HALF A SILVER LOAF

Better Than No Bread, So American Monetary Delegates Will Perhaps

AGREE WITH ROTHSCHILD.

Why Monometallists Find It Advisable to Make Concessions.

GERMANY AND FRANCE IN LINE,

And It Now Looks as if an Agreement Will Really Be Reached.

HENRY CLEWS LIKES THE PROSPECTS

BRUSSELS, Nov. 29.—The American delegates to the Monetary Conference have strong reasons to be satisfied with the recognition by the advocates of monometallism of the seriousness of the dangers arising from a further fall in silver. They are disposed to support Mr. de Rothschild's proposals, on the principle that half a loaf is better than no bread. The Indian delegates are also pleased with the proposals, as they will assist the conclusions of the Indian Currency Committee. Their acceptance will free India from the fear of a large fall in silver.

The American delegates believe that the continuous absorption of 30,000,000 ounces of silver by the European powers would bring about artificially a condition of the silver market which international bi-metallism could establish permanently.

The committee appointed yesterday to consider the proposals of Mr. de Rothschild includes, with others, Henry W. Cannon, of the United States; Alfred de Rothschild, of Great Britain, and M. Montefiore Levi, President of the Conference. The committee will consider the plans suggested by M. Levi and Prof. Adolph Soetbeer.

What Prof. Soetbeer's Plan Is.

Prof. Soetbeer's plan is to establish one gramme of fine gold as the international unit of value, and to stop the minting of coins containing less than 5.7065 grammes of pure gold. The circulation of coins of foreign countries of less than the new standard will be prohibited by the countries signing the agreement, and gold coin of inferior value will be withdrawn within five years. Private individuals will be allowed to coin gold upon the payment of an agreed seignorage. Gold certificates may be issued against gold held in reserve. Prof. Soetbeer's plan also includes the coinage of silver in the proportion of 20 value units of that metal to 1 of gold, but private individuals will not be allowed free coinage of silver.

It is the general expectation that M. de Rothschild's proposals will be accepted by the committee and then referred for adoption or rejection to the conference and the Governments represented, with modifications suggested by the schemes of M. Levi and Prof. Soetbeer. One of the modifications will undoubtedly be that all gold coins below the value of 20 francs be withdrawn from circulation and replaced by silver notes.

France and Germany Fall in Line.

The adhesion of the German delegates is now considered certain, as Herr Decbend, formerly President of the Reichshank, approved the main lines of Prof. Soetbeer's proposal. The French representatives will, also, support the plan of Prof. Soetbeer, which was communicated by M. Tirard, French ex-Minister of Finance. The plan was favorably received by all the French delegates before it was submitted to the conference.

With the prospect of an agreement being achieved, nobody talks of the failure of the conference, which at first was the only prediction made. So rapidly has the optimistic feeling grown, that it is reported that the conference is likely to conclude its labors next week.

A dispatch from New York says: Alfred de Rothchild's proposals are received with both approval and condemnation by New York financiers. President J. Edward Simmonds, of the Fourth National Bank, said to-day:

Looking at it as it is now published, I am led to believe that the scheme is not a good one for the United States. While all the European powers combined would buy 5,000,000 pounds of silver, or about 30,000,000 ounces, we, a single nation, would be bound to buy twice as much each year. That would be throwing too heavy a burden upon us, and the advantage would all be on the other side.

Henry Clews Is Pleased With the Plan.

On the other hand Henry Clews said:

The step proposed by Mr. de Rothschild is one in the right direction, I think. Its immediate effect upon money itself would not be so great, but the moral effect would be most important. Should the governments of Europe agree to buy 5,000,000 pounds of silver yearly for five years, it would indicate that they understand America's situation and are anxious to help her as much as is in their power. Therefore, after they had committed themselves to such a theory, they would be obliged to stick to it, and, when the necessity came, to go even further than they propose now. It would be an indorsement of only an actual relief for the present. The European powers most certainly should come to the relief of the silver market at the present time. They have taken tremendous quantities of gold for use, and we have not objected. They have sent back all the silver they could to our already overcrowded market, and we have taken no decisive steps to prevent their accumulating the yellow metal.

We have enough gold left, but if Europe continues to drain the life blood and refuse to meet us half way now, or assist us, it will be time for us to show what we can do. We have the power to get our gold back. We can force her to disgorge and send back $2 in gold for every $1 she takes out. We have our high credit and unequaled resources, and can ruin any of the great powers—England, Germany, France or Austria—if they continue this greedy game of getting and hoarding all the gold in sight.

