HOW FREE SILVER WORKS IN MEXICO

Testimony of an American Who Has Lived There and Knows.

HIGH PRICES IN LAND OF SILVER

Free Coinage Below the Rio Grande Makes the Cost of Living a Burden. Some Sample Quotations.

City of Mexico, Aug. 11.—To the editor of the Chicago Times-Herald: After reading various papers published in the eastern, middle and western parts of the United States I am lost in amazement at the ignorance and false state ments made in each and all of them in regard to Mexico and its so-called prosperity under the free silver standard If some of these writers and free silver politicians who indulge in such flights of eloquence and oratory could live in this state of prosperity (?) and attempt to provide for the necessities and a very few comforts of life with these silver dollars they would soon long for a dollar that would buy a dollars' worth of

In the first place, we will say, for the sake of comparison, that the salary reman with a wife must live, dress, pay a possible physician's or dentist's bill, and provide for some other absolutely necessary expenses. We will not even consider pleasures. His house rent is perhaps the most important item, and for this \$20 or \$25 is cheap, and that for a house that is not a house at all, but only a succession of three or four connecting rooms, built around an open court or "patio," which is common lawn, playground and back yard for six of eight other families living under the

same roof. Then he must furnish his house somewhat-at least, he thinks so-when he first arrives in this land with a silver lining. The average Mexican knows better. He does not attempt to furnish He has a bed, to be sure, a table and two chairs, and sometimes a wardrobe. An ordinary three-quarters iron bed, painted blue, with here and there a high light of gold paint, with a wover wire mattress permanently clamped be tween the head and foot boards, has cost him \$18, and on this he has a mattress and pillows stuffed with wool or cotton which have cost him \$18 more He sleeps between blankets for which he has paid \$6, or perhaps on one sheet that has cost him at the rate of 62 cents a "vara," with the blanket over him.

SHORT COMFORTS.

The American does not consider this comfort, but still he buys the same. with the addition of extra sheets, and then feels that he has spent more than he can afford. The chairs, table and wardrobe he will buy of Mexican manufacture, the four pieces for pos sibly \$35, or, if second hand, a little cheaper, but the cabinet-making will be most indifferent, and the material pine wood that has only been stained. He will also buy a skeleton washstand, that consists of a ring above for the bowl to sink in, a bracket for soap dish and a diminutive platform below for the pitcher, and a toilet set of white enameled ironware, the whole-The

very cheapest-ocsting \$71. All of the better grade furniture is imported and prices sky-high. In every one of your Sunday editions is advertised very pretty three-piece oak bedroom suits at from \$15 to \$30. That same furniture zells here for \$150 to , and, of course, is considered ver choice.

A carpet is out of the question. Amer ican ingrain sells for \$1.25 to \$2, Brussels for \$2.50 to \$3, and this is not a yard, but a "vara," which is but thirtythree inches. Mexico, too manufactures carpets of an inferior grade, the cheapest made being a kind of ingrain for \$1 a "vara."

Can the average wage earner afford this?

And now, the other side of the ques tion. Does this depreciation of silver protect the manufacturer, who can make carpet that sells for \$1 a "vara". To begin with, he imports all his looms and machinery in order to start business, paying nearly two of his silver dollars for every dollar on the cost mark of the article purchased, and in addition to this, a heavy freight bill and custom duties, making a tremendous first cost Wool for his looms is raised here, but instead of being cheap, because Mexico has plenty of cheap money, the price is regulated by the price the "ranchero" can get for it in gold-using countries, and so the manufacturer pays two for one, also for his raw material.

FOOD PRICES HIGH.

But carpets, and even wardrobes, are luxuries we can do without with smiling countenances, provided we have enough to eat and something to wear. So we put aside ambitice at the same time we put on our has and go out to supply our larder. We choose a small "tlenda" on a side street, and with a Mexican friend as interpreter, ask for coffee-but the price staggers us-60 cents a pound! Why the man is crazy, he is imposing on us-this is the land of coffee and one of the chief products of the country! We remonstrate, ask him "Why it is?" and he blandly tells us the foreign market fixes the price. So we take one pound, with the reflection that weak coffee is certainly less harmful for the nerves, and it will without doubt last twice as long. We next price but-ter. "The best?" "Yes, certainly." Seventy-five cents, and the price never varies. We decide the best is far too expensive for our silver dollars, and inquire for something good, but without the superlative degree, in "centavos," and are finally provided with a pound of unsalted butter for 56 cents, the cheapest article in the market, with the price ranging between 50 and 60 cents

