

THE LATEST NEWS.

GLEANINGS FROM MANY POINTS.

Important Happenings, Both Home and Foreign, Briefly Told.

Southern Dots.

The Knoxville, Tenn., Iron Company has posted notices of an increase of 10 per cent. of the wages of all employees.

The State of Mississippi finds it necessary to issue another lot of special warrants, as her treasury is almost bare.

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The shops and round house of the Santa Fe Railroad at Arkansas City, with many engines, were burned to the ground. Loss \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Eight brick stores, five frame stores, the Episcopal Church and two residences were burned at Washington, Ga., Wednesday night. The loss is \$10,000.

At Chattanooga, Tenn., Tilden McKibey, accidentally discharged a pistol, sending a ball into the neck of Roxie Echols, the nine year old child of a neighbor, producing instant death.

The Florida Fruit Exchange met at Jacksonville, and President G. R. Fairbanks delivered his annual address, in which he estimated that the orange crop of '96 would be about one million boxes.

The Baltimore Herald Wednesday last says: "The first crop of melons of the season was received at Baltimore, consigned to E. L. Nixon, containing 1,000 melons, and were sold in an Atlanta, Penn., dealer for \$200."

The employees of the Howard Harrison Iron Company, at Escamora, Ala., the largest iron manufacturing concern in the south, have been advanced wages 10 per cent. More than 1,000 men are affected. The raise was voluntary.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Cotton States and International Exposition Wednesday, it was decided, owing to the very heavy demand for space which the management is wholly unable to fill, notwithstanding the large proportions of fourteen buildings, to build an annex to the manufacturers and liberal arts building.

Notice was received from the secretary of promotion of the Mexican Government that plans were ready for the Mexican exhibit, and asking that a very large amount of space be set aside for that purpose.

The Exposition.

The Board of Women Managers of the Cotton States and International Exposition will erect a separate building for the Colonial exhibit. The building will be of a typical colonial design, and will house the finest exhibition of colonial art ever gathered together in America.

The organized women's boards of the Woman's department from Maine to Texas are busily engaged in collecting material for this exhibit, and it will include many rare and historic articles which cannot be bought.

Crime.

At Beldenville, N. J., George Andrews was hanged Friday for the murder of his wife, Hattie, on October 23, 1893.

J. R. Holland, who embezzled some \$95,000 from the Merchants and Farmers National bank of Charlotte, N. C., of which bank he was cashier, plea guilty and was sentenced to seven years in the Albany penitentiary, with labor not too hard on account of his poor health.

At St. Louis, Mo., Mrs. Herman Becker, aged thirty-four years, killed her two children, a boy and girl, aged four and five, and then committed suicide. It is claimed that Mrs. Becker was not of sound mind. She left a letter saying that she was sick and so were the children and they must die.

President Debs of the A. R. U. has reported to United States Marshal Arnold at Chicago, for removal to jail to serve the remainder of his sentence for contempt of Court. Keather, Howard, Rogers, Elliott, Burns, Hogan and Goodwin, other A. R. U. officers and directors, under sentence with Debs, also reported to the marshal, and were placed in jail to serve their terms.

Free Silver Scintillants.

The Free Silver scintillants of Clayton county, Ind., held in contempt of court and signed a pledge to work and vote for free coinage.

At Topsham, Kans., Jerry Simpson spoke to a large audience Friday night, advocating the free coinage of silver. He exhibited his famous face and hands in the streets to show that he was a plain farmer. In an interview, he said of the new silver movement that it would be the leader. He thought that it was the better. He said: "There is an immense silver sentiment in the Republican party, and a considerable silver sentiment in the Democratic party. A split would not be a surprise. The only thing that can save the Union is a split. It is the same thing that has held the parties together for so long—the adhesive power of the hope of a job."

Fires.

At Geneva, Ind., three fires all the stores and dwellings between the Shamrock Hotel and the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad, on both sides of the street were reduced to ashes, causing a loss of \$100,000, with about \$30,000 insurance. The entire street was filled with debris. Thirty residences and store buildings were also destroyed. The Grand Rapids depot and all telegraph communications were destroyed.

Crops.

