

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY

MONEY IN CIRCULATION.

In the report sent out by the Bureau of Statistics upon the finance, commerce and immigration of the United States, corrected to Dec. 9, 1895, the most interesting feature is the colored diagram of the comparative amounts of money in circulation from 1860 to 1895, inclusive.

While we might severely criticize this table, in fact, almost every one, as showing the real circle of the country during the war and shortly after, as compared with that in late years, for Mr. Ford, chief of the bureau of statistics, takes no account of the small issue of ten-thirty bonds, which were practically a part of the early circulation. Nevertheless, taking his own figures, we may make some interesting deductions.

From 1862 to 1878, inclusive, gold remained stationary at the relatively small amount of about \$25,000,000. Then it rapidly advanced in quantity till, in 1885, it had reached the amount of \$470,000,000.

Fluctuating somewhat, but with a general advance, it reached in 1892 the amount of \$550,000,000. In the year of depression, 1893, it receded to the \$500,000,000 mark, to rise again last year to \$560,000,000, from which point it has this year gone back to \$550,000,000. Silver did not again reach the circulation it possessed in the first two years of the war (\$275,000,000) until 1887, when it was about \$250,000,000. Then it rose steadily in amount until 1892, reaching then the sum of \$480,000,000. When a drop to about \$460,000,000 in 1893, in the last two years silver has remained at about \$460,000,000.

At the height of the war, 1864, United States notes were about \$420,000,000 in amount, and from the close, 1865 to 1878, hovered around the \$350,000,000 mark. Since that time \$300,000,000 has been about the average amount, though in 1894 and 1895 there have been less than \$275,000,000 of United States notes in circulation.

From 1895 to 1886 the national bank notes remained pretty steadily around \$340,000,000, dropping from that figure since then until they now number about \$295,000,000.

The increase which has kept our circulation for 1892-1895 above that of other years is in the treasury notes, amounting last year, when our currency reached its maximum, to about \$115,000,000, and this year to \$115,000,000.

The total amount of currency has advanced with slight retrogressions from about \$675,000,000 at the close of the war to \$1,090,000,000 in 1894. The retrogression to a little more than \$1,000,000,000 this year is due most largely to the decrease of the circulation of gold and treasury notes.

When it is considered that the decrease in gold is naturally due to the evil straits into which the financial policy of the present (mal-) administration has brought the country, the proposal to withdraw the treasury notes is like adding insult to injury. It is the very form that most needs strengthening. The coinage of the seigniorage, to say no more, would place the silver circulation where it belongs, above that of gold. The national bank notes will undoubtedly be increased by an enlargement of the act which created them, allowing banks to issue circulation up to a limit of their deposits.

The United States and treasury notes alone remain endangered by the threatened acts of the present administration. We think, however, that there is enough old-time patriotism in the present Congress to resist the striking down of the forms of our currency which have done us such noble service in the past.

The fact that the per capita circulation is now down to a little more than \$22 tells its own story, and shows the tendency to constant contraction under present laws and financial operations of the treasury; and the fact that France, with a territory not larger than Texas and a population less than two-thirds of ours, has nearly double our circulation per capita, illustrates the absurdity of our position.—Financial Record.

The Free Coinage Measure. Following is the full text of the free coinage bill recently introduced in the Senate:

Section 1. That from and after the passage of this act the mints of the United States shall be open to the coinage of silver, and there shall be coined dollars of the weight of 412½ grains, Troy, of standard silver nine-tenths fine, as provided by the act of Jan. 18, 1837, and upon the same terms and subject to the limitations and provisions of law regulating the coinage and legal tender quality of gold and whenever the said coins herein provided for shall be received into the treasury, certificates may be issued therefor in the manner now provided by law.

