## Which Kind of Money Is the Safest Kind?

The Instructive Argument of Charles Heber Clark in Favor of Bimetallism.

reader may understand the views of eminent men representing all shades of belief concerning this question. The Tribune will, from Saturday to Saturday, present, either verbatim or in substance, the expressed opinions of our stance, the expressed opinions of our reader may understand the views of stance, the expressed opinions of our leading publicists regarding it. Inas-much as the discussion of the "silver reasonable to ask us to believe that question" in this state was formally there has been overproduction all along opened at Harrisburg, April 9, by the line for twenty years, and the fact that Heber Clark, secretary of the that millions of men have not enough Manufacturers' club, of Philadelphia, we deem it fair to let his speech on that occasion head our list. Next Satthoroughly discussed.

Mr. Clark's Address. After some preliminary remarks, Mr. Clark said: The most startling phenomenon of our times is the persistent decline of the prices of commodities. This fall has been in operation for twenty years, and it has resulted in a shrinkage of values and a consequent extermination of wealth which cannot be contemplated by judicious men without alarm. Two years ago wheat was worth about 73 cents a bushel; in Oc-tober last it was worth but 53 cents. Cotton was worth 8½ cents a pound; lately it was sold as low as 6 cents. Silver was worth 82 cents an ounce; recently it could be bought for 62 cents. In 1873 the value of one acre's product of wheat, cotton, corn, oats and hay was \$15.65; in 1893 it was worth \$8.15—a decline of nearly 48 per cent.—and the decline was continued through this year. Pennsylvania produced 18,000,000 bushels of wheat in 1877, and the product of the produc nearly \$15,750,000 in one state on one crop. If American farm products had crop. If American farm products had sold in 1893 for the prices of 1873 they would have brought \$1,500,000,000 more. Is it any wonder that our western farm-

It is not claimed that the decline has been absolutely uninterrupted. The usual influences have put prices up and down, but over and above those influences some one great influence. operating generally and all over the world, has compelled the ultimate de-cline of values. Distinction must be made between fall of prices and fall of values. If a loom is invented which will weave three yards of cloth in the and with the labor heretofore required to weave one yard, the price will go down, but the world will be richer. If conditions be provided which compel a farmer to give three bushels of wheat in payment for a debt which could have been paid with one bushel when the debt was contracted, the world will be poorer. In the former case less effort produces more wealth. In the latter, more effort produces less wealth. Business can never thrive

gances of Populism?

while prices continuously decline-The Enlargement of Debts. Moreover, the fall of prices means the

per head of the population. The mortgage debt upon real estate reached the
sum of \$6,000,000,000. Besides, there are
the railroad debts and the personal and
other debts. These debts, in fact, are
owed by the people, for the people
have to pay them. No man can say
that he is out of debt. Each bond is

The speaker here read extracts from

silver the same reason. How
was sliver demonetized? "Silently"
says President Andrews, in his history of
the United States. The American peopole never voted upon the question. The
deed was done in 1873, without the
tries. India and Mexico, silver counknowledge of many of the men who are
alleged to have voted for it in congress.

The speaker here read extracts from
kinds of money and different weights.

The only argument that can be made that he is out of debt. Each bond is an order for commodities produced by human toil. The debts are paid finally in the articles which men produce. Thus, as prices fall, more and more of such articles must be given to meet the requirements of fixed obligations. Just how this has operated to increase the burdens of the people may be per-ceived upon examination of these

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		The N	ation	al Det	st.	
-CPLDEKT	It was	nuturals.	on I In	towner o	furt	2,000,000,000 4,350,000,000
1894	Balanc about					900,000,000 Bales,
1866	cotton Paid	have been paid principal, intere- cotton		14,184,000		
			st,	94,690,000		

1894 Halance due, in cotton, at 1866 Could have been paid in 1,007,000,000 

1894 Balance due in wheat..... 2,054,900,000 Thus, after paying in cotton nearly seven times the original amount of the national debt, the American people still owe, in cotton, nearly four times the original debt; and in cotton, wheat and similar materials this debt and all other debts are, as a matter of fact, paid.