A Tory Loses His Seat by Bribery.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—A petition against the election of Nathaniel George Clayton (Conservative) who at the last general election was returned for the Hexham division of Northumberland by a majority of 82 over Miles MacInnis, his Gladstonian opponent, has been sustained and his seat in the House of Commons has been declared vacant. The petition alleged that Mr. Clayton had been guilty of bribery and corrupt practices.

A Poser for Free Traders.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—Farly Pembroke writes to the *Times*, asking how it reconciles the theory that in international trade goods are paid before by goods, with the fact that the McKinley bill has checked the import of British goods by America, but has not checked the export of American wheat to England.

London's Unemployed Are Defiant.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—A meeting of unemployed workingmen was held to-day at Tower Hill. Among other speakers was the Socialist Backort, who announced to his hearers that, despite the prohibition of the authorities and the precaution of the police, a torchlight procession would be held at midnight to-morrow or Thursday.

Another English Cardinal.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—It is announced tonight that Dr. Vaughan, Archbishop of Westminster, will be raised to the cardinalate on the occasion of the Pope's jubilee.

Prince George and Princess May to Wed.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—*Truth* says: "It is generally understood that the betrothal of Prince George, of Wales, to Princess May, of Teck, will be officially announced after the anniversary of the death of the Duke of Clarence.

DE LESSEPS WON'T TESTIFY.

Sensational Evidence Taken in the Panama Canal Directory Investigation.

PARIS, Nov. 29.—M. Charles de Lesseps, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Panama Canal Company, and M. Marius Fontanes and Baron Cotta, members of the board, refused to-day to give testimony before the committee. The refusal of M. de Lesseps and Baron Cotta to testify before the committee is based upon the ground of their absence from Paris. M. Fontanes' refusal is based upon the ground that he is one of the defendants in the legal prosecution of the Panama Canal directors.

The committee examined a number of witnesses this afternoon. M. Laguerre testified that M. Arton had spent 300,000 francs in political objects in behalf of the Panama Canal Company. The witness admitted, however, that he had nothing to prove the truth of what he said. M. Propper, a partner in the Reinach banking house, said the late Baron Reinach had furnished M. Arton with 1,000,000 francs in 1888. The announcement was made this evening that the public prosecutor had refused to submit to the Investigating Committee the documents connected with the prosecution of the Panama Canal directors.

BRISSON MAY BE PREMIER.

President Carnot Asks Him to Form a Cabinet for France.

PARIS, Nov. 29.—To-day President Carnot summoned M. Brisson and asked him to form a ministry, retaining in the Cabinet M. Ribot and M. de Freycinet. M. Brisson promised to communicate his decision to President Carnot to-morrow after conferring with his friends.

It is rumored to-night that neither M. de Freycinet nor M. Ribot will accept office under M. Brisson, who, it is said, intends to take the Ministry of Justice in addition to assuming the duties of Prime Minister. A strong feeling in favor of M. Brisson prevailed this evening in the lobbies of the Chamber of Deputies.

FRANCE INSULTED IN AUSTRIA.

Called a Republic of Thieves and Swindlers on the Floor of the Reichsrath.

VIENNA, Nov. 29.—A sensational incident occurred in the Austrian Reichsrath yesterday. One of the members in a speech spoke of France as a Republic of thieves and swindlers.

The remark caused an uproar, and the speaker was at once called to order by the President of the House. It is expected that the French Government will call the Austrian Government to account for the insult.

A RECEPTION TO HARRITY.

Supreme Honor Paid to the Chairman of a Successful Campaign.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 29.—William F. Harrity, who has been a prominent figure in the eyes of the people of the whole country for months past, was the recipient of supreme honor at his home this evening in the form of a public reception tendered him by his fellow citizens of Philadelphia. The Academy of Music, the largest public place in the city, was engaged for the occasion, and long before the hour announced for the commencement of the ceremonies the three large galleries were packed with people anxiously awaiting the appearance of the guest of the evening. From 8 o'clock until after 11 a steady stream of people passed in double file before Mr. Harrity, and each received a hearty shake of the hand and a pleasant word from the successful chairman of the late campaign.