Grainshoppers appeared in clouds at Elkhart, Ind., and came down upon fields of grain, corn and clover, in such numbers that everything seemed to be alive with them. They ate everything green but left the fields bare and crops ruined.

Washington.

The president has appointed Allen Thomas, who since January, 1894, has been counsel at Law, to be United States minister at Venezuela.

Judge Harmon, the new Attorney General, arrived in Washington on the day morning and proceeded to the State Department where he took his oath of office, and to the Department of Agriculture, where he took his oath of office. He will assume his duties on Monday.

Legal.

At Springfield, Ill., the decision of the lower Court has been sustained by the Supreme Court, which holds that the whiskey trust is illegal.

FRIENDS OF SILVER.

2,500 SILVER MONEY MEN IN MEMPHIS.

A Great Gathering at the Bi-Metallic Convention. The Platform in Full.

The Memphis Bi-Metallic convention was called to order at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. W. N. Brown, of Memphis, as chairman of the central bi-metallic league of Shelby county Tenn., which sent out the call for the convention, rapped the assemblage to order.

On the platform were the following: Thomas Scott, Secretary of State of Louisiana; M. J. Cunningham, Attorney General of Louisiana; John Fitzpatrick, mayor of New Orleans; A. J. Warner, president of the American bi-metallic league; Gov. J. P. Clarke, Arkansas; W. J. Bryan, editor of the Omaha World-Herald; Senator James Berry, Arkansas; Senator Stewart, Nevada; Anson Wolcott, Indiana; Senator I. G. Harris, Tennessee; Alex. Delmer, California; Representative H. D. Money, Mississippi; Senator J. K. Jones, Arkansas; Senator Marion Butler, North Carolina; Senator J. Z. George, Mississippi; Ex-Governor E. B. Rusk, Arkansas; Gov. L. B. Chandler, Prince, New Mexico; Ex-Gov. Benjamin R. Tillam, South Carolina; Gov. John Gary Evans, South Carolina.

From start to finish the convention was one of great enthusiasm. Every pronounced free silver utterance was the signal for prolonged applause, and when the various persons well known to public life, appeared on the rostrum, each received an ovation. Conservative estimates placed the number of delegates at 2,500, and the visitors who attended from all over the movement to hear the speeches exceeded 10,000.

Col. Casey Young, of Memphis, in welcoming the assembly, spoke in part as follows: "I salute the representatives of this convention as the advance guard of that mighty force in every land to do battle for the overthrow and destruction of a power more ruthless and repulsive and more harmful to human happiness and prosperity than any despot that ever shackled liberty and oppressed mankind. I greet you, representatives, as the forerunner of countless legions now gathering from the field of labor and industry throughout the world to demand the restoration of that financial system approved by the wisdom and experience of all the centuries of civilization."

"When only a few days ago the object and aims of this convention were denounced from this stage by a distinguished public man, as heinous and revolutionary, he proclaimed the truth as self-evident, ever felt from the lips of many. The sturdy, honest yeoman of the land, the busy toiler of the fields and shops, the patient artisan who are building up the nation's wealth and greatness, are in open rebellion against a despotism, cruel and remorseless as any that ever brought sorrow to any member of the human family. The forces of the grandest revolution that ever heralded a despot from power are gathering for an outlet that will sweep every enemy into the dark sea of defeat. The invincible legions which lead it will never halt or waver until their standards are planted on the shores of every sea and their banners float in triumph over all England herself. They will never lower their flags nor sheath their swords until the conflict is ended and the glorious victory won; not until all the temples of Mammon are burned into sepulchres for the burial of greed and avarice and let us hope for the sake of suffering humanity that the angel of emancipation will ever visit this tomb."

"Can these things be brought about? In the beginning of the struggle give separate nationality to the American colors, our ancestors gave to the world a declaration of independence that rang like a bugle call through every land and awoke the slumbering spirits of liberty among people. The descendants of these heroes and patriots are about to send forth another declaration of independence to all the nations of the world in fixing their own financial system and in legislating for the good and happiness of their people."

