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WAITING FOR THE DAWN.

The announcement comes from the East that money is abundant at two and one-half per cent interest on call. It would not matter much to us in the West if it were only half of that; if, indeed, it were only the fraction named, because in a financial sense the East has established a censorship over the rest of the country, and whatever convenient arrangement the money-changers may make with each other for their own mutual benefit produces as much of an effect outside the circle immediately participating in such transactions as that in the overland spring equinox. Wall street is "the closed sea" of the financial nation; everything goes in but nothing goes out except as the Argonauts went forth, in quest of the golden fleece, and in this case invariably finding it.

This may be the dark hour before dawn. There is every reason for hoping so and a few for believing so. One of the latter is that when a nation, like an individual, gets to the bottom there is but one course he can then take—upward. Another is that when an individual finds his cash on hand and available unequal to the requirements of his business, he must obtain more from sources other than those formerly relied upon or go out of business—a situation which sometimes results in his making a move that but for the stringency he might never have thought of. Rather than let everything go, he may determine to let some few things go or to make the most of some other things which previously were not.

The United States through its duly constituted agents has done more than merely throw into practical disuse half of its constitutional money; it has placed such money by reason of hostile treatment in such a position that it has acquired a bad name and those had been taking it right along without question and in some cases even giving a premium for it finally joined in the general and looked with suspicion and distrust upon the once favored metal. It is something like the reputation of a citizen, easy to lose but hard to win back, and so we are confronted not only with a situation meaning so much ready money out of circulation that business is prostrate, but the prospect of that condition continuing until business contracts and subsides down to the volume of currency represented by gold in the country, with silver figuring merely as a convenient auxiliary in the shape of change for few limited amounts. It is a sort of Procrustean bedstead arrangement, in which business must be reduced until it gets down to a level with the volume of currency or the latter must be increased sufficiently to be equal to the former. The gold is accomplished; we have not and cannot get, and those who keep it where it is and the other metal in the mine and vault will not have things different from what they are. No we repeat, this may be the critical period, and a measure of relief one way or another, be it noted without much further delay—either there must be a widespread spread of currency, or more of the wherewith to conduct transactions be brought out and disseminated. The congested condition cannot last much longer, it must give way to something more nearly normal.

It is a proposition that stands to reason that the government is not and has not been doing the best it could in the matter of a circulating medium, even from the Sherman standpoint. This wonderful looks to gold as the only measure of value with such status given to silver as its recognition as a mere matter of temporary convenience may obtain, but never to any extent to be a legal tender above a certain fixed and trifling sum. With all the hardships that this would entail if made law and enforced, with the enormous shrinkage in commercial affairs that would ensue as a consequence, it would still follow that silver might occupy a much higher estate than it does now, poor and humble as that is, if the limit of its de-paying power were placed at ten dollars, nine-tenths of the pensions could be paid in it; by such means it would require a certain responsibility and stability of its own

in spite of the law, for it would go to the small business men of the community and from them to the farmers and other producers, coming and going continually, effecting exchange and settling little accounts and thus creating activity by communitarian matter if the guardians of the nation kept on in their policy of contraction. At present the pensions are not and for a long time they have not been a draft on the silver deposits now overflowing, and they might as well be as not. In this and many other ways the white metal could be put to use without afflicting the dentures of Wall street from their prosperity or making their nights sleepless. It would not all amount to much but would be doing the best that could be done under very unfavorable circumstances and would be an immense improvement on what we now are undergoing. If we cannot have a whole lot, let us by all means have as large a slice as possible. The coinage of silver dollars has been indefinitely stopped; now let us have those that are stacked up in the treasury vaults.

The point aimed at is for the government, while doing as it seems in the matter regarding itself, to place no further obstacle in the people's way—not to interfere with the money which several times has saved its credit and at least once saved its life. If the common people can still find use for it, do not restrict them in so doing by either annulling the money power of silver altogether or relating to issue in small sums when it can be done as well as not and let the groveling tailors, the coarse-grained rank and file make the most of it. If they can extract comfort, happiness or even a moderate degree of prosperity from a debased metal and at the same time not infringe upon the landed and gifted and cultured aristocracy by so much as the hundredth part of one per cent per annum, why not let them?

AN OPEN QUESTION.

It looks very much as if all was not going our way before the Hering case, and that if Mr. Russell concludes to conclude his speech before the commissioners do or do not demand, there will be other fingers than ours in the game. It all goes to show that in making any kind of a bargain, nothing should be left to inference or presumption; all the features in the case should be understood and put down, and then if either party cannot deliver all the goods it sells or in any other way fails to come up squarely to the requirements of the deal, let a forfeiture which shall previously have been secured be made. Nations and individuals would save a great deal of ill feeling and expense if they would do this all the time. If the commission should decide that Russia had no title in the thirty-mile limit to reward which she conveyed to the United States—within which are contained pretty much all the seals between the straits and the Aleutian Islands and probably a majority of those in the whole world—we will have to fall back upon the southwest possession, and while we then have the laugh on us it is not indeed something more serious. So would Russia; she got her money and gave us possession of something she did not own. If we demand restitution to the extent to which we claim to be injured she would have a double defender. First, the purchaser must beware and if he does not ascertain what it is that he is buying it is his own fault and his own loss, second, the purchaser turned out better for us than we expected it would, the property bought having already yielded many times more than it cost, so that in equity the claim, if any, would be the other way. However, the decision is not made yet and as Mr. Charles Russell seems to think that a speech to be immortal must also be eternal, it may not be for some time and even then there is a chance for it to come out way after all. In the meantime the question will prevail—the Hering case open or closed like the World's Fair on Sunday?