Sec. 2. That the Secretary of the Treasury shall coin into standard silver dollars, as soon as practicable, according to the provisions of section 1 of this act, from the silver bullion purchased under the authority of the act of July 14, 1890, entitled, "An act directing the purchase of silver bullion and the issue of treasury notes thereon and for other purposes," that portion of said silver bullion which represents the seigniorage or profit to the government, to wit, the difference between the cost of the silver purchased under said act and its coinage value, and said silver dollars as coined shall be used in the payment of the current expenses of the Government; and for the purpose of making

said seigniorage immediately available for use as money the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and directed to issue silver certificates against it, as if it were already coined and in the treasury.

Sec. 3. That no national bank note shall be hereafter issued of a denomination of less than \$10, and all notes of such banks now outstanding of denominations less than that sum shall be, as rapidly as practicable, taken up, redeemed, and canceled, and notes of \$10 and larger denominations shall be issued in their stead under the direction of the Comptroller of the Currency.

Sec. 4. The Secretary of the Treasury shall redeem the United States notes commonly called greenbacks, and also the treasury notes issued under the provisions of the act of July 14, 1890, when presented for redemption in standard silver dollars or in gold coin, using for redemption of said notes either gold or silver coins, or both, not at the option of the holder, but exclusively at the option of the Treasury Department, and said notes, commonly called greenbacks, when so redeemed shall be reissued as provided by the act of May 31, 1878.

"Intrinsic Value."

The theory that gold has an inherent, intrinsic value, which remains forever the same immutable and everlasting, is a delusion which should have no weight with any thinking man. Why should gold alone, of all the substances on earth, be unaffected by the law of supply and demand? If a shipload of men were cast away on a desert island and found a thousand tons of yellow metal but no food, would they not gladly give a ton for one box of bread? Suppose they found the sand was all gold, but there was one little patch of earth where they could raise a garden, would not that little patch be of more value to them than all the rest of the island? The gold would be a "drug on the market," no one could use it and no one would want it.

The price of gold is no more intrinsic and no more permanent than any other value, except as the demand for it is steady. The coinage value set upon the metal by the governments of the world gives a steady demand at a fixed price. The same set of circumstances would act in the same way for silver. It is silly and futile to deny it.

Some goldites admit that re-monetization "would cause some rise in value," but they deny that the silver would have this wonderful intrinsic property and preserve its value unchanged without fluctuations, as they say gold does. At least such is the argument of some gold men. Others claim—and here is an inconsistency very characteristic of the gold sophist—that "no amount of legislation is its favor could change the value of silver one iota." The ignorance which promotes such statements as this must be wilful ignorance. It comes from men who have every chance to know better.—Farm, Field and Fireside.

The Giant Business.

Col. A. A. Powell, the Texas giant, is tired of the show business, and is trying to get a job as floor walker in a St. Louis store.

"The show business is a tough life—always on the go—very little sleep—no regularity in meals or anything else," he said. "Sometimes I get \$50 or \$75 a week, but then I have to pay my expenses, and hotel bills and railroad fare eat up all the profits. I'd rather get \$25 and have no such expenses. When I go with a circus for a whole season I get \$30 or \$35 a week and expenses, but the life is too hard for me."

Col. Powell is 34 years old and won his title in the show business. He was once a Texas cowboy, but his legs got so long that they dragged on the ground when astride a pony. At 18 he stood 7 feet 7½ inches in his stocking feet, and is no taller now. Col. Powell has stood before about all the crowned heads of Europe. He has showed with many circuses. He has no brothers and but one sister, who is of modern height only. He is a Royal Arch Mason, Odd Fellow and Knight of Pythias. The colonel's shoes are No. 12. His weight is 250 pounds. He is still single, but says that it is not his fault. "The girls all admire me, but at a distance," is the way he expresses it.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Mountains of Sulphur.

The recently discovered sulphur deposits in the Southern Cocalpa range of mountains, on the eastern side of Lower California, are said to consist of mountains of almost pure sulphur. A. Goodbe, a banker of Escondido, who returned to San Diego from a visit to the deposits, says the sulphur is 87 per cent. pure, and in its natural state is fit for ordinary commercial use, especially for the manufacture of sulphuric acid. At one place there is a bluff of practically pure sulphur 15 feet high and 150 feet wide, and at the foot of this bluff a shaft has been sunk 60 feet deep into pure sulphur. The sulphur can be shoveled into sacks and put on the market in its natural state.—New York Sun.