What Causes This Shrinkage? It is of the first importance to ascer tain what is the cause of this astonish ing shrinkage of values. There is but key to the riddle. It is found in the fact that gold is constantly advanc-ing. No other completely satisfactory explanation of the problem can be sup a common mistake that the value of gold never changes, and because people hold fast to this error they fall to comprehend this question. Gold, like every other commodity, is influenced by the relation of suppliarge demand. Just now an artificially large demand. demand is produced by the demonstiza-tion of silver. The fall of general prices began in 1873, when silver was formally deprived of the money function. Prices had been rising through a long period prior to 1873. As soon as silver was demonetized they started upon a down-ward course, which they have ever since followed. This must necessarily have ensued upon the rejection of sil-For thousands of years the two metals have been employed together In 1873 one was thrown aside and the whole stress of the demand for metallic noney had been diminished one-half. Forbid the use of beef and mutton will become dearer. Prohibit woolen cloth-ing and cotton will advance in price When silver was denied its place among money metals, gold began to go up This is an indisputable fact. The rise of gold might have been foreseen and

have often heard the present standard silver dollar alluded to as a "50-cent dollar" and a "light-weight dollar." You may be surprised to learn that it contains just the same quantity of silver that the American standard dollar has always contained-no more been twice changed; the silver in the silver dollar never. It is said that a gold dollar melted down will be worth its weight in coin, while the silver dol lar melted down will be worth but 50 cents. Fifty cents in what? That shape less mass of sliver will buy just as much cotton, wool, wheat, petroleum and other things as it ever would. It holds precisely the same relation to the products of human toll as it ever held.

An attempt has been made to account for the fall of prices upon the theory strate that the theory is absurd. Take wheat, for example. The belief is genthat occasion head our list. Next Saturday we shall print Hon. Charles Emory Smith's reply. We invite comment from our readers on these speeches. Let the important topic be thoroughly discussed. quirements of the population demand. Here are the figures for ten years:

WHEAT CROP OF THE WORLD. .2,170,123,000 2,359,294,600 It is urged that Russia and India are

pouring out wheat in extraordinary quantities. In truth the exports of Russian wheat, last year, were less than in 1890 and 1891. India began to export wheat only after 1873. She does so because her great annual tribute to England, like ours, is paid in commodities; and, as prices fall, a greater quantity of material is required to pay the same amount of debt. India and Russia are bushels of wheat in 1877, and the product sold for \$24,750,000. Eighteen million bushels this year would bring but a triffe more than \$9,000,000—a loss of nearly \$15,750,000 in one state on one It is also said that there is overpro-

duction of silver. The mint report for 1893 shows that the world's stock of silver is but eighty odd millions larger than the world's stock of gold. Threeers, in despair, rush into the extravaquarters of the people of the earth use silver alone. Those who use gold also use silver. Thus, the demand for silver exceeds the demand for gold, and yet the supply is little greater. The overproduction of silver is not a fact but a delusion

How Silver Was Demonetized. Why and how was silver demonstized? The purpose was to increase the debts of the people. This country, for example, is enormously in debt to England. England produces not wheat enough to feed her people, she grows no cotton for her mills, she has no silver Would it not be a good thing for her to arrange that we should pay our great debt to her in wheat, cotton and silver, at half or one-third price? Where greed is apparent it is not worth while, in such cases, to look for any other motive. Gold monometallism, like free trade, is a British invention; it is a device of the creditor for the injury of the debtor. Monometallism as a de vice for oppressing creditors is not a novelty. Holland and Germany both enlargement of all fixed obligations, demonetized gold after the California The whole world is in debt. In our gold deposits were discovered, because enlargement of all fixed obligations, demonstrated gold after the California. The whole world is in debt. In our gold deposits were discovered, because own country, in 1890, the state, national, silver was more valuable. The East city and school debts amounted in India company forced India upon a round numbers to \$2,000,000,000, or \$30 silver basis for the same reason. How

The speaker here read extracts from kinds of money and different weights the Congressional Record, showing that and measures. But nobody desires that men like the late Judge Kelley, Sena-tors Allison, Beck, Ingalls, Thurman, allist wants both gold and silver and h Hereford and Bogy and Representa-tives Holman, Cannon, Burchard and gold be necessary to trade with Europe,

others repudiated all knowledge of the fact that silver was demonstized by the act of 1873, for which they voted.

trade with Asia and Southern America We face Asia on the west as we fac What Is Honest Money? The gold dollar thus set up as the standard dollar is continually alluded to as "honest" money; the implication being that the silver dollar is dishonest money. But it is honest money that

grows more valuable day by day? Is it ten bushels of wheat and compels mayment of twenty bushels? Is it honest money that makes our national debt far in terms of wheat or cotton. than it was originally, after half the debt, in terms of dollars, has been paid? The only honest money is stable money. As Right Hon. A. J. Balfour puts it, "Money should be a fair and permanent record of obligation over long periods of time." The money which does not change in value, in its rela-tion to commodities, and that alone, is honest money. Melt down ten silver dollars, and the raw bullion will buy as much wheat or cotton or petroleum as it ever would. The relative values have not changed. Is not silver indeed really

the honest money?

