

"3. No canvas was ever made in any district of the nation prior to the act of 1873, for the demonetizing of silver; no popular assembly or convention of the people, of any party, ever asked for it; no political platform of any organization demanded it; no petitions from the people of any section of the Union sought it—and of the hundreds of financial plans for the relief of the country, for the payment of the debt, or for coin resumption, which were published and advocated, none of them proposed such an act for the amelioration of our financial ills; not one.

"4. The demonetizing act therefore was passed, not at all as responsive to any demand or desire, or petition of the people; and was so ingeniously concealed in a coinage act that neither the President who signed it, nor the present President who has to execute it if not repealed, knew what had been done till long after it had gone into effect.

"5. If this is really 'a government of the people, and for the people and by the people,' an act thus passed, though it may have legal effect, is a popular wrong that should be corrected by the servants of the people promptly and cheerfully, not haltingly or grudgingly, or reluctantly, or evasively.

"6. If the explicit language of our National Constitution means anything, gold and silver are equally the constitutional coin of our land.

"7. If the explicit language of the first act of General Grant's administration, 'the act to strengthen the public credit,' and which did strengthen it with our creditors and the world, means anything, the nation pledged itself in March, 1869, to pay its debts 'in coin or its equivalent,' not in gold alone.

"8. If the explicit language of the Funding Act of June, 1870 means anything, the nation again pledged itself to pay the bonds funded under it in 'the standard coin of that date,' which was gold and silver, and not gold alone.

"9. If in 1861, 1869, and 1870 corn and oats were both and equally legal tender for debts, 'between man and man,' as the phrase is, no consideration of equity, honor, or conscience would require that debt incurred, under and in full view of such a promise, should be paid in the dealer of these products, because the other happened to be cheaper from over production or any other cause whatever.

"10. If the demonetizing act was a popular wrong—if it was neither demanded, desired, nor petitioned for by the people—if it could not now, were a new and original proposition before the people, who ought to be the rulers of the land, command even a quarter of their votes—ought it not to be promptly corrected? And, then, when the status quo is thus restored, would it not be an excellent time afterwards to propose an international commission of European and American nations to determine what should hereafter be the relation of the two coins to each other?

#### WHOSE BUSINESS?

THE People of Weber County, particularly those residing in its western part, are anxious to obtain the erection of a substantial bridge over the Weber, and have therefore petitioned the County Court to build a bridge across that river, west of Ogden City, for the accommodation of pedestrians and travel by vehicles. There is a foot bridge connected with the railroad bridge, but this, of course, is entirely insufficient for public requirements. A bridge is really needed at the point designated. At present the people of Hooper, West Weber, and those residing in what is called Wilson's Lane, as well as the settlers on the vast extent of newly occupied land 'over the river,' have either to ford the Weber, which is very dangerous at some seasons of the year, or to go round by Rive-dale and cross by the county bridge, which is now out of repair and is always liable to be so.

But the question arises who is to build the bridge? We notice that the Ogden Junction, of Saturday, takes the ground that the city and not the county should build the bridge required and pay all the expenses incurred in its erection, and not only the bridge in question, but

all other bridges within the limits of the corporation. In support of this proposition, that paper quotes from the City Charter. Among other powers granted by that instrument are the following: "To exclusively control, regulate, repair, amend and clear the streets, alleys, bridges, sidewalks, or crosswalks, and open, widen, straighten or vacate streets and alleys, and put drains or ditches and sewers therein, and prevent the incumbering of the streets in any manner and protect the same from encroachment and injury."

The Junction further states that "the city receives every benefit arising from an incorporated existence," and argues, therefore, that it "must be responsible for everything derogatory to the welfare of private citizens and remove the same whenever practicable." And after some further efforts to show that cities are required to keep their streets and thoroughfares in good repair, which no one denies, it closes by saying:

"If the western boundary of Ogden City takes in the western bank of Weber river—which, according to the charter, it certainly does—it is not the duty of the county court to primarily entertain the petition referred to."

As this is a matter of considerable general importance, affecting other cities as well as Ogden, and other counties as well as Weber, we offer some remarks upon the subject. We do not wish to dispute the point in relation to the city boundaries. But we do dispute the conclusion arrived at. A careful examination of the clause quoted from the city charter will show, that while the corporation is required to control, regulate, repair, amend and clear the streets, bridges," etc., there is no provision requiring it to build bridges over rivers that may touch the city or pass through it. The corporation has the right to regulate a great many things, but this does not imply manufacturing them; it is authorized to regulate the "fixing of chimneys and flues," but is not required to build them.

There are two large rivers—the Ogden and the Weber, within the limits of Ogden City. To build substantial bridges over those rivers would exhaust all the revenues of the city for years, leaving nothing for current expenses and other improvements. The erection of bridges over such large streams is a matter that concerns the counties as much as the cities. It is not true that the city receives "every benefit arising from an incorporated existence." The limit of municipal taxation is one half of one per cent. The counties are allowed three fourths of one per cent. Whatever benefit cities derive from taxation is obtained in a greater degree by the counties. Every improvement a city makes increasing the value of property is so much more revenue to the county. And bridges over large rivers are certainly as much, at least, for the benefit of county people coming into a city as for city people going out of it.