Senator Terpe then introduced Senator Terpe as permanent chairman in the following words: "There is no more able and truer bi-metallic in the United States of America than David Terpe of Indiana." Mr. Terpe addressed the convention in substance, as follows:

"Coined money has always been and yet is in itself a thing of value and its value is of two kinds—the metallic or bullion value and the monetary value or legal value; the latter is always a matter of law—the bullion value is always one of estimation and opinion. The bullion value of silver and gold has varied elsewhere has always rested and rests today upon the convention, upon the one opinion, upon one single and simple item of power, that as there will be in years to come no departure of either of such metals, which as to the quantity shall make them comparable in value with any other material suitable for the use of mankind as money. There has always been a difference between the commercial or bullion value of the two metals and the legal or coined value. According to the tests of the enemies of bi-metallicism, that the legal value of coined money must be the same as the commercial or bullion value of the metal in it, nothing could be more dishonest. According to that test there is not and can not be an honest dollar of either silver or gold. The use of silver or gold money was added very greedily to their commercial or bullion value."

"Although every friend of humanity rejoices in the destruction of exclusive government ownership of the precious ores, and other metals, yet there was one consequence which followed the private ownership of the same much to be deplored. For a long time the equilibrium was maintained by law between the two parties, but at last the holders of gold, being the same as the holders of debt, succeeded in having the government interfere by law in this strife. They said we will not dispose any longer about relative values. Silver must be barred out. When we have killed silver for the use in coin, it will be worth less and less."

"We can buy and sell it at our own price and the ratio will be an idle fiction of the past. The syndicate of gold is of no country, age or creed. Bi-metallicism is not against gold. We are for silver and justice. Much has been written on the stability of the value of silver and gold, suggesting which it may be said both these metals are variable in value. Each changes in value from time to time, the other remains the same, but they vary in value infinitely less than any other commodity. It is said that if we restore silver to free coinage, gold will expire. This is asserted as a principle under what is called 'the Gresham law of gold'—when two or more kinds of money are circulated together, the inferior will drive out the better currency. This rule, save in very rare instances, has no application to coin. But what party in our country is seeking to debase its coin?

The loss of our gold, the departure of our gold will, as some opponents say, bring about depression. Yet gold staid with us from the beginning in usual quantity and proportion until 1873, when we ceased coining silver.

"From 1873 to 1878, while silver was not coined, gold touched a low ebb. When, in 1878, we began to coin silver again gold returned in larger sums than ever and stayed and increased with us. Since we ceased the coining of silver in 1893, during 1894 '95, gold has left us again. The faith of the advocate of a single gold standard is compounded of two contradictory and pernicious errors. That coined standard dollars should be of equal legal value is true, but that the metal therein must be of equal bullion value is a fallacy so contrary to our common sense and experience that it cannot be much aided by prophecy. Let us, as bi-metallicists, remember that we are American citizens of the great republic dealing calmly and deliberately with our own highest interests. Let us take counsel of faith and hope. Let us go forth with the manly hearts without fear, believing in all confidence that the silver and gold dollar of our minds, the money of the past, sound, tried and true, shall also be and remain the money of the future."

The nomination of E. B. Wade, of Tennessee, for secretary, followed, and at the suggestion of Senator Harris all the newspaper men present were made assistant secretaries. Resolutions were passed that each State should name a vice president and a member of the committee on resolutions. A roll call of States followed. Amid enthusiastic applause Senator Harris was then named delegate at large from the United States.

Senator Stewart, of Nevada, presided at the night session. Congressman Joseph C. Sibley, of Pennsylvania, addressed the convention in substance as follows: "I believe that there are going to be two parties at the coming election. One of them will be the monometallicists and the other the American people in their majority. The gold standard has been erected on a very shaky base. Once Aaron erected a golden image, but it was not a success and once Nebuchadnezzar set him up one said whoever refused to bow down and worship it should straightway be cast into a fiery furnace and burned up. Without meaning to make any invidious comparisons, I respectfully refer you to Grover Cleveland's letter to Governor Stone of Mississippi."