Which Is the Best Money? The claim is also made for gold that it is the "best" money. Clearly, how-ever, the best money is that which will give the most varied and effective ser vice. It would be a great loss to the world to have gold no longer used as money; but the world could do without it. But finally withdraw silver, and the nmerce of mankind would suffer paralysis. Not only is silver the sole money of three-fourths of the human race, but it is imperatively required by the gold standard nations for the performance of small transactions, which make which wholesale trade would shrivel up and disappear. It is not true, as often asserted, that 95 per cent. of exchanges are made by checks through the clearing houses. In fifteen states there are no clearing houses. It may be doubted if more than 10 per cent. of the American people keep bank accounts, and of those who do every one must draw small money daily for his retail purchases. Dollars and sub-divisions of dollars are absolutely necessary to the smaller commerce, which is the source of all commerce. But, if it were true that checks are the most common instruments of exchange, why not check silver? Don't you see how the gold silver? Don't you see how the gold monometallists, in arguing against silver because it is too heavy, destroy their own argument by claiming that checks do the work? Depend upon it that an abundance of actual money is a positive essential of prosperity. Money is a tool, if there are not enough tools for the workman some Money is a tool. If there are not enough tools for the workmen some work will be left undone, some men work will be left undone, some men will be compelled to remain idle. It is asserted that creditors will be

injured by a return to bimetallism be-cause it will scale down debts. But the creditor is entitled only to the normal condition of things, and no man can claim that conditions are normal which have been produced by gold monometal-lism which the country knew nothing of until it was, by stealth, thrust upon

us twenty years ago. Is Bimetallism Practicable? Can gold and silver indeed be kept less mass of silver will buy just as much cotton, wool, wheat, petroleum and other things as it ever would. It holds precisely the same relation to the products of human toil as it ever held. It will not buy so much of one thing—ti will not buy so much of one thing—ti will not buy so much gold. Why? Because gold has gone up. Here is proof of the fact that the change has been not in silver, but in gold. We likely to be smaller than that of the

value of one thing. Under the double standard a man has the option to pay in either gold or silver. If sliver shall go up he will pay in gold. The demand being taken off of sliver and falling upon gold, silver will come down, gold will go up and there will be a continuous tendency toward an equilibrium. Observe these figures.

World's Product of Gold and Sliver.

Year. Gold. Sliver.

World's Freduct of Gold and Silver.

1792-1848 \$800,000,000 \$1,600,000,000
1849-1862 1,450,000,000 574,000,000
1862-1873 1,200,000,000 600,000,000
1873-1892 1,200,000,000 1,600,000,000 In response to the interest which has have no 50-cent silver dollar, but we lately been awakened in the financial question; and in order that the average personal response to the interest which has have no 50-cent silver dollar, but we as gold was produced. In the second period nearly three times as much question; and in order that the average personal response to the interest which has have no 50-cent silver dollar, but we as gold was produced. In the second response to the interest which has have no 50-cent silver dollar, but we as gold was produced. In the first period twice as much silver as gold was produced. In the first period twice as much silver as gold was produced. In the first period twice as much silver as gold was produced. In the second response to the interest which has have a gold dollar worth about \$1.35. with the production of the two metals so little different, they could not have been maintained at par had silver not been demonetized? The best and final answer to the assertion that the double standard will not work is that it has worked. It was in successful operation when the demonstizing act of 1873 was passed. It was introduced into our system by Alexander Hamilton with the cordial approval of Thomas Jefferson. It was overturned apparently at the instigation of our British creditors. Can Government Give Value?

It is said that "the government can-not give value." If a law should be passed forbidding any one to make a tin roof, the price of tin would fall. If a law should be passed forbidding any one to use anything but tin for roofing purposes the price of tin would go up. When the government took from silver the money function, the most important of all its functions, silver declined. Restore that function to it by law, and silver will regain the value that it lost. Will Gold Be Driven Out?

It has been declared that the result of an attempt to restore the coinage of silver will be to drive away our gold and to induce a flood of foreign silver to pour into this country. The fact is that we have more than doubled our stock of gold since we began to recoin silver. Here are the figures:

Which nation has the largest stock of

gold? Is it Germany, Great Britain of the United States, the gold monometallic nations? No: It is France, which holds fast to bimetallism. Thus France, the country which has the most silver, has also most gold. What has been the effect upon the American stock of gold of repeal of the silver purchase law, which was said to drive out gold? We made a net loss of gold in the first nine months of 1894, after repeal of the law, just seven times greater than that made in the first nine months of 1893, when the silver pur-chase law was in operation. Under a system of bimetallism gold will flow country because nobody will care to hoard it or to corner it if there shall be silver enough to do all the work that gold will do.