the year round. Ham and bacon, we learn, are for the rich only, selling for 36 cents a pound, and lard at 24 cents a pound. We ac cordingly drop them from our bill of fare. Bread costs 12 cents a loaf, and ordinary French roll 2 cents apiece. The loaf is small and proves by future experience to be insufficient for two peothree times a day, so that to keep the bread limit at 12 cents we develop a fondness for rolls. Milk is more reasonable and sells for 10 cents a quart, or 16 cents a quart. The 10-cent quality is is milk and water-the distinction is no made, of course, but there is milk and milk here, just as there is in all other

We are discouraged, but are reminded as we leave the store that night is coming on, and Mexico, with all its prosperity, has not reached the point of gas or electric light, except for the main business portions of the city—and our lamp must be filled. We go back, and after much discussion, purchase a quart glass bottle for 6 cents and have it filled with "petrollo" for 12 cents, and we later discover this to be quite the usual way

of buying coal oil. On passing the meatshops we stop to inquire prices, and find rib beef and mutton worth 18 cents a pound; pork, 20 cents, and scrap meat for soup, 10 to 12 cents. We will pertainly cultivate a soup diet.

TWO PRICES FOR CLOTHING.

With the conviction forced upon us that in time we would surely be compelled to buy clothes, we went shopping one day, to find how much a silver dollar would buy in that line. Of course, all the imported materials, and by far the greater part of these stocks are imported, were a little more than double the foreign price, with the duty and transportation added; but even the lomestic manufactured goods were out of all proportion to what the man earns who must buy them. The least expensive cotton goods, that we could or would wear, cost 27 cents a "vara," and from that on up to 40 cents. Muslin, for underwear, 18 cents a "vara" if of narrow width, to 35 cents when wider, and of better quality, such as the ordinary Lonsdale muslin with us, which would bring the simplest garments up to a very respectable figure for a \$75 salary. One could not help but wonder how the very poor are even partly clad in the rags we find them in On going to the "plaza," or market, where all the "peans" do their buying, and where the cheapest of all things are sold, the bottom price on cotton goods was 9 cents a "vara" for an unbleached muslin, so poor as o be scarceceived here for a given class of work is ly worth making up. The next grades the same as in the United States, and were 12 and 15 cents, which would be we will suppose it \$75. Out of this a much more economical in the end. The cheanest calicoes were 12 cents a "vara" and of the coarsest quality imaginable.

And again we wondered, how does the day laborer, on 37 cents a day, keep himself, wife and children covered with either muslin or calico at these prices? Of the vast army of household servants the women receive \$4 a month and the men about \$8. The street car driver makes 75 cents a day, the conductor \$1, and the average Mexican clerk, in store or office, \$35 to \$55 a month. A man on \$100 salary has a onanza that he clings to for a lifetime.

If salaries and prices were on anything like equal ratio, free coined silver dollars would doubtless be as acceptable as any other kind of exchange, but after twelve months' experience with them, on the most economical basis, one finds there is very little left A. C. for a rainy day.

THIEF SAYS HE WAS HYPNOTIZED. Strange Defense Made by a Robber in

Court at Kenosha. Wis.

Kenosha, Wis., Aug. 11-Josheph Schinoaha, who was before Justice J. C. Slater to-day on a charge of stealing the horse of Nick Thomas last Monday, told the justice a strange story about how he came to commit the crime. It reads like a chapter in hypnotism. Last Monday, he says, a young man, a total stranger, ordered him to go to a stable belonging to Nicholas Thomas, four miles from Kenoshe, and get a horse and buggy. Although conscious that he was committing a crime, he say he could not resist the suggestion of the stranger. and accordingly took from the stable the best horse, harness and carriage he could find. He and the stranger then took the road to Fond du Lac, the stranger committing thefts along the way. In the town of Ashford, Fond du Lac county. Schingaba's companion entered the house of Orson Hull and stole a watch and several other articles and then decamped.

Schinoaha describes his partner as a man not much over 20 years of age, about 5 feet 8 inches tall, with sandy hair and mustache. Schinoaha waived preliminary examination and mnd over the circuit bonds were fixed at \$700.

HAS FOURTEEN WIVES LIVING.

