deceased, cut the plates of our standard lexicon and inserted a new definition that had become necessary in order to throw a penumbra of rationality around the international gold conspiracy.

The way to obviate the further disastrous effects of this international gold conspiracy is to stop it. We want the system of bimetalism restored in this country. Bimetalism means the option of the debtor to pay in either of two statutory coins, according to his own convenience and according to the contract. This option freely granted, the commercial parity of the two money metals will be speedily reached, nor can such parity ever be seriously disturbed again as long as the unimpeded option of the debtor to pay in one metal or the other shall be conceded by law and the terms of the contract. The present commercial disparity of the two metals has been produced by the pernicious legislation which began 23 years ago, and which has not yet satisfied itself with the monstrous results that have flamed therefrom.

What do we propose to accomplish by free coinage? We propose to do just this thing—viz, to break the corner on gold and reduce the exaggerated purchasing power of that metal to its normal standard. Be assured there will be no further talk of a 50 cent dollar when the commercial parity of the two money metals shall be reached. Every well informed person must know that the present disparity of the two uncoined metals is but the index of the extent to which gold has been bullied in the markets of the world. It is not an index of the extent to which raw silver has declined in its purchasing power in the markets of the world, for raw silver has not declined in its purchasing power as compared with the average of other commodities in any civilized market place of the whole globe. No man shall say the contrary and speak the truth. This great question is hot upon us. It can be kept back no longer. It is a tremendous economic question, that ought to be decided in the court of right, reason and of fact. My judgment is that the American people, in spite of all opposition, are going to reclaim the right of transacting their business, and in particular of paying their debts according to a standard unit worth 100 cents to the dollar—neither more nor less—and that they will not accept the intolerable programme which declares in fact, if not in words, that they shall henceforth transact their business, and in particular discharge their debts with a cornered gold dollar worth almost two for one.—John Clark Ridpath.

Another Scare Exploded.

We are told that the free coinage of silver would soon flood this country with the silver of the whole world, and some people suggest that a tariff should be placed on silver to avoid this. He who suggests that little understands the question.

Money is but a tool. No man can afford to go into business unless he believes that what he produces will bring money in the end and pay for what he produces. What is to be done with this foreign silver if it is coined? Will it be sent abroad again? If so, why bring it here at all? Did that ever suggest itself to you? If it comes here, the people who bring it will do so with the belief that they can invest it in our mines and manufacturing, and it will go to the laboring people as a tool of trade. It will be a boon to the men who for the last few years have tramped for work and begged for bread.—R. P. Elmer.

GOVERNOR ALTGELD.

He Explains Why We Can "Go It Alone." The Facts Concerning Mexico.

We say restore silver to where it was. Coin it free as you do gold. Restore to it its legal tender qualities, and just as soon as this is done, just as soon as silver can be used at the custom house, used to pay taxes and to pay notes at the bank, just as soon as it can be used to do the same work that gold does, just that soon the importance of gold will be lowered, its purchasing power will be lowered, the importance of silver will be raised, its purchasing power will be raised, until the two metals again circulate at par, just as they did for 200 years before silver was demonetized.

But, says some one, the idea of bimetalism is all right, but we cannot go it alone. We must have Europe to help us; otherwise gold will go to a premium. Examine this a moment. Everybody admits that if all the European states would act together they could go it alone. They could absorb the silver that is annually produced, and in fact a great deal more, without having gold go to a premium. Now, gentlemen, the internal trade of the United States under normal conditions is greater than that of all Europe put together, for while some of the European countries have large populations they are so extremely poor that they possess very little purchasing power; consequently if Europe could go it alone the United States could absorb more than double the amount of all the silver that would be brought to our country, and it would be like putting new blood into the body. The patient is now too weak to travel. We say restore his blood to its normal condition and then he will again be active.

It is said that a Mexican dollar, which is as heavy as ours, is worth only 50 cents in gold, and we are asked, if this so, how will we make our silver dollars circulate side by side with gold? I say we will do it by giving our silver dollars a field sufficiently large to absorb all and in which they can do the same work that gold does. The business of Mexico is so small that it does not furnish a sufficiently large field to absorb all of the silver dollars. The business of Mexico is less than that of some of our states.

Multiply the trade of Mexico by 40 and it would absorb twice the amount of silver that could be furnished any one year. When the large import duties paid at our custom houses and the limitless sums of taxes paid in our country are considered, it becomes at once apparent that this country could absorb 200 times as much silver money as Mexico could, independently of all the other nations of the earth. Mexico is on a silver basis, and M. Romero, the Mexican minister at Washington, a year ago published an article in The North American Review describing the conditions of his country, and he showed that Mexico is more prosperous now than it ever was before in its history. Her farmers are prospering, her business men are prospering, her manufactures are all busy, and new ones are being erected, and there is scarcely an idle laborer in Mexico.

But if all of the talk about gold going to a premium were true it would not meet the question. The question is, Shall republican institutions be maintained in this country? If our farmers, our mechanics, and our laborers are reduced to the condition of mere tribute paying serfs, then the doom of this republic is sealed. If they are to be reduced to the impoverished condition of the toilers of Europe then a high and intelligent order of citizenship in this country is impossible. Men who have little to eat and little to wear cannot educate their families, men who have to give up all of their strength and all of their thoughts to what is practically unrequited toil are not calculated to act the role of independent freemen.—John P. Altgeld.

Patriotism of the People.

Unless I mistake the character of the people among whom we live you will never be able to get them to support a candidate for the presidency who will continue the policy of mortgaging the American people to foreign syndicates when 70,000,000 people stand ready to protect the treasury of the United States.

Aye, more than that, upon the decision of the United States may turn the financial policy of the world. Not only in America, but all over the world, the toiling masses are looking for relief to that nation which ought to stand foremost in every great reform.

If the gold standard is a good thing, I ask you, why did not the Republican party at St. Louis declare that the gold standard should be maintained permanently, and if the gold standard is a bad thing why was it so cowardly as to say to the American people, "You should submit to a bad thing until foreign potentates and powers come to the relief of a suffering people?"—Bryan at Crestline, O.

The Workingman's Opportunity.

This year, as never before, the workingmen of the nation have opportunity to vote for a ticket which represents them and against one which represents Hanna of Spring Valley and Seamen's union fame, Carnegie of Homestead, Pullman of the model town and all the railroad corporations from Sandy Hook to the Golden Gate that ever fought a justifiable strike or blacklisted for life its leaders.—New York Journal.