And in the one fourth of one per cent. taxation allowed the counties above the amount allowed the cities, arises a question where-by hangs a tale. The Territory used to receive one half of one per cent. tax and the counties one half. At that time the Territory made appropriations for the building of roads and the erection of bridges. But on relinquishing one fourth of one per cent. of its revenue and giving it to the counties the duty in relation to roads and bridges was devolved upon the latter. But the question may be asked did the Territory make appropriations for the building of bridges within the limits of incorporated cities. Certainly. We could cite a number of instances of this kind. But one, being pertinent to this case, will suffice. In the Territorial appropriation bill, approved January 19, 1866, occurs the following:

To assist in building a bridge across Ogden River, on the Territorial road in Weber County, three thousand dollars."

This is the bridge which has recently been removed, a new one being erected at the joint expense of the city and county, the latter doing its portion instead of the Territory for the reason above named. By the same rule, if a bridge is to be built over the Weber River, the expense should be as the two bodies, mutually interested, may mutually agree. This is the course pursued by other cities

and counties, and is fair, equitable, according to law, and in no wise discordant with the powers and requirements of the city charters.

The conclusion, therefore, arrived at by the Junction, that the County Court should not "primarily entertain" the petition presented, is incorrect. The County Court of Weber County has hitherto manifested a praiseworthy desire for the benefit of the people under its supervision. It has performed excellent service in many directions. Its Court House is a model of convenience, and is a handsome and substantial public building of which any county might feel proud. The Court met the city promptly half way in the construction of the new bridge across the Ogden, and we have no doubt that when in a financial condition to warrant further expenditures, that body will cheerfully join with the City Corporation in erecting the much needed bridge across the Weber river on the west side of the Junction City, one of the most flourishing towns in the Rocky Mountains, with prospects equal to the best and a great future as the commercial, manufacturing and railroad metropolis of Northern Utah.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

Marriages between Chinamen and American women are said to be common in New York.

In Illinois nine women have been elected county superintendents of schools this year.

The New York Sun says Mr. Evarts already begins to think about stepping down and out.

They are talking of six or eight degrees below zero in the day time already in Montana.

Kentucky girls are eloping three sisters at a time, to get married. All of a kind.

The St. Louis Journal thinks Secretary Sherman's proposed tax on tea and coffee would be most unjust to the poor.

New Orleans people are very anxious to have their Texas railroad built, and even the ladies are holding meetings about it.

The striking chair-makers as well as the striking cigar-makers of New York have set up on their own account co-operatively.

At Gilmore's Garden, New York, a young Frenchman wrestles with a young bear from the Pyrenees. The bear is very energetic.

A tramp in New Hampshire shot a woman because she would not give him money as well as a dinner.

Wendell Phillips is not so young as he once was, and it is said he intends shortly to retire from the lecture field. What, before he has visited Salt Lake and lectured here!

The Charlotte Observer says that Mrs. Margaret Gray died recently in Cabarrus County, North Carolina, at the age of 116 years. She was the mother of sixteen children.

There seems to be no evil unmixed with good. During the late strike at Bolton, Lancashire, cases of drunkenness decreased thirty per cent.

Editors amount to something in Germany. For instance, the Editor of the general Postoffice journal is called a Reichsberamszeitung-schreiber.

Two or three table-spoonfuls of pulverized charcoal taken in a glass of water at night, weekly, is the best remedy for offensive breath, says a correspondent of the Dental Cosmos.

The German States have an income tax, and when they can not find out a man's income to tax it, they take his outgo, and he pays for what he spends. If he dies without paying, they will take tax from what he leaves.

The illness and expected death of Samuel Bowles, editor of the Springfield, Mass., Republican, is understood to be due to overwork. Everybody has several acquaintances who will never die of that disease.

Scotland is to have a Roman Catholic hierarchy immediately, the conditions proposed by the English government in the matter having been accepted by the Vatican. So old Scotia will be honored with a cardinal.

Hon. Henry McIvor was recently re-elected associate justice of the supreme court of South Carolina by the unanimous vote of the legislature—Democrats and Republicans. That's the way.

The St. Louis Times says when wheat goes up ten cents a bushel, flour gets the news in half a minute by telegraph. But when wheat goes down, flour gets the news by mail, and a slow mail at that.

It is said that a band of Portuguese amateurs have started out from Lisbon to explore Central Africa in Stanley's tracks, and to negotiate, if possible, "treaties of commerce with the natives along the route."

Rabbi Hirsch Guttman died recently at Gross-Strelitz, aged 108 years. He had not eaten meat since he reached the age of sixty. The flesh devourers will probably say if he had eaten meat freely, he might have lived to be 150.

Mrs. Oates says she is entirely innocent as regards the Laurent affair, and she will prove in open court that it is all the work of one spiteful man. O the mean fellow! Laurent also says Alice had nothing to do with the case.

A St. Louis paper says, "Mormon Bibles are scarce, and command high prices." They can be bought at reasonable prices at the DESERET News Office in this city. That is, if the Book of Mormon is what is meant.