New York Man Taken to the Tombs

to Cogitate on His Condition. New York, Aug., 11-George Meyers, alias Miller, alias Muffler, alias Auer, lias Schwartz, was released from the penitentiary this morning and taken to the Tombs, where he will await trial on numerous charges of bigamy, which have been brought against him. Here is a list of his living and undivorced wives, all of this city:

Minnie Papke, Lizzie Auer. Anna Ficken. Kate Huber, Mrs. Kamittes. Frieda Keiffer

Pauline Pollach, Marie Schiller. Mrs. Schipperle, Wilhelmina Schaef-Lena Schmidt.

Josephine Krauss, Meyer, who is about 50 years of age, made a practice of marrying women who had a little money. After robbing them he would look for new victims,

TRAMPS MAY HAVE KILLED HER.

Wife of an Illinois Editor Lost in a Mysterious Manner.

Aurora, Ill., Aug. 11.-Frank Marley, editor and proprietor of the Batavia, Ill., Herald, is completely prostrated by mysterious disapeparance of his wife, who left her home Thursday morning, and has not been seen since. Until yesterday Mr. Marley supposed that she was with her parents in Plano, as she had intended attending the harvest picnie in that city Thursday.

It has since been discovered that she started toward Aurora on her wheel Thursday morning, probably to take the Plano train at Aurora. Her friends fear she was overcome by the heat and wandered off, or was foully dealt with.

An Art Connoisseur.

Madame goes with her maid to purchase a still-life picture of her dining-room. She selects at the picture-dealer's a painting representing a bouquet of flowers cut into, and a half-penny roll. She paid 500 francs for the lot. "Madame," whispered the bonne. have made a bad bargain, let me tell you, I saw a picture like that sold for 400

"And was It as good as this one?" "Of course, it was; there was a lot more ple!"-Moniteur Oriental.

A Question of Environment

"Do you mean to assert," said the man who gets excited over politics, "that your "It all depends on circumstances," was the cautious reply, "I'm willing to give every man credit for some superiority. If you get 'em side by side in an experience meeting during a revival I guess mebbe you'd have the best of it. But when it comes to a primary caucus my man 'ud have you snowed under in no time."-Washington Star.

The Other Side of It.

Father—"To write on paper with a real crest on it, to parade at State dinners where sycophants are fed, to give money to a man whom you secretly loathe, but have married because he is a so-called no-bleman—bah! Do you call that happi-

Daughter—"But think how unhappy I would be if I didn't get him."—New York

Herald. After the Battle. He-'Well, I know one girl that is willing to marry m Why, you'd make a good detec-

Coinage Would Prove Disastrous

By E. S. Crandon, Editor of the Boston Transcript.

A gold dollar weighs 25.8 grains, of which nine-tenths or 23.22 grains are pure gold, the remainder alloy. A silver dollar weighs 412.5 grains, of which nine-tenths or 371.25 grains are pure silver, the remainder alloy. The division of the figures of weight of pure silver in a silver dollar by those of pure gold in a gold dollar gives 15.98-practically 16hence the ratio between the two metals for colnage purposes; that is, the weight of the silver exceeds the weight of the gold in the respective dollar coins by 16. The proposition for free and unlimited coinage comprehends the right of any owner of silver bullion to take the same to the mint, receiving therefor, free of mintage cost, \$1 for each 371.25 grains of silver, which dollar would be a legal tender for all debts public and private.

On a basis of commodity price, measured in the terms of commercial value of the great civilized nations of the earth, 371.25 grains of silver bullion are worth today some 54 cents; 23.22 grains of gold have a bullion or commercial value of 100 cents, or \$1. The present silver dollar passes at par with gold today because the whole credit of the government is pledged to maintain each and every dollar as good as any and all issued under its authority. The difficulty of such maintenance is one of the main reasons for the heavy increase of bonded debt of the country, gold having to be obtained from abroad in order to uphold the millions of silver coined since the so-called "crime of 1873" at a parity with gold. While the government maintains such a parity, it is not a question of intrinsic value of the coin. The free and unlimited coinage of silver proposes to abolish the existing gold standard of measurement of values, substituting therefor a new standard consisting of the 371.25 grains sliver dollar, to be coined from any and all silver mined in this or any country. In effect the United States is called upon to impart a monetary value to silver nearly twice as great as its commodity, commercial or bullion value,

Apart from its use as money the sliver dollar has no greater value than that of the bullion contained in it, and the same is true of the gold dollar, but the gold coin is counted at par, or 100 cents, in every commercial center of the world, save those of countries on a silver basis, where it commands a premium. The silver dollar on its intrinsic, or bullion, merits, commands but a few cents over 50. It is proposed that legislation shall give by flat an almost double value, meanwhile making it circulate on equal terms with the gold dellar in performing monetary use. Reliance is placed on the supposed effect which the adoption of the silver standard will have on the bullion value of silver the world over. It is assumed that as soon as the United States government announces its readiness to play a dollar for 371.25 grains of silver, the value of the latter must become a dollar in spite of other nations.

