

W.C. BYRD, Editor

THE silver speculator is again at work, and up goes the price of silver. Look out for the statement that its enhancement in value is due to the republican administration, which is claiming everything even the good crops of the present year.

THERE may be some excuse for a busy merchant neglecting to give proper attention to his duties as director in a national bank, but there can be none for the failure of a Government bank Examiner, who is not supposed to have any other business, to know the exact condition of every bank in his district, and such failure should be made punishable as a crime.

THAT check which the administration was billed to put to further English encroachments on the American continent as yet seems to exist only in the columns of news papers. Perhaps Blaine's gout interfered with the program or the check is being held back for use in the Presidential campaign, in lieu of the greenbacks usually disbursed at such times.

MANY years practice has given C. A. Snow & Co., solicitors of patents at Washington, D. C., unsurpassed success in obtaining patents for all classes of inventions. They make a specialty of rejected cases, and have secured allowance of many patents that have been previously rejected. Their advertisement in another column will be of interest to inventors, patentees, manufacturers and all who have to do with patents.

THE news which comes from Europe of the formation of a central European custom league, by Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy and Switzerland, the principal object of which will be to retaliate upon the United States for the McKinley tariff law, cannot be surprising to close observers of the science of political economy. Nations are like individuals; if you injure one he will not rest until the injury has been repaid with interest. The loss of trade of these five countries would be little short of a calamity to the United States, and the people of this country should see that a change is made in our tariff laws before irreparable damage is done to our European trade, the bulk of which is in agricultural products.

MEN who growlingly dole out a five or ten dollar bill once in a great while to their wives to buy necessary articles of clothing, should think of the feelings of Uncle Sam, who was, by a recent court decision, presented with a bill of \$20,000,000 for hat trimmings alone. The decision was made on a construction of a sections of the tariff law that existed between 1883 and 1890, and if the U. S. Supreme Court, to which an appeal has been taken, shall confirm the decision of the lower court, the bill will have to be paid, notwithstanding it will be giving the importers something for nothing, as they admit having added the duty to the selling price of the goods at the time they were imported.

HERALD'S WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C. June 29, 1891.

Mr. Harrison and his cabinet have had a time to-day over the present and prospective condition of the Treasury. They have got a temporary breathing spell, and the deficit which existed a few days ago has been succeeded by a small, available cash balance; but soon after the first of July, calls will begin to be made for cash to meet the appropriation made at the last session of the billion dollar Congress, and the question is, where to get the money to pay them? The revenues of the Government both from customs duties and internal revenue are falling off at an appalling rate. The extension of the \$50,000,000 4 1/2 per cent bonds, while a little help, can hardly be considered a drop in the bucket when the amount that will be needed is considered.

Something has got to be cut off; that's as certain as can be. But to decide what is what is driving the administration wild. All this month thousands of pension certificates, all ready to be issued, have been piled up in the Pension Office in order to stave off the payment of the money for which they call. An apparent gain of a few millions is to be made by changing the form of the Treasury Statement so as to show the money on deposit with National banks as "available cash" in the Treasury, and Secretary Foster is credited with intending, if he can get the Attorney General to give an opinion that it will not be illegal, to issue certificates for general circulation against the twenty-odd million dollars of the fractional silver now in the Treasury. It looks at this time very much as if the Democratic House of Representatives will find it necessary to investigate some of the contemplated financial juggling, and as if there was going to be serious trouble, perhaps impeachment for somebody.

So many of the candidates for Speaker of the House have been in town this week that every body was saying: "Well, the next Speaker of the House is in town." The sentence was originated by a bright newspaper man when McMillin joined Mills, Springer, Bynum, Wilson and several others already here.

Col. Robt. C. Ingersoll and Mr. J. W. Mackay, known to fame as one of the Bonanza Kings, were closeted with Mr. Harrison for near two hours one day this week, and there is reason for believing that the subject under discussion was silver. It is somewhat puzzling why these gentlemen should have attempted to surround their visit to Washington with so much mystery. At the hotel where they stopped the name of neither of them appeared on the register. Such a precaution was absurd when both of them are well known to every newspaper man of any prominence in Washington.

"Lige" Halford, the President's private secretary, is now regarded as a political boss. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia, one democrat, one republican and one Army officer, who is supposed to have no politics, decided to remove the Health officer, a republican, against whom charges had been preferred, and to appoint in his place a democrat, and their intention was announced in the local papers before it was officially consummated. "Lige" called a halt because the new man was a democrat, and Mr. Harrison when he arrived the next day endorsed "Lige" and no change was made.

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