A PECULIAR APPOINTMENT.

It is a rather singular circumstance that the position of poet laureate of Great Britain, after being held by the laylike, the classic and the turn-of-mind of the realm, should at last be allotted to a man who never wrote a poem to his life, at least not since he reached maturity, and who probably may not recognize the muse when he meets it. We can readily understand that Mr. Gladstone is neither a poet nor a man who pretends to be in any great extent with his daily affairs, still, he is a great reader and thus, there is something of a judge of the article, and therefore uses his selection of John Ruskin take a place among the unexplained surprises of the day. It was indeed a surprise to the uninitiated and a very small proportion of it is of the good-natured variety. In this temper, according to a contemporary, it is not at all strange that the surprise which first came

upon the people should be followed by indignation. Mr. Gladstone's action is regarded as rather in the nature of an ill-considered and homeless joke. He has made a poor writer feel, laureate, and if even so discriminating a journal as the New York Herald fails to understand the premier's reasons it is not likely that the liberal minds of English critics will. The New York paper goes so far as to find in the compliment thus tendered to Ruskin a sign of Gladstone's sanity.

It is pronounced strange and regrettable that the tender of the laureateship has not been taken merely as a tribute to an old man of unimpaired genius. Mr. Ruskin is defined as a poet only in the sense that he was a creator. But, allowing the definition, he is declared to be a far greater poet than most of his contemporaries who scratch down epics with such disastrous facility, because it was better to give the honor to a poetic writer of prose than to a prose writer of verse; and this is what Mr. Gladstone is said to have done.

THEY FIGHT A SHADOW.

In 1859, as will be remembered, our city was visited by members of the Grand Army of the Republic and the occasion was taken advantage of by certain anti-Mormons to have a demonstration with a series of more or less eloquent denunciations of the people in this Territory. In the audience one evening was a stranger who, after having listened for a while, turned to a Baptist clergyman, a friend of his, well acquainted with the conditions in Utah, and asked him what the true cause was of the warfare against the Mormons. "Well," the minister said, "to be frank, I hardly know. As for the Christian churches, they desire that Mormonism shall be put down, because it is a wrong religion, and those whose only ambition is political distinction and remunerative office join us, because they know that they can depend on our votes."

"But why do you not then meet the Mormons on a Biblical ground and show them that their religion is wrong, instead of threatening them with the sword as some of these speakers have done? It is making martyrs of them."

"That is it," the minister said, "but we cannot reason with them. We have tried in vain. The only point, seemingly, on which Mormonism can be assailed is its peculiar doctrine on marriage, and we are going to work that for all it is worth."

The minister stated no doubt the position of many of the anti-Mormons at the time correctly. It was not any particular love for morality that prompted their actions, but it was their desire for plunder on the one hand and for the establishment of sectarian churches on the other. The calculation at that time was that the Mormons should be led on to defy the laws and the government of the country, until in the conflict they should be broken to pieces, when the agitators would be ready to seize the spoils in the ruins they had wrought. But this calculation was sadly upset. The Mormons, instead of defying the government or sinning the laws, loyally accepted the decision of the Supreme Court, an evidence of the sincerity of their faith in the supremacy of the lawfully constituted authorities of the country. When this became known to the whole world through the action of the Church authorities sustained by the unanimous vote of the people, it was as if an earthquake had shaken the ground on which the anti-Mormons were waging the battle. Many of those who were honest, left the ranks, while others, perhaps the majority, were in the position of an army suddenly cut off from its base of operations. For a time they hesitated. But at last they rallied again. They could no longer plead polygamy as a cause for continuing the hostilities. They had to shift their ground, and the almost forgotten charge of "Church rule" was again raised up. Formerly it was always said that if polygamy were given up, the Mormons would be all right. But when that was accomplished the organ of hatred and vilification hastened to inform the decreasing circle of readers that polygamy had never been the worst feature of Mormonism; it was "Church rule" that was the real sin of the system, and as long as that existed the war had to be kept up.

while other churches say they are ruled by God only through the word written in the Bible centuries ago, this church recognizes the Divine word in all ages, including our own. That the establishment of one Church was and still is held to be one of the preparatory steps to the establishment on earth of a Theocracy during a coming millennium may be true, but that does not prove that the leaders of the Church claim distinction in political matters.

The belief of the Mormons as plainly expressed in the Doctrine and Covenants is that it is not "just to mingle religious influence with civil government," and the conduct of the members is in accordance with this belief. No amount of unsupported statements can be taken as proof of the contrary.

THE Tribune declares that the editor of the News "had in early childhood some people for teachers who did not know in what direction New York or London is from this city." For some reason or other the Liberal organ thinks it is a double-edged patent on the whole school and educational question, and makes itself consequently ridiculous. The News editor's schoolmaster taught him that New York or London was either west or east of this city, according to the length of journey and the direction one wished to travel, and there wasn't one of those teachers who didn't know in a minute more about truth and honor and fairness than the Tribune writer has learned in all his life.

"A NATIONAL GONG-POW" is what the Presbyterian general assembly at Washington call the World's Fair at Chicago. What the pious Chicago newspapers call the Presbyterian general assembly has not yet been divulged.

"Money is close," say all the western financial papers. Close to whom?

"Money is tight," say the Mississippi valley dailies. It must have been juggling with the whiskey trust.

According to this morning's Tribune a poor woman called at the editorial offices of that paper yesterday and asked as she saw the editor-in-chief she fell into an epileptic fit.

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