There were three men who refused to worship this image and Nebuchadnezzar ordered the furnace to be made straightway seven times hotter, and had these men cast in, but they walked upright amid the flames and came out brighter and happier than ever. There are a good many Nebuchadnezzars in this work yet, but they do not cut much of a figure. If you will just read along a little further you will find that Nebuchadnezzar found his level all right. For seven years he had to eat grass. We silver people have all the logic and all the law on our side. The Secretary of the Treasury spoke to you in this hall the other day. I do not know what to quote Mr. Carlisle when he said that the demonetization of the white money would mean misery and unhappiness for half the people of the world; then John G. Carlisle was the tribune of people, Mammon, Mr. Carlisle the plebeian and Mr. Carlisle the aristocrat, are two very different kinds of people. But I do not want to complain of Mr. Carlisle. Every word he has said about the demonetization of silver has come true."

"The President says he is afraid the silver dollar will depreciate, but the only way the dollar can depreciate is for prices to rise. This is equivalent to an admission by the President that he is afraid prices will rise. If the President would divide his anxieties more equally between the people who produce the wealth of the country and the lender who absorbs them, he would make a better chief executive. The magnificent patriotism of Mr. Rothschild, who, although an alien, was willing to come to this country and save it for the paltry consideration of \$9,000,000 which the people of the United States lost and which he gained, is worthy of notice as is also the magnificent patriotism of Mr. Cleveland in thus helping to save the country. But if these two men could save the country they could also wreck it."

"With the mints open to the unlimited coining of silver and gold there will be no more talk of a fifty-cent dollar. They say our shores would be flooded with silver if the mints were open to free coinage. Now that is not true, and if it were true we would simply give them something to have rather than for something we could neither have."

"Banker Cornwall of Buffalo made a speech in Chicago the other night to a list of bankers and the next day a reporter showed me the article and asked what I thought of it. I told him if he would have a number of copies printed and distributed to all the voters in the United States I would never make another speech on the silver question, but would rest my case on his argument. He tells the bankers they must keep their thumbs on their customers. We have felt the thumbs of the bankers heavily in the last few years."

"We must win this fight in 1896. If we do not win a then it will be too late. There will be two names open to the people after 1896. One will be repudiation and the other will be the coming of the English. If the English were to land in New York you would help to drive them out, wouldn't you? The English here in New York have been here for years. Will you drive them out, even if they have to be driven out?"

J. H. McDowell, of Tennessee, a well known State Populist leader, in an impassioned speech denouncing that the Third party men be given better representation on the committee on resolutions. Only one Populist, he declared, Marion Butler, of North Carolina, had been named by those in charge of this convention and that they wanted a list of names to these party they would be placed on the committee. This list was now in the hands of the secretary, but had not been read. When the Third party men to be ignored? The convention decided that the Populists be placed on the committee. The convention then adjourned for the day."

A large amount of speech making occurred on the second day's session, after which the following platform was adopted:

Although nothing was said in the resolutions about abolition of party lines as proposed by Sibley, Stewart and others, the speakers of the day almost without exception took care to assert their Democracy and to repudiate any affiliation with either Republicans or Populists. The resolutions follow:

"Silver and gold coin have in all ages constituted the money of the world, were the money of the fathers of the republic, the money of history and of the constitution."

"The universal experience of mankind has demonstrated that the joint use of both silver and gold coin as money constitute the most stable standard of value and to have a full amount of both metals is necessary as a medium of exchange."

"The demonetization of either of these historic metals means an appreciation in the value of money, a fall in the prices of commodities, a diminution of profits of legitimate business, a continuing increase in the burden of

debts, a withdrawal of money from the channels of trade and industry where it no longer yields a safe and sure return and its like accumulation in the banks and the great money centers of the country."

"There is no health or soundness in a financial system under which a hoarded dollar is productive of increase to its possessor while an invested dollar yields a constantly diminishing return, and under which fortunes are made by the accretions of idle capital or destroyed by a persistent fall in the price of commodities and a persistent dwindling in the margin of profits in almost every branch of useful industry. Such a system is a premium on sloth and a penalty upon industry, and such a system is that which the criminal legislation of 1873 has imposed upon this country."