It is argued that alone and unaided this government by flat can increase the actual value of the commodity known as silver. As this country will stand ready to coin all silver presented, no matter where it was mined, the contention is that the monetary value thereby imparted will become the commodity value, and the world will have to follow. A new value or standard of money will be made, just as if it were possible by fiat of one government to change the pound to twelve ounces, or the yard measure to thirty inches against all others, who insist on the accepted standards in general use. Of course, if a man had bought goods at sixteen ounces to the pound or thirty-six inches to the yard, he might benefit by selling them at the new standards for the same money. In effect this is just what the free coinage of silver would accomplish-the complete aggrandizement of a favored class against the great body of the people, to say nothing of the inevitable confusion and disruption of trade.

The main contention of the advocates of the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the 16 to 1 ratio, is that silver is defined as a money metal by the constitution, and that it enjoyed free coinage prior to 1873, when they claimed it was demonetized. Now, as a fact, the value of the metal silver before the so-called "crime of 1873" was greater than the coinage value; that is, the 371.25 grains specified as the pure bullion in the silver dollar was worth more as merchandise or as a commodity than \$1. As the silver was worth a few cents above \$1, the coins went abroad. Their number was few. No silver-owner cared to sell to the government for \$1 what he could get more for elsewhere. Consequently the so-called demonetization was but the legal dropping of a privilege which for years had possessed no value, and which at that time appeared as unnecessary and likely so to continue. Up to 1873 only 83,000,000 silver dollars were coined. Since the "crime of 1873" the total of coinage of silver dollars under the Sherman act has reached \$423.-000,000, beside 35,000,000 trade dollars. With the enormous increase in the production of silver in the last score of years, and particularly in the last half-dozen years, the value of the commodity has shrunk. meading nations were compelled to close their mints to its coinage, and this country, in self-protection, had to repeal the Sherman law. The strain of maintaining a parity between gold and the immensely increased product of silver on the old-time ratio was too great, and has brought the country to its present unsatisfactory evils of depressed business. The free coinage of the metal was a dead letter long before 1873. The demand for its revival comes from the debtor class, which, by paying debts in a depreciated currency, would reap the reward from the creditors. As well provide by flat of government that contracts to sell wheat at sixty pounds to the bushel be fulfilled by payment of thirty-pound bushels. In each of the last three years the total product of silver has been three times greater than the 1873 product. Silver has depreciated, owing to increased supply. Three hundred and seventyone and twenty-five one-hundredths grains of it are worth, say, 54 cents today, instead of \$1.63 in 1873, and yet the proposition is made to force the same amount of the metal to do a dollar's duty-to be the standard of value. This is not bimetallism in the least degree: It is silver monometallism, pure and simple, and that is just what free and unlimitd coinage of silver at 16 to 1 literally means,

It is admitted, even by the most ardent of the silver advocates, that free coinage would send gold to a premium. Our gold would leave us, and in settlement of international balances the more precious metal would have to be purchased at whatever premium the times demanded. The mere proposition has resulted in this state of things, that, while we exported in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1896, \$102,800,000 more merchandise than we imported, yet we exported also \$80,500,000 more gold than we imported. The heavy liquidation by foreign holders of American securities by reason of our currency disorders and the threat of our going on a silver basis was responsible in great measure for this anomaly. To say no more of the effects of disturbing the vast fabric of foreign trade, amounting in the fiscal year just ended to no less than \$1,662,000,000, the total of values of our exports and imports, let it be considered what the effect of the silver basis will be on the greatest creditor class in the country-the savings-bank depositors,

The hundreds of millions of dollars in the savings banks of the country represent 100-cent dollars, deposited in good faith as such by the very bone and sinew of the country-those who labor. These are the creditors who must suffer from a dishonest dollar-the men and women whose thrift has enabled them to put by their savings in order to earn a small interest, which savings are loaned to borrowers on mortgages, in many cases making creditors of the depositors. It is the savings-bank depositor, the government pensioner, the great army of the insured, the very people, who really constitute the creditor class. and who must suffer most of all from a policy of dishonest finance, of repudiation, of inflation and assured panic. To a large extent the rallway securities of the country are held by small investors of comparatively small means, whose few thousand dollars invested in bonds or stocks represents their all.