Are we likely to be flooded with for-Europe has no silver, but silver money which circulates at par with gold, as our silver dollar does. To send that money here would be to involve a loss paid of 3 per cent., plus the cost of transportation, for the European silver is coined upon a ratio of 15½ to 1, while ours is upon a ratio of 16 to 1. Not a dollar of European silver will ever come to this country under such conditions. But, if the peril was indeed great, why should it not be averted by the simple expedient of placing a duty upon foreign silver?

Our Trade with Europe. Complaint is made that if we shall try to restore silver, and gold shall disappear, we cannot conduct our trade with Europe. If we should indeed go gold be necessary to trade with Europe, so is silver necessary that we may

Europe on the east, and we have in this hemisphere a string of silver using na tions reaching down from the Ric Grande to Terra del Fuego. And mark this! While there is hardly an article for which we are dependent upon the gold using countries, we are dependent for multitudes of the necessaries of life upon the silver using nations still we should thrive. Shut us off from Asia and Southern America and incalculable injury would be done to the nation-The question of the best and safes

means for obtaining the restoration of bimetallism is one of great difficulty. The conditions are wholly new. There are no precedents. Never before sinc the world was made were men so fool-ish as to discard one of the precious metals. Therefore any movemen toward restoration must be in a degree attended with uncertainty. The may who positively declares that free coin age attempted by ourselves will pro duce hurtful consequences has no bet ter ground for the assertion than the man who, with equal positiveness, de clares that it will be perfectly safe, should say that there is at least a fai reasonable possibility that we could perform the feat single-handed; but, if the assistance of foreign nations b needed, then our self-respect require mand it. A promising method of doing that was indicated last summer by Hon. Thomas B. Reed. It was that w should give tariff-favors to the nation which will consent to act with us. If, however, the choice lie between going back to bimetallism by our own ef-forts or not going back at all, or if it lie between independent action on our part and waiting long for foreign help the opinion of the American people wil

probably be that we should act withou

The Duty of the Hour. are disposed to believe that th perils which once menaced the republic the perils that are past, are the great est that can menace it. But it is no est that can menace it. But it is no so. The struggle for existence is per petual with the nation as with the in-dividual. The forces which tend to break down, disintegrate and destroy are as incessant in their activity as those that build up and maintain, Each generation has its own hard problems to solve and these problems come to it in unlooked for shapes, from unexpected quarters. The generation that preceded ours had to deal with slavery That was hideous and formidable, but it was visible, tangible, openly aggres-sive and plainly antagonistic to the prniciples of our institutions. At the is subtle, invisible, insidious, even mys-terious. Men suffer and do not dis-cern why. Like a hidden disease it assails the vitals and it will destroy us unless we conquer it. Shall we conquer it ourselves or suffer still more while we wait for help that may never

This is a question which you can help to answer and I trust that you will be impelled to send to this nation some message that the great commonwealth that has always been in the very front

THE FINANCIAL QUESTION. hort and Pithy Letters on This Subject Are Welcome.

Editor of The Tribune. Sir: We understand that money is something with which we can go into the markets and buy, making immediate payment. Now, any substance of convenient form and size, and sufficlently durable in its nature, to perform money's functions; that is, to bear the friction of exchange, and having a recognized value, whether it has an intrinsic value or not, I submit would answer all purposes for which money is required. Now then, as to what will give to any money a recognized value. Is it not confidence? If it is confidence, it is only necessary that a contract of recognition be entered into and kept in good faith by those mutually interested. The way this contract is made is by chosen representatives decreeing what shall be a recognized medium of exchange. The old cry against flat money is, and was, absurd and foolish, the gold dollar of Uncle Sam and the unit of value of every other country are flat money just as much as a greenback to those who have not agreed to receive the coin or note at its face value. The question next arises, What is the

best system of currency? Suppose that we take gold as a basis of redemption, and concede that no other substance can be fixed upon as a standard of commercial value and see where this will lead us. It is not claimed that the American product of gold, that is, what is produced in the United States, is sufficient, even though it were all coined into money, to stand ready at call to redeem what currency is required for a free and full interchange of commodities. Then what must we do? Either manufacture and sell our goods in foreign markets at a price lower than they themselves can sell, even with their cheap labor, or else pursue the course the present administration has pursued, borrow gold to pay the interest on the debt we already owe and thereby increase the interest bearing debt to be paid in gold. This policy will reduce us either to a race of slaves, working at the command and prices of foreign capitalists, or to the other alternative, bankruptcy.