"The bi-metallic standard of silver and gold has behind it the experience of ages and has been tested and proved by the enlightened and deliberate judgment of mankind. The gold standard is a departure from the established policy of the civilized world, with nothing to commend it but 22 years of depression and disaster to the people under extraordinary accumulation of wealth in the hands of a few. There are some facts bearing upon this question, recognized and admitted by all candid men, whether advocates of bi-metallicism or of a single gold standard. Among these is the fact that the very year that marked the change from bi-metallicism to the single gold standard is the very year that marked the change from a condition of rising prices, large profits, general contentment and great prosperity, to a condition of falling prices, diminishing profits, insecurity of investment, unemployed labor and a heavy depression in all branches of trade and industry. It is not a matter of dispute, even among the honest advocates of the gold standard, that general prosperity came to an end with the destruction of the bi-metallic system and that hard times, falling prices, idle workmen and widespread depression came in with the gold standard and prevails to-day wherever the gold standard has been adopted."

"Every international monetary conference that has been called, every demand in this country and in Europe for an international agreement to re-establish the bi-metallic standard, is a confession that the demonetization of the system was a blunder if not a crime; that its consequences have been disastrous and that the conditions that it has wrought are full of menace and of peril. The logic of facts establishes beyond intelligent question that the destruction of silver as primary money by a conspiracy of selfish interests is the cause of the widespread depression and suffering that began with the gold standard. There can be no restoration of prosperity, no permanent relief from prevailing conditions, until the great cause has been removed by a complete restoration of silver to its proper place as a money metal, equal with gold."

"We believe in a money of stable value; we believe, least of all, in an appreciating standard; it is only through the practical operation of bi-metallicism that a stable standard of value can be secured. A standard constituted of money constantly increasing in value is not a sound, a single, nor a stable standard, but a constantly changing standard. The effect of gold mono-metallicism is to establish one standard for the creditor and another for the debtor; and there can be no more dishonest monetary system than that which gives short measure to the borrower and long measure to the lender."

"Under the policy prevailing prior to 1873 there can be no violent change in the relative value of the two metals, for a rise in value of one metal is counteracted by a decreased demand and a fall in value by an increased demand. Under the operation of this beneficent law a stable relation was maintained between them in spite of the most extreme changes in relative productions. From the first period of our history up to 1873 the right of the debtor to choose whether he should pay his debts in silver or gold coin was always recognized. The subsequent policy has been to transfer this right to the creditor, thus tending to constantly increase the value of the dearer metal and destroy the parity between them. Believing that it is absolutely necessary to reverse this iniquitous and ruinous policy, we therefore resolve:

"That we favor the immediate restoration of silver to its former place as a full legal tender, standard money, equal with gold, and the free and unlimited coining of both silver and gold at the ratio of 16 to 1 and upon terms of exact equality."

"That while we should welcome the co-operation of other nations we believe that the United States should not wait upon the pleasure of foreign governments or the consent of foreign creditors but should themselves proceed to reverse the 'grinding process' that is destroying the prosperity of the people and should lead by their example the nations of the earth."

"That the rights of the American people, the interests of American labor and the prosperity of American industry have a higher claim to the consideration of the people's law-makers than the greed of foreign creditors, or the avaricious demands made by 'idle holders of idle capital'. The right to regulate its own monetary system in the interests of its own people is a right which no free government can barter, sell or surrender. This reserved right is a part of every bond, of every contract and of every obligation. No creditor or claimant can set up a right that can take precedence over a nation's obligations to promote the welfare of the masses of its own people. This is a debt higher and more binding than all other debts and one which it is not only dishonest but treacherable to ignore."

"Under the financial policy that now prevails we see the land filled with idle and discontented workmen and an ever-growing army of tramps, men whom lack of work and opportunity have made outcasts and beggars. At the other end we find that a few thou-

sand families own one-half the wealth of the country."

"The centralization of wealth has gone hand-in-hand with the spread of poverty. The pauper and the plutocrat are twin children of the same vicious and unholy system. The situation is full of menace to the liberties of the people and the life of the republic. The issue is enfranchisement or hopeless servitude. Whatever the power of money can do by debauchery and corruption to maintain its grasp on the law-making power will be done."

"We therefore appeal to the plain people of the land, with perfect confidence in their patriotism and intelligence, to arouse themselves to a full sense of the peril that confronts them and defend the citadel of their liberties with a vigilance that shall neither slumber nor sleep."

The convention adjourned to-night, after speeches by W. J. Bryan, A. J. Warner and Senator Wolcott.