As to the effect on wages, it is quite plain that the adoption of the flat value standard would bring inflation in prices of commodities. The farmer might get \$1 for his wheat, and other products, of course, would rise, as would prices of the necessaries of life generally. But experience has proved, and this is a fundamental principle in political economy, that wages rise last and decline first. The idea that because he will get more wages he can afford to pay more may appeal to some workingmen, but it requires little reflection to show that the unsettlement inseparable from the process of readjustment would be sure to affect him most of all. And in the inevitable panic which would follow such a period of inflation the laboring man would be ground between the upper and the nether millstone.

BRYAN AS A RINGMASTER.

From the Times-Herald.

Lincoln, Neb., July 26,-The enthusiwith which Mr. Bryan has exploited his nomination is a good deal like the noisy vociferation of the small boy with a new top. The manner in which the youngest man who was ever nominated for president has conducted himself since his return home has impressed upon his neighbors certain characteristics which were not so conspicuous before the melodramatic feat in Chicago. For six or seven years the people who have known Mr. Bryan have recognized in him a consummate actor. His star engagement of one day unsettled him, and now for a couple of weeks he has been exposed to view in weeks he has been exposed to view in his true light. In all the hubbub and hurry since the singular gathering in Chicago Mr. Bryan has not thought of rehearsing. He has been too excited to think of hiding himself under the cloak of art. He has appeared as he is.

Mr. Bryan in his new role, realism itself, is interesting and to a certain ex-tent attractive. Youthful enthusiasm and vigor when exhibited in any wholesome form are always attractive. pleasure to witness the small boy too for the first time his new horn, or hold at arm's length in admiring contempla-tion his new top, gaudy with color. One of the first things the boy does when he gets a new horn or a new top is to call in his friends or go out and find them and tell them all about how he got the bauble and what a fine thing it is and what he is going to do with it, and this is pleasant to witness also, for there is youthfullness and ingeniousness in the specials. But Mr. Ergan in choring spectacle. But Mr. Bryan in showing his youth has shown his bald immatur-ity. His immaturity as exhibited in the ist two weeks is deep and expansive If he is the youngest man ever nominated for president he is also the most impulsive, restless, freakish, uncertain, undignified man ever named for the high office of president by a great political party. All of the boyish traits and fidgety instincts of youth unformed are related in this condition who is are retained in this candidate, who in law, reached man's estate fifteen years There is one element which great ago. possess in common-that of repose. Mr. Bryan is singularly lacking in this quality. He does not impress people with the idea that there is reserve force back of his nervous energy. He seems to be a man of little self-re-straint. He decides, but does not de-liberate. The fleeting thought of the moment is his rule of action. His brain is active and the product is released at once for gratuitous distribution. Mr-

Bryan has been praised without stint, but it has never been said that he is cautious or conservative. Not many months ago some society people in Omaha gave an amateur cir-cus performance in the great Coliseum in that city. Mr. Bryan was asked to take the showy part of ringmaster, and he consented. For two nights he ap-peared before the wealth and beauty of Omaha in the traditional top boots and high hat of the master of the ring, and he cracked his whip in a way that made teamsters on the back scats salute him. He was an excellent ringmaster. Besides standing on a piatform and crack-ing his whip he made jokes, and he cracked his jokes with the same facility that he cracked his whip. People said Mr. Bryan alone was worth the price of admission. He was happy then, and all smiles, and when the people applauded his sallies he was almost as pleased as he is now when the crowds cheer him. He entered into the circus project in the same headlong manner that he has started in the race for the that he has started in the race for the presidency. He cared nothing for dignity or the fitness of things then. He cares nothing for these now. His object was to create an effect then. That is his object now. Close observers cannot see that there is much difference in the way he conducted the circus and

the way in which he is conducting his campaign. It may be that his circus experience in Omaha is what caused him to request that the ceremony of notification be held in Madison Square Garden, New York, instead of at his home in this city. Mr. Bryan is honest, and his friends