Recognizing still the theory that a stable substance should be held as a redeeming fund, let us, with fairness, say that there is not gold enough for the requirements of this great nation of ours. Then what is the next best thing for us to consider? The human mind would naturally turn to the past and learn its lessons. Suppose that gold is the best and most precious of metals, if we have not gold enough, shall we enter voluntarily into eternal bondage, and make of our nation and sople, not the leaders in civilization and freedom we have been considered, but the bond-servants of aristocratic money centers? We claim to have best market in the world. claim to have paid labor of the world. Cannot the

one sustain the other? Suppose that congress shall say that silver and gold coined on a ratio of 16 to 1, or 20 to 1, I care not which, and stamped by the government of this land, shall constitute the basis of our currency; that coin bearing certificates may be redeemed in either; that for all purposes of exchange and interchange certifi-cates redeemable in gold or silver, shall be a legal tender. Suppose further that foreign countries will not take our silver in exchange for the products of

The only argument that can be made against the free coinage of the silver of the United States is that, to the man who sits in idleness, watching his in animate money accumulate and swell by the growing demand for more cur rency in a country whose population is rapidly increasing, and whose money is being cornered with just as much rapidity, it means the placing of one's money into active work and not our at usury. In this way we can pay our indebtedness without repudiation. this way wages will advance and so will the price of every useful article. Gold will not be required where her twin sister can do the work. Try I and let the masses be benefited although a few may imagine they are temporarily injured. L. P. Wedeman.

Forest City, April 22.

CURRENCY AND PROSPERITY.

Editor of The Tribune. Sir: "The free coinage of silver: what does it mean? Does it mean what the words imply, that if any per son takes silver bullion to the mint he can have it converted into coin free of cost? Or does it mean that if a mar takes \$1,000 worth of silver to the mint he can have it coined into \$2,000, or thereabouts, as the market value of the metal will allow as compared with the intrinsic value of the coin? Or does it mean that if a man takes \$1,000 worth of silver to the mint and gets \$1,000 in coin, the mint is to retain the balance to pay the cost of minting? No gov ernment would be foolish enough convert fifty cents' worth of silver into a silver dollar for the benefit of the man who owned the silver. Therefore, the talk of free coinage of silve in the literal sense of the word, is sim ply absurd; unless a fixed and perman ent value can be placed on silver and a dollar's worth of the metal made into coin of the value of one dollar.

er than the owners of silver or silver mines, can advocate the free coinage of silver, or any further coinage at all for that matter, in view of the fact that there are millions upon millions of silver coin stored in the treasuries and vaults, which cannot be put into circulation. There are 50,000,000 silver dollars in the Philadelphia sub-treas ury alone. The government is already overburdened with silver and had to build more vaults to store it in. Congress was "hoodooed" once by the silver men into passing a law to purchase more silver every month than the government had any use for. That law is wiped out and not likely to be repeated. How the coinage of more silver is able to see. Nor have I seen any state-ment how the benefits claimed are to has all the bimetallism it wants jus now. Silver circulates as freely as any other money, and there is as much of it in circulation as can be circulated unless wage-earners have more work and get more pay. The only way to circulate money is to loan it out or pay it out in exchange for something else. He was born April 12, 1777, and consequently was in his 30th year. but had not "attained the age of 30 years." No question
on this ground was raised when he was
sworn in, and it is probable that he did
not give the matter much thought. In
strictness he was not of legal age. This
amail difficulty was soon cured, however,
and he lived to serve his country long
and honorably.

work of speculators 'fix the prices upon all products of the earth.

As for himetallism, it is a name for an impossibility, so far as the relative intrinsic value is concerned. For the reason, in the first place, that a certain quantity of gold is said to be worth a dollar, the government puts a stamp on it and makes it money. Then, in the second place, the government taker fifty cents' worth of silver, gauged by the gold dollar, and stamps it one do lar also. Now that fifty-cent silver dollar circulates as freely as the gold dollar or the paper dollar, with the government stamp on it, simply because they all have the government stamp, and the people trust the government These three kinds of money are the medium of exchange, in which everybody has confidence. But the slive dollar is not the equal of the gold dollar intrinsically, and is purely a flat money to the extent of the difference in value If it should happen that an excessive amount of silver should be coined, some combination of speculative or dishon est men might raise a hue and cry, and a scare against silver money, and cause it to depreciate the same as was done with the trade dollar, once in circulation; the people were fleeced out of fifteen cents on the dollar. Bimetallism is an impossibility while silver is so plentiful, and its production on the increase. There can be but one standard for money, and that is either gold or silver. For bimetallism you measure the silver by the gold, consequently the gold is the real standard after all, and silver is subsidiary to the gold, and is simply an illusion.