Ney's Best Meal.

Marshal Ney said that the best meal he ever made was on a piece of half-pork. During the Russian campaign of 1812 he was passing by a camp-fire where a soldier was roasting a pig he had shot. He offered the Marshal a piece, which the latter thankfully accepted and devoured on the spot, with an excellent appetite.

DAY WITH A SENATOR

SOMETHING ELSE TO DO THAN TO LOOK DIGNIFIED.

Senatorial Life Is a Laborious and Exhausting Round—Duties to Constituents and to the General Public—Private Secretary and His Work.

Washington Gossip. Washington correspondence.



THE United States Senate is now entering upon its busy season. All the committees have been reorganized the work to come before them is being referred to special committees, and shortly there will be a deluge of reports for the full committees to consider and pass upon.

Up to the present time the committees, with the exception of two or three of the more important ones, have done little or nothing. The Democrats realizing that their lease of power was drawing to a close did not care to start the wheels of legislation which would shortly be under the control of the Republicans. It has often and truly been asserted that the



AT WORK.

United States is governed by committees, and with the great mass of legislation to be enacted by the national legislature, it must always be so, but the only important act passed by the Senate during the present Congress, the resolution providing for the appointment of the Venezuelan commission, was distinctly legislation by Congress, understood and approved by every member of the Senate and House, rather than by a mere committee.

While the importance of a Senator's work is popularly gauged by the part he

to be within the call of the electric bells announcing that a vote is to be taken in the Senate, unless paired with some one of opposite political faith. For the Senators whose committee rooms open on the corridors encircling the Senate chamber this requirement is not attended by any great



AN AFFLICTION.

Republican sub-committee is given a bill to consider, its report is approved by a Republican committee and a solid Republican vote in the Senate is apt to pass the measure, though just at present, as the balance of power rests with the Populists, it's pretty difficult to pass any bill on a strict party vote.

Besides the work in committee that is looked for from a Senator, he is expected to do a great deal of other work. When that time comes he is engaged in committee rooms in the Maitly building and in the terrace don't enjoy the tramp to the Senate in order to answer to their names when called. But even in the case of a Senator who attends closely on the business of the Senate it is seldom necessary for him to spend more than two hours at his desk. From 12 to 2 o'clock is what is known as the "morning hour," and within that time committee reports are received and often acted on, and Senators frequently ask to have their pet measures considered. At 2 o'clock "the regular order" is demanded, and, as a rule, that means that speeches are continued on the measure before the Senate, and unless the afternoon promises something of interest Senators retire to their committee rooms or go home.

Much of a Senator's time is taken up in attendance on callers. Nearly every one who comes to Washington on a sight-seeing journey wants to meet the Senators from his State, especially if the visitor is of the same political party as the member of the upper house. There is a standing rule that Senators do not receive callers between 12 and 2 o'clock, and visitors wait until the latter hour before announcing their presence, and then are invited into the marble room. Some of the popular Senators find that the reception of visitors who merely call to pay their respects is an important part of their daily labor. Usually it doesn't take much time