admire him for that and for his great gifts, but they have been surprised at the light manner with which he is play ing with what seems, in his hands. mere bauble, a nomination for the presidency of the United States, His picturesque trip from Salem to Lincoln, his repeated speeches and continued publicity in advance of the official notification of the nomination, his boylsh and ill-considered phrases, all mark him as an excited youth rather than an earnest man in training for the highest office in the gift of a great nation. There are other little things, not important in themselves, that detract from the dignity and poise which should distin-guish a man in Mr. Bryan's position. He is feverish in his haste. He is nervous and excitable. He is unable to stay ous and excitable. He is unable to stay in one place any length of time or continue at one task. He wants to be up and going to and fro. He wants to have a hand in all that is doing. When he came home he was first man to appear on the platform of the car, and on the way from Salem to Lincoln he was generally out on the platform, hat in hand, and ready to speak at the little towns before the wheels had stopped turning. The next day after his arrival in this city he divested himself of his coat and vest and spent most of the time, in his negligee attire. In front of his house around the neighborhood. When vis-itors arrive from out of the city, instead

of receiving them quietly at his residence, he makes a hurried trip down town, carrying his wife with him, and holds a reception in a hotel.

All of these things are, perhaps, insignificant, and in no way affect the purity of his character, but Mr. Bryan's hearing is not what we have learned to pearing is not what we have learned to expect in the presidential candidates of great parties. The people here like Mr. Bryan, but he fails to command serious respect. Observing the traits which have been markedly prominent since he was made the nominee in Chicago, one seems to be forced to the conclusion that his personal qualities, admirable though they may be, are not such as to specially fit him for the discharge of the duties of chief executive of a nation of 70,000,000 of people. Youth is a fine thing, and it is good that youth has so large a share in the government of this country. But in this nation, where po-sitions of importance are given t sitions of importance are given to young men, it is expected that they will exhibit a sobriety of thought and conduct. The late William E. Russell was a young man, a very young man when he was first elected governor of Massachusetts, but he was always looked upon as a safe man. The public had confidence in his judgment. There was no fear of rash steps. Mr. Bryan in his mr. Russell. He has never been accused of a dishonest act. No taint or cused of a dishonest act. No taint or stain of reproach has ever attached to his reputation as a man. But in temperament the boy orator is exactly the opposite of the boy governor. He is lacking in those qualities that made Russell a leader in the Democratic party while he was a boy in years, Russell was brave and daving and he had enthusiasm, but he was not spasmonic or fidgety. He had self-poise, dignity and a certain amount of mental and physical reserve. He won his laurels physical reserve. He won his laurels by the possession of many qualities of by the possession of many qualities of strength. Mr. Bryan was nominated for president as the result of a few minutes of impassioned and reckless eloquence. Nebraskan.

Senatorial Courtesies First Senator-"I am always strongest in

md Senator—"Yes, your greatest property he i hes have been against time."—Truth. This is a great.

THE DAY OF SILVER HAS GONE FAR BY

So Says One of the Most Careful of American Economists.

THE REASONS FOR SILVER'S DISUSE

Hend of the Political Science Department in Columbia College Says That Gold Must Be the Standard of All

New York, Aug. 11 .- Professor John W. Burgess, dean of the school of political science at Columbia college, now at his summer residence at Montpelier, Vt., has written an able and concise statement of the silver question to Solomon M. Strock, of 62 and 64 William street, in reply to a letter asking for The statement is the result of light. careful and studious consideration of able metal became necessary. the subject, and will be read with interest. It is as follows:

Bimetallism, in the sense of the full and equal legal tender power of two metals, is impossible, and only the 'federation of the world" upon that subject can make it possible. In the present condition of the world, you must. choose between the gold or the silver standard. You cannot have both. We have been a gold standard nation for ore than half a century. The act of 1873 only records in the statue book The Real Thing As Distinguished what has existed as a fact for nearly from the Bogus. what has existed as a fact for nearly

forty years.
"The change from a gold to a silver standard now would, in my opinion, be one of the greatest disasters that has ever befallen this country. I think the first effect of it, at the ratio proposed, would be a prompt and tremendous contraction of the currency. The whole \$600,000,000 of gold would disappear, and it would be a physical impossibinty to eplace it, even nominally, with silver in ten years.

PERIL FOR THE NATION.