The committee on resolutions also introduced the following resolutions, which, like the platform, was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That a committee composed of one member from each State be appointed by the delegates thereof in this convention whose duty it shall be to correspond with the representative advocates of bi-metallicism and bi-metallic societies in the different sections of the Union and devise measures to advance the cause of bi-metallicism throughout the United States. That this committee shall have power to cause a national conference of bi-metallicists whenever, in the opinion of the committee, the cause of bi-metallicism can be advanced thereby. Said committee shall have power to fill all vacancies."

NATIONAL COMMITTEEMEN.

The following national committeemen were chosen by the State delegations in accordance with the resolution passed at the afternoon session of the convention:

- Alabama—John W. Tompkins. Arkansas—Charles Coffin. California—Alexander Delmar. Colorado—A. W. Barker. Georgia—Judge N. V. Longley. Kentucky—A. J. Parsor. Louisiana—Senator Blanchard. Missouri—J. C. Cize. Nevada—C. S. Nixon. Nebraska—C. J. Smythe. North Carolina—M. B. Elliott. Ohio—F. G. Scott. Pennsylvania—A. J. Hopkins. South Carolina—J. A. Stokes. Tennessee—John R. Goodwin. Texas—F. H. Beaman. Virginia—M. H. Bradford. New Mexico—E. Bradford P. Lee. Utah—E. J. Kimball.

The committee elected John R. Goodwin of Memphis, temporary chairman, and I. H. Acken, of Nashville, temporary secretary. The committee will meet in Chicago in July, the exact time has not been fixed, and there those permanent officers and delegates.

ALL ALONG THE LINE.

Orders From Washington to Vigilantly Watch For Violators of Neutrality Laws.

Attorney General Harmon has addressed to all United States district attorneys between New York and Brownsville, Tex., the following letter of instructions:

Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.

To the United States District Attorneys: I send you a copy of a letter of the 10th inst. from the Secretary of State in regard to the rumors and reports of illegal measures being on foot in this country to aid the insurance now going on the island of Cuba. Take all steps that are necessary and proper to prevent any violation of the neutrality laws in the direction indicated, acting promptly and vigorously and in conjunction with the marshal to whom I have written upon the subject. Very respectfully, (Signed) Judson Harmon, Acting Attorney Gen.

To the United States marshals in the States along the Atlantic seaboard this letter has been sent. Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.

I have today sent to the attorneys of the United States for your district the accompanying letter from the Secretary of State in relation to alleged attempts to organize in this country expeditions to aid the insurance going on in Cuba. Consult with the United States attorney who will show you the correspondence relating to this matter and take all such steps as are necessary and proper to prevent any violation of the neutrality laws in the direction indicated, acting promptly and vigorously. Very respectfully, (Signed) Judson Harmon, Acting Attorney General.

Secretary Olney's letter to the Attorney General in line with the suggestion upon which these instructions are based is as follows: Department of State, Washington, D. C.

The Honorable the Attorney General:

Sir: It is a matter of current rumor and newspaper report that at various points in the United States attempts are being made, by enlistment of men, the equipment and arming of vessels, and by other illegal measures, to aid the insurance now in progress on the island of Cuba. While this department has not been furnished with tangible evidence confirmatory of such rumors and reports, it deems it of great importance that no possible opportunity be given to complain that the government of the United States has in any respect fallen short of its full duty to a friendly nation. It is respectfully suggested, therefore, that the United States attorneys and marshals for the several districts embraced in the coast line between New York and Brownsville, Tex., have their attention called to the subject, and be especially enjoined to see to it that the neutrality laws of the United States are faithfully observed and all violations thereof promptly and vigorously prosecuted. Respectfully yours, Richard Olney.

A MILL THAT PAYS.

It Has Made 7 Per Cent. in Three Months.

At Huntsville, Ala., the directors of the Dallas cotton mill have declared a semi-annual dividend of 3 per cent on the common stock, payable July 1st. The Dallas mills were built in 1892 and aside from dividends have a surplus of more than \$100,000. The earnings for the past six months were about 7 per cent, out of which the 3 per cent dividend is paid and the remainder has almost been used to build a \$600,000 addition. Huntsville is the largest cotton manufacturing city in Alabama.