

of payment rests with the debtor. This privilege is not extended because the debtor is better than the creditor but this plan is necessary in order to maintain the parity of the metals. When one grows cheap debts begin to be paid in that and because of the increased demand it rises in value and lack of demand for the other brings its value down. If the option were left with the creditor, he would require payment in the dear metal and by so doing increase the divergence between the values of the two. The financial classes are potent in society and politics. If their influence is used to maintain the parity all acknowledge that the parity will be maintained. If the creditor is made to feel that he will be punished by making one metal dear at the expense of the other, he can be relied on to keep the ratio of their values constant.

There are some who think we should wait until other nations join with us in securing bimetalism. We say to foreign financiers by such a policy that we want them to help us stop the continual cheapening of the product we own and the continual raising of the value of the money they own. But if they will not we say we will stand by them until they feel like doing it. We should say that if they will not join with us in making money stable we will open our minds to silver and pay our debts with it.

Bimetalism is better practically because there is not enough gold for our wants. We need quantity as well as quality. We must have enough in quantity to carry on the commercial transactions of the world. Silver is necessary to form with gold this sufficient supply.

There is no need why the United States should wait for other countries. We produce more than any other country, and if we do not throw our weight on the side of gold, what nation will. Japan grew prosperous under a bimetallic standard, but she has adopted the gold standard now. Peru has been compelled to do the same. Wait until we have driven India, China and other nations with their hundreds or millions of inhabitants to it and have to divide with them the little we have for our wants. When that time comes the value of the handful of gold in existence will have risen higher and the value of commodities sunk lower and men will have to work harder and longer to get the desirable quantity, and the one who has it will reap the advantage of the long hard work.

The farmer, the laborer and business man say that free coinage, they believe, is good for them. The farmer finds his products continually growing cheaper while his expenses remain the same. The laborer complains that when money can be looked up more profitably than invested there is not much for him to do and he is selfish enough to want to live. The business man wants bimetalism because unless people have a quantity of money to spend he is ruined. The controlling financiers are the only ones who appear to be entirely unselfish. They say that it is not to their interest to have monometalism, that it would be good for them to have free coinage of silver, but they would not let the poor

laborers and others injure themselves by having such a system.

Free coinage at the ratio of 16 to 1 is an old thing. Gold and silver were both coined in unlimited quantities once. There is no reason for changing the ratio. The parity that once existed has not been destroyed by natural laws but by legislation. Make the parity legal and the value of an ounce of gold would fall and the value of 16 ounces of silver would rise.

There is no danger of persons making monstrous fortunes by buying silver for fifty cents which they can have coined for a dollar. No person will be silly enough to sell his property at half its value whether it be silver or any other commodity. If we knew we could get 412½ grains of silver coined into one dollar we would not be foolish enough to sell for less.

There is no danger of a flood of money. Foreign silver would not flow here, because it would cost to bring it here and carry it back home. If unlimited coinage were established, foreign silver in the bullion would rise to the value of the minted product and there would be no advantage in having the stamp of the government placed on it. There would be no danger of silverware being melted down and coined, because labor has been put on the manufacture of this and it is worth more in its present shape than it would be in coin.

People should think out these questions. The Eastern people are interested in bimetalism if they only knew it. We, in the West, can stand the strain of monometalism more easily than they can, for we live nearer the soil and can support ourselves with what we can raise and make at home, while they in the East who are engaged in manufacture will be ruined and destitute if orders for goods fail to come.

The war we are engaged in is an uncompromising struggle between mammon and humanity. But when humanity secures the victory we will light bonfires from the Alleghany mountains to the Golden Gate as a witness that we will never more be enthralled.

FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

RICHVILLE, Rockingham County,

North Carolina, June 28, 1897.

I take a great interest in reading the DESERET WEEKLY, especially the sermons preached by our worthy President and Apostles, also the letters written by the Elders and friends.

About five years ago I went through curiously to hear the Mormons preach. The meeting was held in this county at the Potomac school house. The meeting was the first in this county, I think, and was conducted by Elders Gardner and Willis Johnson. I saw that the Elders did not look like the men they were represented to be. I studied their doctrine to see what it was, and I saw the apostasy of the Church from the true Gospel and the necessity of its restoration. I believed the mission of the Prophet Joseph and desired to become a member of the Church of Jesus Christ and was baptized by Elder Christopher E. Layton, for which I have never been sorry and I can bear testimony that the Gospel

is true. Now my husband has become a member and my five children have all been blessed and the two oldest baptized.

My friends plead with me and tell me that they like me and are sorry to see me take after such delusion and that they are surprised at a person with as much intelligence believing such things. But all they say only strengthens my faith and I can see plainly where they stand.

I have done some missionary work in this town since Elders J. D. Killpack and Clarence S. Carlston came to labor in this county. I am anxious to gather with the Saints but am willing to remain here as long as I can do anything for the benefit of the people. There is some prejudice here but I trust it will wear away. We have a few members and a prospect for more. We had the honor of having six Elders with us a short time ago, Elders Clarence D. Carlston, H. O. Carlisle, J. D. Killpack, R. W. King, Albert E. Hewish and William R. Damroo. I am thankful they have brought the everlasting Gospel. MRS. BETTIE McDONALD.

NEWS NOTES.

Monday's hailstorm in western Idaho did considerable damage. A hailstone picked up at Salubria measured 5½ inches in circumference.

An inquest was held Wednesday at Guerneville, California, on the body of the three-year-old daughter of William Roberts, who wandered from home and was drowned in a mill pond near by.

Thompson, a machinist working as a farmhand, was drowned at Farmington, California, Wednesday afternoon while bathing. An inquest was held last night and the verdict was accidental drowning.

George W. Webb, the eldest son of ex-Collector of Customs Sam F. Webb, was killed on Monday, by the premature discharge of a powder in the Favorite mine, thirty-five miles from Nogales, Arizona, in Sonora.

Tuesday night A. Potterton, a pioneer of St. Helena, Cal., fell into an open fireplace at his home and was badly burned about the head and shoulders. The old man is very feeble. He is in a serious condition.

At a mass meeting called in Butte, Montana, for Tuesday evening, to consider the celebration of Independence Day, only fifteen persons were present. There will be no Fourth of July celebration there this year.

John S. Capron, a California pioneer who crossed the plains in 1846, and was one of the founders of Eureka, Nevada, committed suicide in San Francisco on Tuesday, by shooting himself in the head. He had been despondent because of illness.

William Majors was injured at the bitumen mines at Santa Cruz, California, Wednesday, by an explosion of giant powder. In his pockets were two sticks of giant powder, and it was only by chance that he escaped being blown to pieces.

The records of the San Francisco, California, health office show that during the year ending June 30th,