

The Weekly Chronicle.

STATE OFFICIALS.
 Governor..... W. P. Lord
 Secretary of State..... H. R. Kincaid
 Treasurer..... Phillip Metchan
 Supt. of Public Instruction..... G. M. Irwin
 Attorney-General..... C. M. Ideman
 Senators..... G. W. McBride
 J. H. Mitchell
 E. Hermann
 W. R. Ellis
 Congressmen..... W. H. Leeds
 State Printer..... W. H. Leeds

COUNTY OFFICIALS.
 County Judge..... Robt. Mays
 Sheriff..... T. J. Driver
 Clerk..... A. M. Kelsey
 Treasurer..... C. L. Phillips
 Commissioners..... A. S. Blowers
 D. R. Kinsley
 W. H. Whipple
 Assessor..... J. B. Holt
 Surveyor..... C. L. Gilbert
 Superintendent of Public Schools..... C. L. Gilbert
 Coroner..... W. H. Butts

NATIONAL REPUBLICAN TICKET.



For President,
WILLIAM M'KINLEY..... Ohio
 For Vice-President,
GARRET A. HOBART..... New Jersey
 For Presidential Electors,
 T. T. GEER..... Marion County
 S. M. YORAN..... Lane
 E. L. SMITH..... Wasco
 J. F. CAPLES..... Multnomah

PROSPERITY IN MEXICO.

It is well enough to talk about prosperity in Mexico to those who have never been there. Some may believe it; but as the people of the United States view prosperity Mexico is anything but prosperous. In an interview published in the New York Sun August 23d, Jose Y. Limantour, Mexican minister of Finance, says: "Mexico," said Mr. Limantour, "has always had free coinage. The ratio is 16 1/2 to 1. Theoretically, our standard is bimetallic, but, of course, it is really a single silver standard. It is not possible to have a double standard under free coinage. Any gold we have is immediately exported, and I have never seen any gold in circulation in Mexico. Gold is at a premium of nearly 200. We produce but little gold. Last year the output was 2,000,000 ounces, while we produced about the same amount of silver as the United States, 55,000,000 or 60,000,000 ounces.

"There is a keen interest in Mexico in the result of your election, because of the effect it will have upon the price of silver generally. Each time silver goes down it is a serious detriment to our country, because we have made four foreign loans, payable in gold. As silver depreciates and the premium on gold is increased, it becomes more difficult for our government to meet these gold obligations. Of course, we have silver bonds also, which are taken up at home. The gold bonds are worth nearly double what the silver bonds are worth. It was a serious blow to us when the Indian mints were closed in 1892 and the Sherman act was repealed in 1893, because of the fall in the price of silver which followed.

"The price of imported goods has been doubled. The increase in price of domestic products which are consumed at home has been small. The price of tropical products which are raised principally for export has virtually increased, because they are paid for in gold, the international medium of exchange, and the premium on gold in Mexico has increased with the fall of silver. On this account the producers of coffee and other tropical products have profited greatly and have grown very wealthy. The fall in silver has also had the effect of developing our manufacturing industries."

"How do you account for that?" "Owing to the fact that we must pay for foreign manufactures in gold, their price in the depreciated silver has greatly increased. The price of domestic manufactures, for which silver is paid, has not increased. Hence the tendency has been to develop domestic industries, and wool, iron, linen, and paper mills have sprung up all over the country. The fall in silver has been in effect a species of protection, which has become more important than the tariff."

"Would not a further fall in the price of silver be beneficial, according to the same reasoning?" "No; because manufacturers want

just enough protection to enable them to keep the home market. They do not want any more than that. Furthermore, we must bear in mind the point that I mentioned before, that every fall in silver is a detriment to our national finances. It is a detriment, too, to the railroad companies, which have invested gold capital and issued gold bonds, but whose earnings are in silver. What we fear most is a fluctuation in the price of silver, or in the rate of exchange. Our commerce is conservative and not speculative, and while the price of silver is in doubt, our business men buy only what they need from time to time, and undertake no large operations. This is the best time, however, to invest money in Mexico, because silver has got down so low that it is likely to go up now rather than to continue downward."