Much enthusiasm was manifested by those in the gallery when Mr. Harrity stepped into view and took his position on the stage, and the shouting and cheers were repeated to an even greater degree when Governor Pattison, accompanied by members of his staff, appeared in the line and passed before Mr. Harrity. The Governor passed, and while he held the hand of his Secretary of State, uttered a graceful compliment. The spectators of this little scene became very enthusiastic, and a man in the gallery called for "three cheers for the next President," a cry that was taken up and repeated all over the house.

Earlier in the evening Mr. Harrity characterized as absurd the statement that he was to participate in a conference with some leading Democrats, including Senator Gorman and Speaker Crisp. "There will be no conference to-night, to-morrow, or at any other time," said Mr. Harrity emphatically, and his manner more than his words indicated that as far as he was concerned political conferences were altogether out of the question.

LONG BRANCH STORM SWEPT.

A Big Stretch of Ocean Front Being Washed Away by the Waves.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., Nov. 29.—A severe storm accompanied by a heavy gale has prevailed all day along the coast and done considerable damage. About a dozen of the iron piling of the iron pier were broken loose and washed away. In front of S. L. Cohen's cottage on Morris avenue, there is a wash of about 50 feet wide and 70 feet in length. Cohen's cottage had to be propped up to keep it from toppling down the embankment.

On Chelsea avenue, between Troutman's drugstore and the Mansion House, there is a wash of about 30 feet. From the United States Hotel to Morris avenue, about one-eighth of a mile, the avenue has been washed away. In front of the Brighton Hotel the surf is cutting away the bluff badly, and if the storm continues through the night it is believed the surf will wash everything away to the steps of the hotel.

An Early Skating Accident.

TREMONT, PA., Nov. 29.—William Poleski, of Blackwood, aged 9 years, while sliding on the ice at Blackwood reservoir, in company with several young companions, broke through and was drowned.

29 Federal Officers Dismissed.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—The Secretary of the Interior has sent telegrams of dismissal to 29 special agents of the General Land Office. This action was made necessary because of insufficient appropriation.

A Youngstown Wife Murderer Sentenced.

YOUNGSTOWN, Nov. 29.—[*Special.*]—Vittario Lafazio, the Italian who killed his wife and severely wounded her lover in this city, was to-night sentenced to the penitentiary for four years.

7 COMETS AT A TIME

Are Now Visible, According to Prof. Jacoby, of Columbia.

A FULL LIST OF THE STRANGERS.

One of Them Discovered by the Help of Photography.

PEOPLE CRAZED AT NIAGARA FALLS

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—According to Prof. Jacoby, of Columbia College, there are now no less than seven comets visible. This, he says, is, so far as he has had any information or experience, the largest number on record. "They are all telescopic comets, however," he said to-day. "They are the Holmes comet, which has received so much attention of late; Freeman's comet, which is the latest discovered; Swift's comet, discovered last summer; Winnecke's comet, an old one which appears regularly at intervals of five to eight years; Denning's comet, another new one; Brooks' comet, and Barnard's comet, which is still another new one and so indistinct as to be barely visible with the large telescopes. It was discovered through the agency of photography by Prof. Barnard.

"Astronomers are watching Freeman's comet with great interest. At first it was very close to Holmes' comet, and traveled in the same direction. It was discovered November 24 by Prof. Barnard, at Brighton, England. Cloudy weather has so far prevented us from taking an observation of the new comet. Astronomers surmise that Freeman's comet is a fragment of Biela's comet, which disintegrated about 50 years ago.

Awaiting a Clear Night.

"We are anxiously awaiting a clear night, so that we may take an observation and determine whether its orbit is the same as that laid down for Biela's. The comet at first supposed to be Biela's, and which was discovered by Prof. Holmes, has been found to be entirely new, and has been christened after its discoverer. It is now duly catalogued, and its orbit is established. I think a great deal too much was said and written about the Holmes comet. It is now moving steadily away from us in an orbit that will take it at least seven years to travel around the earth. It will never come near us. We were unable to take observations last Sunday night, when showers of meteors were expected, because of the cloudy weather. The meteors seen last week are undoubtedly debris of the Biela comet, such as is met with each time the earth crosses the orbit of the lost comet. The new comet, discovered by Freeman, is traveling in a southerly direction, so far as we have received reports. At the last observation from which we have heard it was still in the constellation of Andromeda, and, so far as could be determined, was traversing the identical track laid down for Biela's comet."

Crazy Folks at Niagara Falls.