"If the Democrats or Populists win the control of the government next November they can pass no law until a year later, unless summoned to extra session of congress, and that cannot be done for five months. That is, our foreign creditors will have from five months' to a year's notice to collect their debts in gold. Before the end of would find themselves confronted by this enormous contraction of the circulating medium, and would, without doubt, try to meet it by printing greenbacks, pure fiat money "Such a change would make the mid-

dle and lower classes suffer for the benefit of the rich. The rich man holds roperty; is, on the whole, a seller and a debtor. The poor man holds little or no property; is, on the whole, a buyer and a creditor. With flat money, in part or in full, property rises, products come dearer, and the debtor pays in cheaper money. The mistake usually nade in reasoning on this subject is in considering the poor to be debtors. Recause the poor man holds little or no "rerded as a debtor.

"I also object to the phrase 'free silver,' or the 'free coinage of silver.' This word 'free' hypnotizes the American mind and leads it anywhere. The state ment of the present proposition should be 'the unlimited coinage of 53 cents' worth of silver into \$1, on private account/

SILVER'S DAY HAS PASSED. "Neither am I of the opinion that bimetallism is the coming plan. I think the day of silver as full legal tender oney has passed. Thirty thousand dollars' worth of silver, 16 to 1, weighs about a ton. At its real value it weighs nearly two tons. It is impossible to use such a metal in the present volume and activity of the world's commerce, even by international agreement, without great loss. When commerce was undeveloped and every family produced, in kind, very nearly everything it consumed, shells, tobacco, beaver skins, etc., would answer for currency. When It increased to a considerable degree then these things had to be laid aside and copper, and then silver, put in their places. When it assumed its mammoth proportions of today a much more valu-

"No, my young friend, the future of silver as money is as a subsidiary coin. Gold must be the standard of all money, and gold must be the money of the world's commerce. To my mind there is but one way for the patriot and the wise man at the next election, and that is to vote the Republican ticket, both for president and members of congress."

BIMETALLISM EXPLAINED.

"At the very outset, I want you to understand precisely what is proposed. You will hear a great deal of talk about bimetallism. The system which is proposed by the Chicago convention is not bimetallism. Bimetallism is an entirely different affair. What is the object of bimetallism? The object of it is to give to the currency greater stability by spreading it over re surface.

"A very common illustration of it this: If you have a lake anywhere and it is subject to all the peculiar incidents of the region in which it is the rainfall may lift it, drought may lower it. Now, if you want a perfectly stable surface you have got to get it by some appliance outside of

Suppose you can join it to anothe lake in a different climate which is differently affected. If you join them p feetly together then there will be the same level in both lakes and the disturbances in one lake will be counterbalanced by the disturbances in the other lake and the tendency will be to have a stendier level. That will all be perfectly true pro-vided your two lakes do balance, and you more stable currency.

"Now there is some reason and sense in the idea that the whole world, if they took gold and silver at a proper ratio, could preserve a greater level of prices, a firmer and more stable level of prices. This no single country could do,"-Tom Reed at Portland.

WORKING AN OLD DODGE. "An old man that I used to know used

to sell his chirt front constantly in the course of five or six weeks-(laughter)and then he wore, in old-fashioned days, a dickey, and when the old man put that on you knew that the shirt below was not clean, Our Democratic friends have selled in four years the fronts of their shirts with free trade, with the repeal of the doctrine of reciprocity, and now they are trying to cover it up with a free silver dickey."—Congressman W. E. Mason.

HE HAD ENOUGH OF FREE SILVER

The Sad Experience of a Boston Man in

CAUGHT BY A BIG WAGES BAFF

Seeking Home in a Sick and Destitute Condition -- Failed to Find a Land of Milk and Honey.

Washington, Aug. 11.-An emaciated, sallow-looking man, with straggling beard and wearing a ragged Spanish costume, including red leather boots, laced up in front, tottered into the office of the sanitary officer at police headquarters yesterday. He said he was a white man, although the fierce sun of Central America had browned him to the color of a mullatto. He produced his passport from a port in Guatemala, which showed that he was William Russell, twenty- six years of age, althought he appeared to be forty, and

that he was a native of Boston. He told a story of terrible suffering while in Guatemala, and was trying to reach his Boston home, and received assistance from the sanitary officer. Russell was sick and destitute, and he attributed his sad plight to a life of one year in the free silver country of Guatemalia, saying his experience should sound a warning note to the 16 to 1 advocates in this country.

ATTRACTED BY THE WAGES.

