

Engine or no Engine;

Next Friday evening the town council will probably meet to consider the above momentous question. Shall we purchase the engine? The figures are, we believe, \$1200 for the Champion Chemical Engine, the one that was voted the night of the citizens meeting.

Is the chemical engine preferable to a water engine?

The citizens of the town are requested by the Mayor to be present as the council does not desire to act upon so important a matter without the consent and advice of the taxpayers of the town.

We doubt very much if the chemical engine is the better. The chemical is all right inside of a building, but after the fire breaks through to the outside, our understanding is, then we want water and want it badly, as the chemicals will not answer because of too much space. The advantage of a water engine over the chemical is, water will quench the flames both inside and outside of a building. But this is only our opinion and of course many may differ with us.

Now the next point to consider is, are we able to buy it? and if so on what terms? The offer made us by Mr. Long is \$500 cash, \$700 in town warrants to be redeemed in one and two years, or two and three years we are not certain which, then we must get the engine from the railroad, sink our wells or cisterns deeper and other incidental expenses which naturally follow which will probably reach \$500.

Where is the \$500 cash to come from? Is it in the town treasury? and if it is will we not be doing parties an injury who hold notes or warrants which ought to be paid? All these matters should be considered carefully, and not take upon ourselves obligations which hereafter will prove very burdensome.

Do not understand we oppose preparing necessary fire protection, we heartily endorse any measures compatible with our ability. Would it not, if we decide to buy an engine, be better to bond the town in a sufficient bond to pay off our indebtedness and pay the cash for an engine, and provide a sinking fund to meet the bonds.

Some will say, how in the "plague" are you going to do that? Just give us a little more space and we think we can answer it satisfactorily.

The income of the town at this time is from \$2000 to \$2500. Now of this income it takes not to exceed \$1000 to pay the expenses of the town, consequently we have, any how, one thousand dollars which can be loaned at ten per cent interest and this fund will be sufficient to meet our bonded indebtedness, without any extra taxation upon our citizens. Remember if we bond the town, we can get money at eight per cent or less, then we will be out of debt, except the bonds and a sinking fund created to meet the bonds, and we think things will be in a much better shape than at present, and we will also have protection from the ravages of fire.

Extraordinary Longevity in Chile.

The last census of Chile furnishes some interesting statistics relative to longevity of certain representatives of the human race, who live in that far away corner of "Latin" or "Spanish" America. According to the figures in question, in the 23 provinces of Chile the enumerators found 211 men and 283 women who had passed the century milestone. One man Rafael Munoz of Colchagua, was returned as being 150 years of age. The oldest woman was 138. Of the other "old timers" they found one man 135 and two women 132, one man 130, one over 127, one woman 125 and three men and four women 123, one man 122 and three women 121; 20 women and eight men gave in the ages as 120, and two women acknowledged to being past 119; five women and three men were at the 118 mark. Of all the others over 100, 240 were women and 195 were men. The most remarkable exhibit in the whole array is the one which shows that 53 women and 38 men gave in their ages at 110.—St. Louis Republic.

THE free silver forces of the United States will be consolidated and headquarters established in Chicago. General A. J. Warner will be president of the consolidated body and Edward F. Light secretary. This much was agreed upon at the conclusion of the conference of silver leaders at the Auditorium hotel.

The new consolidation of bimetallic leagues perfected an organization and a committee of nine was appointed to take charge of affairs and keep headquarters in Chicago open. The committee promptly launched a bomb in the shape of the following resolution: "That it is the sense of the committee that an early conference of bimetallists from all states who are willing to place cause above party, be called to meet and formulate a plan toward holding a national convention to nominate candidates for president and vice-president of the United States upon a platform with the sole plan of independent bimetallicism of the United States."

THE latest from Washington says: Another United States senator can be added to those who have left the standard of the advocates of the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. Senator Vest, of Missouri, who is now in Carlsbad, has, in private conversations with persons who have met him in Europe, declared that, in his opinion, free coinage of silver at the old ratio was no longer possible.

Just what position the Missouri senator will occupy on the silver question will probably not be known until some occasion arises in which he can express himself, but, says a Missouri gentleman, it can be announced with positiveness that he will never again favor the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1.

The foregoing is a canard gotten up and published for political purposes. The following is Senator Vest's answer: "I have not changed my opinion in the slightest degree as to silver and must protest against being called upon to explain imaginary statements I never made and for which I am not responsible. I stand upon the platform of the

Missouri Democrats, made in August last at Pertle Springs, fully and unreservedly and have never wavered in my position."

Martha M. Gurnee was offered \$10 for her red flannel petticoat, but declined to part with it. She is merely a railroad station agent at Mount Ivy, N. Y., and her red flannel petticoat saved a passenger train. That's all. Her station burned, covering the railroad track with debris, and Martha slipped off her petticoat and sent her brother with it to flag the train. A passenger wanted the garment as a souvenir. Martha probably has sense enough to keep the petticoat for another emergency. The railroad should reward her and issue an order requesting all women station agents to wear red petticoats.

Boss Platt to Boss Quay: "I've turned the trick again; they can't lose me. See!"

CHAUNCEY Depew has been taking a few snap shots at European politics and, of course, exhibiting the pictures.

SOME of the republican papers seem to forget that the laws under which the administration must administer the national finances are republican laws.

PERHAPS in talking about the part he played in raising that big campaign fund in 1888, Mr. Wana-maker is throwing out a hint to the candidate of '96. It is believed that he could be persuaded to duplicate it at the same price.

THE newspapers that are now doing their level best to force another bond issue, by raising doubts of the ability of the government to maintain the gold reserve, will be the loudest in their abuse of the administration should they succeed.

Ex-Speaker Crisp's latest interview makes him declare his belief that the democratic national convention must come out for the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1, in order to win the next Presidential election.

The German Emperor ought to know that suppressing papers and punishing editors is not a good way to put down socialism in Germany. The average socialist is perfectly happy when given an opportunity to pose as a martyr.

Republicans are doing lots of talking about their expectations in Kentucky and Maryland, but none of them have any money to back their claims, at least they won't put it up.

The principal thing needed to make democratic success next year a certainty is party harmony. With harmony the party can win; without harmony it cannot possibly win.

The Atlanta exposition deserves to be, as it doubtless will be, a great success. Those who go from other sections will learn much about the south that they never knew before.

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