A special from Niagara Falls says: The comet scare has reached this end of the State. A farmer named Andrews, residing three miles up the river, known for his closeness in money matters, drew all his money from the bank and spent as much of it as he could. He distributed the rest among his sons and daughters, with the admonition to "blow it in," for the comet would wipe them all out of existence before Monday morning. To-day it is feared he will go crazy over the failure of the celestial wanderer to do his dire work. Instances of people engaging in prayer Sunday night are numerous, and crowds stayed out most of the night to witness the meteoric display which was promised, but failed to materialize owing to the cloudy condition of the heavens. One weak-minded woman, the wife of a farmer named Strubel, in Porter, became insane. A little negro boy in the tunnel district here was tormented and frightened by a gang of hoodlums until he hid himself in an old cellar and was found shivering and chattering in an idiotic way.

SOME LOFTY MOUNTAIN LAKES.

The Highest Situated Is Lake Manasarovara in the Himalayas.

Chicago Herald.]

The most loftily situated lakes are found among the Himalaya Mountains in Thibet. Their altitudes do not, however, seem to have been very accurately gauged, for different authorities give widely different figures regarding them. According to some, Lake Manasarovara, one of the sacred lakes of Thibet, is between 19,000 and 20,000 feet above the level of the sea, and if this is so it is undoubtedly the loftiest lake in the world.

Two other Thibetan lakes, those of Chatamoo and Surakoi, are stated to be 17,000 and 15,400 feet in altitude respectively. For a long time it was supposed that Lake Titicaca, in South America, was the loftiest in the world. It covers about 4,500 square miles, is 924 feet in its greatest depth and is 12,000 feet above the sea. In spite of inexactitude with regard to the measurements of the elevation of the Thibetan lakes, they are no doubt considerably higher than this or any others.

HATED HIS OWN CHILD.

An Unnatural Passion That Has Made John Herbert a Wife Murderer.

SHAMOKIN, Nov. 29.—[*Special.*]—John Herbert was to-day found in his home by Charles Kantner, groceryman, strangling his wife. He had forced her to the floor and his hands were tightly clasped about her neck. Kantner leaped at the man and kicked him on the head, knocking him senseless. Then Kantner bundled the unconscious woman into a wagon and drove her to town.

After hard work the doctors resuscitated her. She told them that when she gave birth to a daughter, one year ago, her husband showed dislike to it and frequently abused the child. Just before Kantner came in to-day Herbert was beating the baby. His wife took it from him, when he began to choke her. She is now in a critical condition. Herbert fled to the hills.

IT pays to advertise for a situation in THE DISPATCH. One cent a word is the cost.

A BREWERY IN TROUBLE.

The Yuengling Company Can't Pay Interest on $1,000,000 of Indebtedness.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—Serious financial difficulties confront the David G. Yuengling Brewing Company. Interest is unpaid for the last six months on the $1,000,000 or more first mortgage bonds which fell due October 1, nor are there any funds for taking up these bonds which mature next January.

Holders of these bonds have appointed a committee of five to investigate the affairs of the corporation.

An Old Lady Killed by a Train.

BRADDOCK, Nov. 29.—[*Special.*]—Mrs. Mary Madole, 70 years old, was instantly killed at Port Perry at 10:30 this forenoon by the New York express. Mrs. Madole was the mother of Thomas Madole, who died several weeks ago from an accidental gunshot wound received while duck shooting.

A Bethlehem Furnace Quits.

BETHLEHEM, PA., Nov. 29.—The Thomas Iron Company's last running place, a blast furnace at Hellertown, was blown out today, throwing 50 men out of employment. Dr. H. D. Heller's limestone quarry, employing 15 men, which supplied stone for the furnace, has also closed operations.

DR. SCOTT IS DEAD.

The President's Venerable Father Was a Native of Beaver County, and a Former Professor in Washington-Jefferson College—The Peaceful Close of a Busy Life.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Dr. Scott, the father-in-law of President Harrison, died at 4:10 this afternoon. The household at the Executive Mansion were by his side. The aged invalid passed away without a struggle. He had been unconscious for hours, and was unable to recognize the weeping friends at his bedside. The President and family are very much prostrated at their bereavement. The White House was closed to visitors to-day.

The Late Dr. Scott.

Rev. John Witherspoon Scott, D. D., was born in Beaver county, Pa., June 22, 1800, and was, therefore, in his 93d year. He was a son of George McElroy Scott, a native of Bucks county, who afterward went to Beaver county to take charge of a Presbyterian Church. Dr. Scott graduated from Washington-Jefferson College, and subsequently took a post-graduate course at Yale. Afterward he accepted a professorship in the college from which he graduated, which position he held for two years.