Russell said he was a carpenter. On May 10, 1895, he was working at his trade in New Orleans. At that time the agents of the Panzos railroad, then being constructed in Guatemala, were in New Orleans, engaging mechanics and laborers to work on the road. They offered \$7 per day for the services of mechanics, and stated that the cost of living in Guatemala was much lower than in the United States, and that Guatemala was a free silver country, with plenty of money in circulation. Attracted by the wages of \$7 per day and the statements about the low cost of living and the plentitude of money, Russell shipped as a carpenter on May 10, 1895. He was under the impres that he was going to a land of milk and honey. After one year's experience in the land of free silver he found that his dream had been rudely and sadly dis-

"I will tell you the sort of cheap living we found in that free silver country of Central America," said Russell. "The mechanical squad of which I was a member was compelled to pay \$1.25 for each scant meal of which it partook. This amount had to be forked over in advance at the gate of the dinner tent. The shibboleth was 'no money, no food, and those who were unfortunate enough to be without cash went hungry. The dinner consisted of fat pork or corned beef, bread, Mexican beans and coffee. Such a meal as could be procured here for 5 or 10 cents. Canned goods were extra.

PAPER AND SILVER MONEY.

"Now," continued Russell, "take three meals a day, at \$1.25 each, from our daily pay of seven Guatemalan dollars, and you can realize what the commencement was in that land of milk and honey. Guatemala has for many years been a glaring example of what free silver would do for a country. Paper money was put in circulation, with a silver reserve and on a silver basis, but it is a well known fact that there are seven paper dollars to every silver one in reserve. The paper dollars there are not worth the paper they are printed Von cannot pr Guatemalan natives with the paper currency. They would rather give you something to eat than accept the stuff backed by the alleged silver reserve,

"In order to prevent the Americans employed on railroads and in other industries from bringing the Guatemalan silver dollars to this country the government stamps a mataeo (614-cent piece) across their faces. Thus stamped they would be regarded by American bankers as mutilated coin. done to force the Americans to exchange with Guatemalan money brokers, who charge 10 per cent, in good

money for the exchange. "That brings the Guatemalan silver lollar down to 35 cents in value. Then the redemption is in American silver, which they rate as gold."

AN MONORABLE TRADE.

Borrowing and Lending Both All Right If Honestly Done.

Don't let us confuse this business of borrowing and leading by our little pri-vate prejudices. I like to have the grocer furnish me with suitable food because I want to keep my present weight and fine-ness. (Aplause.) But I don't have any feeling or personal satisfaction when I pay the bill. I like to have my tailor clothe me, and yet I hesitate a little bit, not permanently, but I hesitate a little bit, about paying. Nevertheless I shall go on, and you will, buying food and clothing and really it is just as much for my advantage as it is for the advantage of the grocer and tailor. Hence we keep up pleasant relations, but the bills are really never pleasant.

"Now, if I want money, nobody comes to take me by the throat and forces it on me. You have noticed that. (Applause.) They never do. You have to agree to terms that are suitable to them if you want their money. That is perfectly natural, because money is pretty valu-

"If you have a thousand dollars that thousand dollars has the potentiality of a house, the potentiality of so many bushels of wheat, the potentiality of so many pounds of beef, the potentiality of every-thing in the world. For, as Carlisle says When a man has sixpence, the world is

his slave to the extent of six-pence."
"But when you have used your \$1,000 and bought a house with it, the potentiality is gone. You have got to wait until a man comes round that wants, not only a house, but just that house at your price, else you can't have the \$1,000 back again.

"Hence a man is not going to let you have money, unless he thinks he is going to get it back."—Tom Reed at Portland.

HEN-HEADED VOTERS.

"I remember to have spoken here four rears ago and I remember the difference between that meeting and this. Everybody was prosperous and everybody was will-ing to stay at home and let somebody else do the political work. The result was-you know it without my telling you. Our Democratic friends came up here and told the farmers that you were poor, downtrodden. God-forsaken people, and that you sold your wheat too cheap. Then they came down into this town and into Chica-go and told us we were awfully unfor-tunate, that we were down-trodden, and that we paid too much for things you sold too cheap. (Laughter and applause.) And we believed it. We were just hen-headed enough to believe it. (Laughter.) I say a man is hen-headed when you can fool him twice with the same trick."-Con-

gressman W. E. Mason, An American Hustler.

"Senator Brice is a great society man and I'on hunter, isn't he?" "I should say so, If we were to go to war, he would have all the enemy's gen-erals to dinner the first day that hostlis-

ties broke out."-Truth.