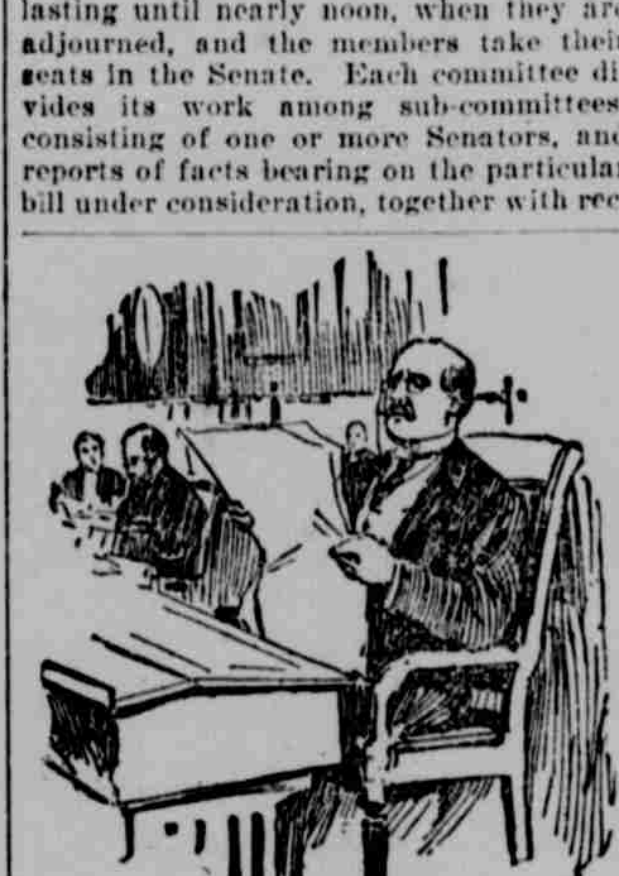
NO WONDER SHE COMPLAINS.



MRS. MARS—I DO WISH, MRS. EARTH, THAT YOU'D STOP YOUR BRATS QUARRELLING ALL THE TIME; ONE CAN'T GET A WINK OF SLEEP.

takes in debates on the floor of the Senate, his real duties are chiefly performed in connection with committees. The daily routine of a Senator involves attendance on committee meetings, usually called to meet at 10 o'clock in the morning, and lasting until nearly noon, when they are adjourned, and the members take their seats in the Senate. Each committee divides its work among sub-committees, consisting of one or more Senators, and reports of facts bearing on the particular bill under consideration, together with rec-

ommendations for its disposition, are made at meetings of the full committee. In nearly all minor matters these recommendations are approved by the committee, and in turn by the Senate. It is only in the consideration of important political measures that a general discussion is carried on, and even in such cases the sub-committee, being in accord with the dominant party, usually has its work approved with little or no amendment. A



WHAT THE PUBLIC SEES.

At Little York, eight miles west of Scottsburg, Ind., Walter Combs shot his wife through the abdomen. She lived but fifteen minutes. Combs then shot himself below the heart. He is still alive and begs for some one to kill him. His two children of the Combs are absent at school. Mrs. Combs was a highly respected woman, and there was no cause save groundless jealousy.

A thousand families of St. Johns, N. F., are destitute and have nothing with which to ward off the rigors of the coming four months.

RECORD OF THE WEEK

INDIANA INCIDENTS TERSELY TOLD.

Tramp's Successful Trick to Gain Sympathy—Made the Subject of Sermons—Young Folk Meet at Night and Marry Next Day.

Tramp with a Fertile Brain.

A tramp giving his name as George Hembeggar struck Kokomo Tuesday and worked a new trick. His plan is on approaching a city to hide nearly all his clothing, walking in without shoes, hat, coat or vest, saying the authorities of a neighboring place sent him out of there in that condition. In this way he gets a liberal donation. He then went to Tipton and told his story, which was made the theme of the sermons of the Tipton pastors the next day, and it was recommended that missionaries be sent to Kokomo to civilize the people. The scheme has been worked successfully in nearly all the cities in that part of the State.

Shavings for the Long Sleep.

The will of George H. Merritt, for many years a prominent merchant of Michigan town, was probated. It contains the following strange paragraph: "Sooner or later I will be called upon to leave this state of existence. When that time comes be sure that life is extinct, then a plain box, without paint or varnish in that a bed and pillow of clean shavings. Wrap me in a sheet, a clean piece of muslin, lay me in the box on the shavings, nail down the lid, and consign me to the grave without any form of ceremony. Leave nothing but the mound of earth with plain head and foot boards to mark the spot."

Strong Love on Short Notice.