About this time he married Mary Neal, and, going West, he accepted a professorship in Miami University at Miami, O., in 1826. While there three children were born to him—Elizabeth, afterward Mrs. Lord; Carolina, afterward, Mrs. Harrison, and John Neal Scott. A number of years later Dr. Scott founded the Oxford (O.) Female College, and in 1850 became its President.

As he advanced in years, Dr. Scott gave up the college work, and, coming to Washington, he was appointed to a clerkship in the Interior Department, which position he held up to the time of the advent in Washington of President Harrison, when he resigned at the instance of the President and took up his abode at the White House. Here the venerable man led the happy, contented and tranquil existence that a man of his age so thoroughly appreciates after a life of activity.

The room he occupied was one of the best in the house, the windows overlooking the main entrance, the front lawn and Pennsylvania avenue. It was well supplied with his favorite books. Dr. Scott was always the first riser of the President's household, and was usually about long before the family were stirring. Although he always had a carriage at his disposal, he scarcely ever used it, preferring to walk when possible. He was engaged for months prior to his death on a voluminous genealogy of the Scott family, but was unable to finish it.

Private Secretary Halford has wired Mrs. Joseph Wright, of Washington, Pa., who is a niece of the late Rev. Dr. Scott, as follows: "The funeral services will be held in the East Room at 3 o'clock next Thursday afternoon. The burial will be in the Washington, Pa., cemetery Friday morning."

YOUR rooms will not long be empty if you advertise them in THE DISPATCH cent-a-word adlets.

Look Out for Bogus Money Orders.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—Postmaster Vancott to-day sent out a caution to business firms, and especially dealers in jewelry and watches, against accepting money or orders issued at Booneville, Ind., bearing the numbers 36,382 to 36,399, or numbers 36,437 to 36,450, inclusive. The orders were stolen from the Booneville postoffice, and the signature of the postmaster being forged they are worthless.

A Veteran Senator Seeks His Dues.

DUBUQUE, IA., Nov. 29.—General George W. Jones, Iowa's first United States Senator, in his 89th year, departed for Washington this evening to present to Congress claims against the Government arising from his services in the Black Hawk War and as Minister to Bogota under President Buchanan. Congress last winter pensioned him for services as drummer boy in the War of 1812.

Will Take the Inch and Wait for the Ell.

NEW BEDFORD, MASS., Nov. 29.—At a largely attended meeting of the New Bedford Spinners' Association to-night, it was voted to accept the 7 per cent advance in wages recently offered by the mill agents, and bide their time for asking for a further advance.

Trying to Combine Gas Companies.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—A syndicate has been formed, with a capital of $2,500,000, that will, in certain contingencies, attempt to consolidate all the gas companies doing business in Brooklyn. This syndicate is made up of New York and Philadelphia capitalists.

The New Asylum for Chronic Insane.

READING, Nov. 29.—The corner stone of the new Asylum for the Chronic Insane at Wernersville was laid to-day with appropriate ceremonies. Governor Pattison and Dr. Thomas G. Morton, Chairman of the Committee on Lunacy, delivered addresses.

WOOL RATES GO UP.

The Action of the Railroads Centering in the Windy City.

CHICAGO, Nov. 29.—Wool rates are to be advanced December 15. The special tariff adopted last spring will be canceled and the full classified rate restored. The special tariff is on the basis of 40 cents per 100 pounds for compressed wool and 53 cents per 100 pounds for sack wool, Chicago to New York. This will be advanced to the basis of 65 cents on both compressed and sack wool.

At a meeting of the Chicago Committee of the Central Traffic Association to-day it was resolved that, taking effect December 15, all rates on wool contrary to established class rates governed by the official classification be abrogated.

A PERMANENT CENSUS BUREAU

Advocated by General Porter, Who Thinks His Work Has Been Vindicated.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Census Superintendent Porter, in his annual report, strongly urges that the census office be made a permanent bureau of the Interior Department. Mr. Porter refers to the complaints against the accuracy of the eleventh census, especially of certain cities, and says the work of the enumerators has been vindicated by time.

The cost of the work of taking the census amounted to $8,203,693. It is stated that the infinite detail of the office makes it impossible to foretell the date of the actual completion of the whole work.