"Is Mexico prosperous on the silver standard?" "Our prosperity is increasing rapidly, but it is due to a number of causes, and not especially to the silver standard."

"What is the effect upon wages of the depreciating silver standard?" "They have not increased perceptibly. The same is true of Japan, where wages are very low. For this reason, Japan and Mexico will, in a few years, be able to compete successfully with England and the United States because of the silver standard and low wages."

"What is the ruling rate of wages for agricultural laborers in Mexico?" "Twenty-five cents a day."

These are the words of one whose interests are to present the matter as favorably as possible for Mexico. The ruling rate of wages for agricultural laborers in Mexico is twenty-five cents a day. Wages do not increase with the depreciation in their money standard.

Patrick Henry Winston evidently never saw Vermont. In a speech at Spokane a few days ago he stated that he was only surprised that the Republican vote of Vermont was so small. That as it is a state of money lenders and corporations nothing could be expected but a large gold vote. Vermont is neither a corporation nor a money lending state. It is more entirely a farming state than any in New England. It has no large cities, but it has a very large intelligent farmer population, and hence its large vote against Populism.

We regret that the gold standard Democrats did not leave the campaign to be determined by two representatives of the main issue. But McKinley will be elected just the same for a vote for Palmer and Buckner will be a vote for Bryan, and most anti-Populist Democrats will not throw a vote which will be counted against the only sound money candidate who stands a chance of election.

The matter of lighting the streets of our city is becoming an important one. If we cannot afford electric lights we can afford oil lights which are a great improvement over black darkness. Many cities are lighted by incandescent lamps, which are less expensive than arc lights and more desirable than lamps. We hope something in this line will be done soon.

Bryan says one day that they are not trying to give the people cheap money, but that free coinage will raise the price of silver to \$1.29 per ounce. The next day he says: "The great principle is that the value of a dollar depends upon the number of dollars. You have to learn that scarce money means dear money."

It requires thousands of dollars per day to give Bryan a chance to talk to the poor people who are being enslaved by golden chains. We have not yet heard of the hat being passed through his audiences to pay for special trains etc. Of course the corporations who own the silver mines can't be expected to put up.

The national debt was paid off at the average rate of about seventy-two million dollars per annum from 1870 to 1893, and in 1893 we had a surplus in the treasury of \$2,341,674. Since March 1, 1893, there has been paid on the national debt not one cent.

GOLD NOTES MUST BE PAID IN GOLD.

The question is frequently asked whether the agreement to pay in gold coin can be enforced when silver and currency are both legal tender.

Section 3211 of Hill's Code provides that the courts of this state when giving judgment in a written contract for the payment of gold coin or any other kind of money specified in the contract, shall adjudge that the principal and interest be paid in the kind of money specified.

The U. S. supreme court, in Bronson vs. Rodes, 7 Wallace, 229, says: "A contract to pay a certain number of dollars in gold or silver coins is, therefore, in legal import, nothing else than an agreement to deliver a certain weight of standard gold, to be ascertained by a count of coins, each of which is certified to contain a definite proportion of that weight. It is not distinguishable, as we think, in principle, from a contract to deliver an equal weight of bullion of equal fineness."

The contract referred to in that case was made in 1851 and called for payment "in gold and silver coin, lawful money of the United States." The debtor tendered payment in 1865 in legal tender U. S. notes.

The same doctrine has been declared by the United States supreme court in three different cases since the one referred to, and by the supreme courts of California, Ohio, Texas, Nevada, Illinois and other states. The Statute of Oregon governs all contracts made or which may be made while it stands. Its repeal could not affect contracts made while it is in force, and debtors who vote for Bryan because they believe it will be easier to pay their debts will find that they have been deluded. Gold will go to a premium as sure as Bryan is elected, and that, too, immediately. Prices will rise gradually as to everything except gold and men who are today owing for their homes and farms will find it not easier, but very much harder to meet their obligations.