As for the increase in the value of money or the decrease in the value of products, those conditions affect only the debtor class, and every one contracting a debt must take his chances. Sometimes the price of products advances, as is just now the case with beef and petroleum and wheat. Nobody wants to have his greenbacks redeemed in gold but monied men who find profit in it, or money sharks who want to fleece the government. Everybody is satisfied with the money we have in circulation, except that there are too many silver dollars to be handled by bankers and trades people I cannot see how the currency can be improved. Only I would prefer all the paper money alike, and only greenbacks. The currency will have to be let alone for the present.

But the country is "going to the dogs," all the same, getting into debt to Europe all the time, and the balance of trade largely against us. Times will not be restored to their best condition so long as the people are so unpatriotic as to prefer foreign-made goods to home products to the extent of importing more than we export, and running in debt to the old world, which debts must be paid in gold or bonds As a country, we are the most prosperous when the balance of trade is largely in our favor, and we are growing riche instead of poorer. Before the civil war, when the country was politically in the hands of the Democratic party, the balance of trade was against us nearly every year, and the country never knew prosperity that would in any way compare with the prosperity it has experienced since the war, and until it was known that Democracy was again coming into power. Even the blight of 1873 was not nearly as bad as some periods before the war.

Respectfully, H. B. Van Benthuysen. Scranton, Pa., April 23.

DRAMATIC NOTES.

Lena Merville has joined the "Brownies." ner in Boston Otis Skinner closed his season at Corn-

ing last Saturday. Daniel Frohman has gone to Europe to ook for new plays. Richard Mansfield is writing a biogra-

Ada Rehan and Stuart Robson are in Washington this week. This is the last week of the Kendal's en-

Tragedian Ward will aid Falstaff in Henry IV to his reportoire.

E. A. Southern will play Clyde Fitch's 'Major Andre" next season Beerbohm Tree has purchased the dra-matic rights of "Trilby" for England. Mme. Janauschek and Kate Claxton are

playing "The Two Orphans" in Buffalo. Ada Rehan will not appear in New York until next November. She will act in Boston next week. George Alexander and his St. James

theater company of London will make a tour of this country next year. The new theater in Brooklyn, to called the Montauk, will be located in

Pulton street near Hanover Place. Miss Adelaide Prince, the well-known actress, has been married to Creston Marke, actor, a nephew of Edwin Booth, Shakespeare's birthday was observed this week by a series of performances the memorial theater at Stratford-on-

Minnie Landers, who replaced Eleanor Mayo in Willard Spencer's "Princess Bonnie." has become a great favorite in Phila

Richard Mansfield's new Garrick theate (formerly Harrigan's) was opened this week with Bernard Shaw's play, "Arms and the Man."

It is finally settled that the Actor's Fund benefit, which will witness the pro-duction of Estelle Clayton's comic opera "The Viking," shall occur Thursday after-

Alexander Salvini is to produce "The Outlaw" on May 31 at the Hollis street theater in Boston. This is the play in which the elder Salvini made one of his est successes. Eleanora Duse signed a contract in

Paris on Monday last with Harry Miner of New York for a tour of the United States which will begin in November next at the Fifth avenue theater, New York city. Signora Duse will be supported by her own company. William H. Thompson, the character ac

tor, has in his possession thirty-two differ-ent wigs ranging from the curly blonde hirsute covering of the dude to the thin white locks that cover the head of the nonagenerian. "I have a collection of wigs which is good," said he the other day, "but my collection of voice is equally good. A voice goes with each wig." The benefit for C. W. Couldock will be

given at the Fifth avenue theater on Fri-day, May 31. "The Rivals" will be played by a cast including Joseph Jefferson, as Bob Acres, W. S. Crane as Sir Anthony Absolute, Nat C. Goodwin as Sir Lucius O'Trigger, Thomas W. Keene as Faulkner, De Wolf Hopper as David, Mrs. John Drew as Mrs. Malaprop, Miss Viola Allen as Lydia Languish and Miss Nellie Mc-

Clay Not of Legal Age. The constitution of the United States shall not have attained the age of 30 years." Henry Clay was appointed to fill a vacancy and took his seat Dec. 29, 1806. He was born April 12, 1777, and consequentGathered in the World of Melody.

> Interesting Notes About Famous Musicians at Home and Abroad.

A PROMISING COMPOSER He was born half a century after Mozart, On the very same day of the year; And this singular fact was a source of great joy To the Press, which exclaimed: "A good omen-the boy Will most certainly make a career!"

At the great age of four he could play al the tunes

Which he heard on the organ, by ear.

And at ten he composed such a beautiful

That they said: "We must praise, for surely ere long He will make an unheard-of career!" At twenty, a symphony which he com-

With delight drove musicians quite wild; So the Press took him up: "The work shows signs of haste. But it promises well, and we've not the bad taste To discourage this talented child."

