

bring us to a comparative realization of what we do really amount to in that important industry.

The object lesson which was transferred from the interviewed to the interviewer's mind and which found a faithful reproduction in our columns is also worthy of consideration. In Colorado, which never did and in the ordinary course of things perhaps never can equal this Territory as a fruit raiser, the people are taking care of their product and by judicious shipments are realizing thousands of dollars every year. We don't care to advance the idea that some of the very fruit which our eastern neighbors export finds its way into our midst and is bought here, while our superior and more plentiful article is permitted to rot in great quantities or is so indifferently taken care of as to be condemned when seen. If anything that is not contained in the penal code possesses criminal elements, surely such things as that do and if they exist we cannot begin the work of reformation any too soon.

Of like character and import is much of the contributed editorial matter which appears in the News every Saturday. All these suggestions are useful, because it is as true in political economy as in natural attrition that every influence counts for something; the steady dropping of water wears a hole in the stone it falls on; and so, after a while, we look to see our people utilizing every one of their wealth-giving resources and never depending on foreign markets or even surrounding ones for what we can produce at home. It is a theme concerning which volumes have been written and to which countless columns of newspaper matter have been devoted; to say that it all does no good is to attempt to belie recorded facts, but it has not accomplished results proportionate with the effort involved of course. We are a long way ahead of what we used to be and are steadily gaining ground; and that the good work may go on till there is nothing more to complain of and then remain at that point is our most sincere desire.

### THE WRONG AND HOW TO RIGHT IT.

The law of retaliation is sometimes a necessity in civil as well as in military circles; indeed, we think it more justifiable under certain circumstances in the former than it can be in the latter, where its purpose is not as in the other for self-preservation but generally for revenge. Recently the News contained a brief editorial illustrating this subject quite well. One of our merchants replied to an eastern offer of bargain that as the silver we produce is not wanted there, the goods they have to sell are not wanted here. If ever words were apt and exactly timed to the occasion, those words sent to our eastern brethren were. They revive somewhat the patriotic self-denial which the Revolutionary forefathers practiced when they would no longer buy England's tea—not that they did not feel themselves in need of the tea and would have been glad to have it on honorable terms, but the terms were not honorable; they were distinctly dishonorable because humiliating and oppressive.

So let it be with that numerus, independent and thrifty people whose chief occupation for many long years has been first overcoming stubborn and rebellious nature west of the Missouri river and then compelling it to yield of its treasures not only that the toilers themselves but their friends and dependencies might enjoy improved circumstances and the happier lives which come therefrom. It took a long time to fight the battles and make the soil capitulate; but they were fought out and the victory was won. The golden sands of California were well-nigh depleted of their treasures, the ruddy stream flowing to the east had changed from a vast, steady and ceaseless one to the reverse in all respects and threatened to subside altogether. War was upon the land and the nation's eyes were turned—where? To Germany or England or any part of the East for the means to prosecute the conflict? No; to the sagebrush plains, the trackless mountains, the precipitous cliffs and the adamantine caverns of the far West where civilization had established itself and was plodding along toward eminence and wealth without even so much assistance from the other side of the continent as a company of soldiery or a stand of arms with which to overawe the more ruthless of the neighboring savages. No matter; the Union must and should be preserved. Even though the Westerners were practically living in a foreign country, the loyalty of the land that cradled them and the fellow feeling for their brethren left behind were paramount, and thus the golden tide had no sooner ebbed than one of silver began its flood, and its move was also to the East. There was no caviling as to terms, no question as to what shape the precious cargoes were to return to them in; if they never returned at all, very well. They were needed there; the nation's life, the people's prosperity thereafter, hung upon money in abundance going beyond the great divide—not money called into existence by the aid of that false crucible called credit—but money which spoke for itself, which carried its values with it in its atoms, the money authorized by the founders of our institutions—gold and silver. That was the treatment of the "solid East" by the "speculative West," and it was effective.

It is not proposed to make it a sentimental question at all. We are not asking the money centers for gratitude by any means; we are asking them for justice based upon reason. They have not only seen but felt the power of silver in the land when given the place which the laws of nature and the necessities of man require it to occupy. If there were any valid reason, any cogent, logical, pertinent circumstance calling for its dethronement and abasement, we would not be so unreasonable as to demand that it be continued as money. But there is none such. The procedure resulting in the stripping from silver of its royal attire has been a network of trickery having in view the aggrandisement of those who live off the products of others. The West and the South were becoming two vast and growing empires within an empire; their products were and are indispensable to the commercial world,

and silver is the money upon which they chiefly rely, by which the values of nearly all their staples are gauged. With silver continued as money these two sections would have dictated their own terms, instead of having terms prescribed for them, as is the case when gold in the hands of eastern and foreign speculators rules the market. What other object than controlling the substance of the land on such conditions as the financiers saw fit to prescribe could the members of Congress have had when they hoodwinked the law of 1873 into existence? Silver was at a premium over gold, and western and southern products stood correspondingly high in the markets; there was no such chance for speculation then as there would be with the principal money of the country itself a marketable product, so that the entire scale would be within their control; and besides, the great money centers of London and Frankfurt-on-the-Main would have no correspondence with American concerns except those that were transacted with gold only; and these, living and growing as they do on the interests gathered from the peoples of the earth, were all too willing to aid in arresting the onward progress of the United States from an indebted to a financially as well as otherwise independent power—and they did so. If not, let us hear some other explanation. We have shown the apparent cause of demonetization and none other appears; now, if appearances are illusive in this case and the real reason is not shown, why not let us have it?

Until this is done and done to our satisfaction, we shall continue to hold that the attempted destruction of our greatest industry and through it the crippling of every other was done to keep the West and the South in debt, in order that the money changers at home and abroad may live in ease and affluence from the profits of the labor and enterprise of those sections. The longer it is continued the less there is to pay with and the more stringent the money market becomes, making higher rates of interest a matter of course.

There seem at present but two avenues out of the calamitous condition—the rehabilitation of silver or the complete discontinuance of eastern traffic. Revolution is talked of by some, but while there are righteously wrathful and have much justification for threatening violent measures, their sober second judgment will not permit them to do anything more in that direction than just talk and even that much is foolishness. Let us possess our souls in patience until the extra session of Congress convenes and has an opportunity to deal with the question. If it shall not embrace its opportunity, or embracing fail to secure a just and reasonable enactment, then will be the time for heroic measures. We do not mean such heroism as is displayed in hostile warfare, but the kind that is first herein spoken of—the exercise of self-denial and doing without those things that we cannot produce in our midst. A policy of this kind unanimously upheld will work all the reformation upon our Eastern brethren that is needed and that too before another summer solstice falls upon the land.