William Baldwin and Miss Tillie Stahl, from Louisville, Ky., were married at Jeffersonville by Justice House. They saw each other for the first time the night before, being introduced by an uncle of the bride, with whom the young man was transacting some business. They decided to marry and went to the river. Missing the last boat, they started to cross in a skiff, but came near drowning in the drifting ice. They had to go back, and walked the streets until the early morning ferryboat left, which they took to the Indiana side, called on the justice and were married.

All Over the State.

Edward Lankford, of Sanborn, who killed Blann B. Williamson, constable, has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

Henry Rensberger, who set fire to the buildings on the Kendallville fair grounds last September, was sentenced to five years in the northern prison.

Five tramps are under arrest at Frankfort, charged with passing counterfeit money. Several spurious coins and burglars' tools were found in their possession.

It is estimated that burglars realized \$10,000 in money and goods by robbing the stores of George Wandell, William Finch and August Tonia, of Grandview.

The twin daughters of James Davenport, near Fayette, died almost within the same hour, of typhoid fever. They were 18 years old, and had never been separated for a day.

At Crawfordsville, S. N. Warbritten has brought suit against the Vandalia railroad for \$1,000. A train took him past his station and the conductor told him to jump off, which he did, and was injured.

Prof. Theophilus Roberts, of Perry County, claims to have discovered the long-sought rule of trisection any rectilinear angle by elementary geometry—that is, by means of a straight line and a circle. He declares that this great problem has at last been unraveled by a very simple method, which he expects soon to give to the world.

The faculty of the Terre Haute State Normal School has discovered that there has been cheating in the examinations and other misdoings on the part of students who are preparing themselves for positions as teachers in the public schools, and five students have been expelled. It is understood that more will have to leave school on the same charge.

The officials of the prison north have been advised that James Redmond will be sent up from Marion County to serve another term. Redmond has a remarkable criminal career. He is but 36 years old and has served seven terms in the northern prison for larceny and has aggregated twenty-two years of time behind the bars. Redmond was released from the northern prison nine months ago. He enjoys the record of serving the least terms in the prison of any inmate over there.

William Johnson and Amelia Smith, clergymen from Kentucky, arrived at Jeffersonville and were about to be married by Squire House when the groom, instead of taking his position to have the ceremony performed, darted out of the front door and did not return. His deserted bride-to-be was forced to return home alone. Louis A. Schoeneman, a newspaper man of Indianapolis, and Mattie Menenhal, of Terre Haute, clergymen, were married by Squire Keigwin. Four other eloping couples were married that day.

Samuel Atkins, of Pendleton, got a judgment for \$1,250 against his children. Atkins went insane three years ago and was sent to Richmond. His son-in-law had himself appointed guardian for the estate, and knowing that Atkins was looked upon as a hopeless case, converted the property into money and distributed it among the heirs. They were thunder-struck three months ago when the father, in possession of all his senses, applied to them for his money. They would not give it to him. He asked for shelter, but was refused, and as a last resort he had to bring suit to get even a small judgment. This is, however, all that could be proven to his. Atkins is well known as a business man at Terre Haute and other places.

The jail at Greensburg was left in charge of a servant girl while the jailer and sheriff went to the county convention. Three prisoners escaped.

Mrs. Gideon Hauser, a young bride at Kansas City, Mo., has just learned the whereabouts of her husband, who disappeared Dec. 9. Hauser was found by her at Albion, where he is an inmate of the hospital ward of the county jail. He attempted to rob a country residence near Avilla, and, being closely pressed by his pursuers, attempted suicide by sending a bullet through his head. His recovery is doubtful.

SLAVES INSURED IN LOTS.

Old-Time Protection from Loss in Human Property.

Yesterday the Pictayune was shown by a prominent insurance agent a life policy, which, in the light of the present methods of insuring, is a curiosity in more ways than one.

It was sent here by a Memphis agent, headed "Negro Policy," numbered 365, issued by the Phoenix Insurance Company of St. Louis, dated in that city the 10th of March, 1851, and signed by John B. Camden, President, and W. H. Pritchett, Secretary.