At thirty an opera came from his pen, And to hear it all Londoners ran; Again were the critics most kind: "Wo To be able to state the work's really not

He's a promising, rising young man!"

At forty, at fifty, at sixty, more works Were produced with enormous success, And they gained for him everywhere money and fame; 'We are so pleased to see that he's mak-

ing a name For himself by degrees," said the Press. At seventy one more great work he com-

posed, And it took the whole world by surprise; The critics were now quite enraptured: "In truth He will do something yet, will this prom-

ising youth,
If thus fast he continues to rise." At eighty he died; then with sorrow they Of the loss which all Europe befell.

And expressed themselves thus: "It is sad we must say That a talent so great should be taken At a time when it promised so well."

-Warner's Magazine.

W. Von Sachs writes to the New York of 18, has developed as a pianist, under the instruction of the late Anton of the keyboard, his only rival being d' Albert and Paderewski. He continues: 'Josef Hoffmann's first appearance in Vienna was effected at one of the Philharmonic concerts under Hans Richter, who had heard him last summer in England, and forthwith engaged him to appear here this winter. That he could not be a pianist of a mean order was evident from the invitation itself, which is a signal honor that no artist, however great, is likely to undervalue: but who he was and what he had done were at the time of his debut unknown to most Viennese. However, it needed but a few bars of the Rubinstein D minor concerto to convince his hearers that a player of the first rank was before them. His first public appearance in the most critical of musical cities was a complete triumph for the young artist, which his subsequent two recitals only confirmed. It is not

often that such scenes of enthusiasm hotels. Ed Harrigan and his company are play- are witnessed as at the conclusions of old Bozendorfer Saal, where every one who is distinguished in the tone world and has visited Vienna has been heard at one time or another. The audience positively rose as a body, cheering loudly, and refusing to leave the hall till a servant came in to close the plane and all the lights were turned out. Since Rubinstein's last appearance and the farewell of Alice Barbi the like

> had not been witnessed." THE TRIANGLE: Ye countless stars, both great and small, The poetic sky who spangle, Not one of you, that I recall, Has hymned the sweet triangle!

Ye've thrid love's mazy tangle et unresponsive to your touc Have left the sweet triangle.

A lay to newly fangleplay the instrument you see In praise of my triangle.

Give forth what Hilda Wangel Would call such "frightfully thrilling

As those of my triangle.

No self-respecting band may try To play—'twould simply mangle— Good music, unassisted by The silver-tongued triangle.

Round Phyllis always dangle: She'd have him, if he urged his suit With passionate triangle.

Full brave may bray the loud trombone Full sweet the cymbals jangle, The bagpipes till they burst may drone, So I have my triangle.

The stately cold piano may All depth of feeling strangle; To rouse deep feeling I essay, Nor fail, on my triangle!

O'er rival claims of violin And 'cello some may wrangle— For pure expression nothing's in The hunt with my triangle

The diamond bracelet must exceed In worth the silver bangle— No instrument, string, wind, or reed

Compares with my triangle! "People sometimes complain," write

Mme. Melba in Lippincott's, "that the

opera is expensive. Why should it not be? Paintings by Daubigny, Rousseau, Vibert, Cazin, Jean Beraud, Detti, etc., are expensive, because they are ex-cellent, and the possessors of the technique required to produce them are few in number and know their own value. There are very few composer who are able to produce really great operas, and they must be well Then how many vocal artists are there in the known world who are competent to interpret music? Do we appreciate the enormous expenditure of time and effort, the long, laborious, uninterrupted training which the singers must go through with, before audiences will listen to them? This species of training. too,demands the sternest and most con cientious personal sacrifices. There must be often a Spartan regimen, great forfeitures of social pleasures, daily matter at what cost of weariness and often irksome labor. All this must be accomplished while the golden hours of youth are fleeting, and without the sure promise of ultimate success as an in-centive. The attainment of renown as

a singer is like the high prize in a lottery, and after all the aspirant may draw a blank. Even when fame is achieved, and in the great cities of both hemispheres the brow of the singer is crowned with laurels, and opulent managers outbid each other in to secure engagements, some unforeseen accident may at once destroy the entire fabric of availability so carefully constructed, of genius, musical skill and capacity, dramatic fervor, and conscientious devotion to art. Then the voice is silenced forever, and the singer lives only in memory, while the income stops. Even at the best the career of the vocalist is brief. The great lawyer or physician often touches his zenith at threescore, or perhaps threescore and ten; a Gladstone retires only from choice at 65; a Bismarck is never greater than in old age; but what of the singer when inexorable time attacks the vocal organs?