Chief Justice Chase, a man who was never accused of being under the control of Wall street or British gold, in 1869, in the case of Bronson vs. Rodes, elsewhere cited, said that a contract payable in U. S. gold or silver coin, is, in legal import, an agreement that the debtor should deliver to the creditor a certain weight of gold or silver of a certain fineness. Such a contract is not distinguishable in principle from a contract to deliver an equal weight of bullion of equal fineness. Referring to the legislation concerning coinage he says: "The design of all this minuteness and strictness in the regulation of coinage is easily seen. It indicates the intention of the legislature to give a sure guaranty to the people that the coins made current in payments contain the precise weight of gold or silver of the precise degree of purity declared by the statute. It recognizes the fact, accepted by all men throughout the world, that value is inherent in the precious metals; that gold and silver are in themselves values, and being such, and being in other respects best adapted to the purpose, are the only proper measure of values; that THESE VALUES ARE DETERMINED BY WEIGHT AND PURITY, and that form and impress are simply certificates of value worthy of absolute reliance only because of the known integrity and good faith of the government which gives them." When Chief Justice Chase said that the above was accepted by all men he had never heard of a Popocrat or Populist.

The Congregationalist, one of the most ably edited of the religious newspapers, referring to the so-called "crime of 1873," says: "The question of the law of 1873, by which the standard of value was determined in favor of what was then the cheaper metal, seems to us a purely academic question. The wrongs, if any, are beyond undoing. If it was a mistake, which we do not believe, it was a mistake which the Chicago Democracy proposes to repeat, on a larger scale. The difference in value then between the metals was very slight; now it is very marked. Then every

creditor was 'robbed' of a cent or two on the dollar, now every creditor would be robbed of nearly half his claim. The law does not care for trifles, and the adjustment to the lower level then was so easy that, by the express claim of the supporters of free silver now, it was long unnoticed by the people. Now it would mean to the working men of the country, who are the chief creditors always, a loss which would be instantly and severely felt." These words are not from a political standpoint. They are common sense. They will be adopted at the November election.

MILLS—NOT MINTS.

Mr. McKinley condensed the whole controversy into one sentence when he said: The American laborer needs open mills more than open mints. The hope of the American farmer is not in a financial system which will attempt by legislation to create a value which is not real, but in the developing of a home market. A system which encourages capital to invest in manufacturing enterprises increases the number of consumers in the country who will be dependent upon and who will have earned the means with which to pay for the produce. Such a system attracts labor from the field of production and makes it prosperous as a consumer. There is no diversity of interest between the manufacturer and the laborer and Mr. Bryan will not be able to inject enough of false prejudice into the minds of the voters of the manufacturing states to do himself or his cause any good. When the mills of the country are running on full time, when railroads are taxed to their utmost in transporting materials to be manufactured, when new industries are springing up, the manufacturer and the railroad corporation is prospering. At the same time, and not at any other time, is labor in demand and well paid. Wm. McKinley stands as the representative of the policy which encourages capital to engage in manufacturing—the policy of highest and truest prosperity. Mr. Bryan stands for the policy of an experiment, which is founded upon a financial fallacy, the attempt to legislate value into something which has less than the law declares.

The price of wheat in this country is dependent upon the price in the country which uses the most and produces the least, namely England. In that market each American farmer comes into competition not only with every other American farmer, but also with the wheat raisers of South America, India and Russia. Now, if the price of wheat will be raised in America by the free coinage of silver, the price in India, Russia and South America will also have to go up or we cannot sell what surplus we usually export. But Mr. Bryan says: "Are our 70,000,000 of freemen to be controlled by England? Should we not be independent and have our own financial system?" Yes, let us be independent. Let us have free coinage and raise the price of wheat and if England don't want our surplus we will keep it and tell England to go to India or some other sea port to buy her wheat. One proposition is as absurd as the other, and the American people are rapidly comprehending it.

The best preventive of highway robbery is that administered near Sacramento Saturday by Engineer Ingalls. The shooting of a few more would be train robbers will have a good effect upon that particular class of people who try to get something for nothing. Now if the same remedy can be applied to the lone highwayman of Oregon who so frequently holds up our stages we will have an end of it.