The premium paid was \$85.39, and the risk was for \$8,000 for three months from noon of March 4, 1851, to noon of June 4, 1851, on sixteen slaves, as follows:

Tom, Frank, Sophie, Eviline, Jordan, Daniel, Ann, Hester, Henry, Lew, Zelina, Ellen, Nelson, Mary, Charlotte, and Ann, in favor of Bolton, Dickins & Co., of Memphis, Tenn., being at the rate of \$500 on the life of each one who might die during the continuance of policy.

The restrictions in the policy read that the said slaves "shall have only the privilege of traveling in the usual conveyances on land, rivers, lakes, or inland seas, and of residing in any of the States or Territories of this Union, or the British provinces of North America, north of 30 degrees north latitude and 20 degrees west longitude from Washington city, except that from the 15th of July to the 1st day of November, in each and every year, it shall not be lawful for the insured to visit or reside south of 34 degrees north latitude, and 20 degrees west longitude from Washington city, or enter into the military or naval service whatever the militia not in actual service excepted, without such permission previously obtained and endorsed on this policy, or in case they shall die in consequence of a duel or by the hands of justice, or in the known violation of any law or this State or of the United States, or of the said provinces, or if the said slaves shall be engaged in any capacity on a steamboat, raft, or vessel of any description, without the permission of the said company previously obtained and endorsed on this policy, or shall run away or be kidnapped; then and in all such cases the said company shall not be liable for the payment of the said sum insured or any part thereof, and this policy, so far as relates to such payment, shall be entirely void. This policy shall be void if assigned without the consent of the company."

There was a loss sustained under this policy, as the following endorsement will show:

"Received of the Phoenix Insurance Company \$498.08 in full, in payment of negro girl, Charlotte, insured under this policy, No. 365, less forty-seven days' interest. BOLTON, DICKINS & CO., Memphis, May 21, 1851."—New Orleans Pictayune.

What the Horses Thought.

The unanimous opinion of three horses was once more convincing than that of many times that number of human beings, according to a story in Harper's Magazine. The question at issue, moreover, was one of architectural design, such a question as might seem at first thought to be quite foreign to any equine understanding.

Mr. B. built himself a house some years ago. The architecture was simple, as a friend said, "to a riotous degree." It was correspondingly pure, and the house was correspondingly comfortable. The effect of the lines, however, upon the untutored mind was not impressive. A friend visiting Mr. B.'s town, inquiring the way to the house, was told by the boy of whom he asked the question, to "go 'bout a—well, a mile, till you come to a house 'at looks like a barn, only it ain't a barn, an' that's his'n."

B. enjoyed the description, and reported it to his architect, who made a few remarks about public taste which would have offended public taste very much to hear.

"That's their verdict," said the architect, "but what does it amount to? It simply—" etc., etc.

Two weeks later three friends of B. rode up from town on horseback, entered the ground, and stopped before the house. One of them dismounted and rang the bell, and B. himself opened the door.

"Whoa!" cried all the three riders at once.

B. almost swooned. The horses had tried unanimously to walk in.

They recognized the simplicity of the architecture, and the architect himself has had to admit that popular taste sometimes receives endorsement from unexpected quarters.

Masks.

Masks were ordinary articles of female costume in England previous to the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The whole mask, covering the entire face, was held between the teeth by means of a round band fastened on the inside. White half masks, with chin-locks—i. e., chin-clothes or mufflers—were in fashion as late as the Commonwealth. During the reign of Queen Anne and the first half of the last century masks were still used by ladies in riding, and were worn appended to the waist by a string.

To Improve Furs.

Furs will look much improved if they are cleansed with bran heated in the oven. Rub the hot bran well into the fur with a piece of flannel, then shake the fur to remove all particles, and brush thoroughly. Fur collars that have become soiled from rubbing against the hair may be made to look like new by using hot bran on them. Apply the bran a second time if the fur is badly soiled.

The day after a man talks a great deal, he is never in good company.