It is expected that the Royal Welsh Ladies' choir, under the directorship of the celebrated Madame Clara Novello Davies, will pay a visit to Scranton during the month of July. Their for-mer visit to this city is well within the recollection of those who heard the delightful music in the Frothingham. Since they won the first prize at the World's fair, Chicago, their successes have been constant and steady. The choir comprises thirty-one ladies, who have been selected for the purity of their voices and ability to read and render music, and it is no exaggeration to state that they represent the talent of the semi-professional musical ability of

Recently they have made a triumphal tour through England and the musical critics of the Times, the World, the Lady, and other newspapers, have after a critical analysis of their performances passed glowing tributes upon the fair singers. The following excerpt from the London Times will be read with interest: "Madame Clara Novello Davies, leader of the Welsh Ladles choir,' has received from the queen a handsome gold brooch in commemoration of the recent concert given by the choir before her majesty, at Osborne Sun that Josef Hoffmann, now a man palace. The brooch is in the form of a monogram 'V. R. I.' in gold, laid over with ruby enamel, and studded with Rubinstein and of Moszkowski, into sixteen diamonds, the whole being surone of the three greatest living masters | mounted by a gold crown, small pieces of enamel representing the different colored velvets.

One of the features of the visit of Governor Hastings to the city this week was the rendition for the first time in public by Bauer's or chestra of the "Governor Hastings March," a composition of Thomas Kershaw, musical director at Davis' theater. The Hastings March is a tuneful, spirited quickstep of the character of "Liberty Bell," and contains elements that should make it equally popular. The march is published for plane by the Lyric Music company of Scarnton, represented by George N. Rockwell and Fred C. Hand.

Professor B. E. Pitts, who has been the leader of the Mozart orchestra in Carbondale during the winter months, will leave that city on May 1 for Sylvan Beach, N. Y., where he will conduct an orchestra in one of the leading summer

MUSICAL NOTES: Dr. Antonin Dvorak has gone to Europe. Calve won a great success in St. Peters-

Josef Wieniawski is giving concerts in Albert Niemaun, the veteran tenor, is

Paderewski gave a concert in Paris last Thursday evening. Adele Aus der Ohe has given up her

New York recitals owing to illness. Camille d'Arville will appear in a new opera, "Marion," in New York, next A performance of "Tannhauser" in pan-

tomime is the latest craze in Geneva, Switzerland. Miss Eleanor Mayo was married last

Wednesday to James Everson, Jr. They will go abroad for the summer. Myron W. Whitney, jr., a son of the famous basso, who is still a student in Harvard, made his debut as a singer in

Edward Strauss, the composer's younge

brother, is to revisit England this sumner with his celebrated band, and to play ous members of the Strauss family. A Brooklyn newspaper writer calls at-

tention to the numerous Emmas in the field of music. He mentions Emma Abbott, Emma Calve, Emma Thursby, Emma Eames, Emma Albani, Emma Howe, Emma Heckle, Emma Juch, Emma Winant, Emma Nevada and Emma Materna,

Literal. From the Chicago Inter-Ocean. "How does Fanny stand in her classes? Well?" Flossie. Oh, no; just awful pigeon-toed.

MUCH IN LITTLE.

California shepherds use bicycles When flying at its highest speed the house fly makes 600 strokes of its wings per second, and the dragon fly 1,500. The sound of a bell can be heard through the water at a distance of 45,200 feet. Through the air it can be heard at a dis-

It is said that dew will not form on some colors. While a yellow board will be cov-ered with dew, a red or black one beside

The Japanese begin building their houses, at the top. The roof is first built and elevated on a skeleton frame. Then it af-fords shelter for workman from storms. The brain is not affected by the movements of the body, even though these are sometimes very violent, because it rests on a basis of soft cushions between bones

of the spine. It is a well-known fact that the milk-maids in Switzerland who can sing get better pay than those who cannot sing. The reason is that a tuneful maid who

sings at her work coaxes one-fourth more milk from a cow than a songless milker can extract. A Paris doctor who has been studying A Paris doctor woo has been studying the effect of liquors on the voice states that none of the great singers have ever been teatotalers. Whe taken in modera-tion, he believes, is useful for the voice; but beer thickens it and makes it gut-

tural. Malibran used to drink Maderia The starfish kills the oyster by envelop ing it closely in its arms, then placing his mouth to the crevice of the shell, he in-

jects a very acrid and venemous juice within. The poor oyster, disgusted by the poison, opens his shell to admit water and so rid himself of it, and thus falls a prey to the destroyer. The sea galley in tropical seas is ver dangerous to bathers. One of these crea tures fastened to the body causes a pair so intense that swimmers have been

known to faint ere they could read shore. The pain has been compar-that of a very acute attack of infla-tory rheumatism.