"That is a question for China, Japan and America to settle," said Li Hung Chang when told at the Bank of England that any appreciation in the value of silver was extremely doubtful. The only difference between L. H. Chang and W. J. Bryan is that the latter would leave China and Japan out of the count; Chang is wiser than Bryan by two.

The Times-Mountaineer a few days ago quoted from one of Senator Mitchell's speeches made last Jan-

uary, and expressed a curiosity to know what the senator would have to say at Woodburn. Senator Mitchell, in his Woodburn speech, addresses himself to those in the Republican party who believe in both silver and gold as standards, and points out to them with great clearness the necessity of remaining with the party whose administration of public affairs in the past made this the greatest and most progressive nation on earth. Now we in our turn wonder how the Times-Mountaineer can reconcile its present position with that of April of 'his year.

Bryan has been in "the enemy's country." If McKinley would travel from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the great lakes to the gulf he would be unable to find any enemy's country.

A threatened return to a Republican policy never caused a panic among business men, manufacturers or laborers. It always does among flat politicians.

A HANDSOME MONUMENT.

It is of Vermont Marble For Pierre Grimaud—Native Stone.

Mr. Comini, the marble cutter, has just finished a handsome monument for Pierre Grimaud, who died several months since. It is of Vermont marble, a very enduring and handsome stone standing about eight feet high.

Mr. Comini is now working upon a stone coping and posts of the fine building stone of which the locks are made, for use in Mr. Kelly's lot, in the Catholic cemetery. This stone possesses qualities of endurance, also, which make it admirable for the purpose intended, though of a different origin than all other stone for these uses. The stone at the locks is of volcanic origin. Though an immense amount of it has been used in the great government work at the locks, it does not come from an original deposit, but is found plentifully as float in enormous boulders several miles distant. Mr. Winans claims to have an inexhaustible ledge of the same kind of rock at his homestead twenty-five miles above Hood River. This rock, as stated before, possesses qualities of endurance equaling or surpassing the finest marble. The action of the elements for centuries does not disintegrate or rot it. It

has great specific gravity. It is therefore a good enough rock for cemetery purposes or building stone. It will certainly last 4,000 years, without visible diminution, and that is long enough. It has not been so long since Cleopatra, in all her virginal beauty, dazzled the world with her loveliness, and we read today of her mummy preserved in the British museum. No one living now feels a sense of loss or a pang of sorrow move their heart as they gaze upon the crumbling dust that once formed her rose-hued lips. The decayed bunch of wheat that she holds in her pulseless hand remind the observer only of the mutations of time, notwithstanding the most powerful efforts of man to preserve unchanged in appearance the product of organic life. The stone coping that encloses the Kelley lot in the Catholic cemetery of The Dalles will therefore last long enough to satisfy the builders, for it will outlast all memory of the occupants it may chance to enclose.

Mr. Comini has a granite stone, also, of more value than that of which the locks is made. It is a hand-ome granite, capable of a high polish, and as lasting as Italian marble. He finds it near The Dalles, but this also is float. If a mine of it could be found it would make the discoverer independently rich. A big boulder of it has lain for untold centuries on the county road about a mile past the California winehouse on the edge of town. Several boulders of it are on the top of the bald mountain southeast of town. Other specimens are four miles up Mill creek, and it is frequently found in various portions of the county. It has most probably been left by glaciers.

Miller's Board Bill.

Hans Miller was arrested last night at Cascade Locks by Constable Hill, who went down on purpose to attend to that official errand. The charge is obtaining money under false pretenses, and was preferred by Mr. F. W. L. Skibbe. Miller boarded at the Skibbe hotel and in payment thereof gave Skibbe an order on Mr. Peetz, for whom Miller had worked. Miller was in Mr. Peetz' debt all right. The only trouble was that he got around and collected the amount subsequent to giving the order to Skibbe. There is a chance for legal contention on the part of the defense that at the time Miller gave the order, the amount was rightfully due and that consequently Miller did no wrong. However, we are uninformed on what will be the life of defense. The trial will occur at 3 o'clock this afternoon. Mr. Skibbe has given bonds for the payment of costs.

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