Dutch doctors say people would live longer if they did not spit so much, which is another way of saying that saliva is designed to aid digestion rather than to slime carpets and floors and fireplaces and furniture.

Some people know how to make money and some don't. The banks in San Antonio, Texas, recently paid the working men of the town \$50,000 in Mexican dollars, and the next day refused to take it back again at less than five per cent. discount.

The California House of Representatives the other day passed the following resolution—"Resolved, That the policy of permitting the State lands to be monopolized in the interests of the few at the expense of the many, is subversive of the rights of the people and ruinous to the best interests of the State."

At Charleston (Va.) a negro who had been persuaded to hold one of the ropes of a fire balloon while it was being inflated, became entangled in the rope when the balloon ascended and he was drawn up sixty feet in the air, when he lost hold of the rope and fell to the ground, stunned and unconscious and probably fatally injured.

The Oakland (Cal.) Transcript says Governor Irwin, of that State, has pardoned more criminals than any other governor during the same length of office, and the Governor himself, in his late message, says, "I do not hesitate to declare that I would take away the pardoning power entirely as now vested in the Executive."

Mr. Rhine, a temperance evangelist, is one who "knows how it is himself." He has been there, whether he still would go or not, but he says it is like a little heaven below, though it does not last long, and is generally followed by an experience that smacks of that other place, with plenty of devils blue to make it lively. He recently talked to a Canada audience in this way—"There is a mistaken impression in this country that there is no fascination in a 'drunk.' I tell you there is a joy in it; there is a delight in it; there is an exhilarating influence that perhaps none of you present have ever felt. I have felt it."

Edinburgh boasts houses of many stories, but in the West End of London, and overlooking St. James' Park, Mr. Hankey, a banker, has built some mansions twelve stories high, supposed to be the tallest houses in the world. They are let in flats, and he occupies the highest flat himself, thus commanding the finest views and the purest air. "Elevators travel to each story, and electric bells and speaking tubes are in every room. There is a wine cellar for each tenant; the male servants are in liveries; the females wear a neat and uniform dress; and one quarterly payment covers servants, taxes, gas, water, and indeed every ordinary item of housekeeping, even down to insurance of furniture."

The Bridgeport (Conn.) Standard asks, "Will the time ever come when 'Christian charity,' of which so many beautiful things are said and sung, will be a living reality, ready and willing to succor all the needy?" Not until "that which is perfect" shall come and society, like all things else, is "made new."

In St. Louis many petty offences are committed for the purpose of obtaining free board in prison, and the grand jury recommends the use of the whipping post again in consequence. The lash is not the proper cure for poverty, even if the incorrect saying be admitted that "poverty is a crime."

Dean Stanley recently told a meeting of laborers in Westminster Abbey, that the higher a man's education the more it made him feel the value of genuine work. A studious shoemaker once told him that, after reading, there was nothing he enjoyed more than making a good shoe.

The New York Sun says General Grant takes the world easy, and travels over Europe like a royal person, and everywhere they go he and his family and retinue have the best and most expensive accommodations, regardless of cost. The Sun wants to know where the money comes from, as before he was President he had no great private fortune.

Recently George Francis Train fasted for six days, and for months previously his usual bill of fare is said to have been this—"For breakfast, five penny rolls, five cents, and a cup of coffee five cents; for dinner ten cents worth of potatoes and bread, and five cents worth of baked beans; for supper a cup of coffee, five cents. The total cost per day was thirty cents." G. F. T. is economical if he is not crazy.

The New York Sun says, foreigners coming to this country are, with very few exceptions, poor and mean, and only come to make a fortune and return home to spend it. It is bad enough to be either poor or mean, but to be both is terrible. The foreigners may acknowledge that they are not quite perfect, but they will hardly allow that they monopolize the meanness in this country.

Rev. Joseph Cook, of Boston, recently said compulsory voting was a good thing in ancient Athens, and might be a good thing in modern Athens. But the New York Sun claims that in old Athens compulsory voting operated so badly that it was abandoned in favor of paid voting. Compulsory voting does not obtain in this country, but there is no doubt a good many voters are paid for their votes in the States.

The Washington Star of Dec. 7 says, "Mrs. Belva Lockwood, of the District of Columbia, Mrs. Van Cott, of New York, and Miss Ricketts, of New Hampshire, were accorded a hearing before the House judiciary committee this morning, in favor of allowing women to practise before the United States Supreme Court. Mrs. Lockwood recited how she had been denied this privilege. The committee unanimously directed Gen. Butler to report a bill forthwith covering the case."

The ring clique in this Territory want to do their voting, like many other of their evil deeds, in secret. Per contra, in his recent message, Governor Kemper, of Virginia, cordially recommended a return to viva voce voting. The Richmond Dispatch indorses the recommendation, but says it would be almost too good to be hoped for. "If we went to the polls," says the Dispatch, "and heard the votes cried, we should think that 'Old Virginny' had come again. May good angels shower this gift upon us."

Public instruction without amusement does not seem to prove a financial success. The London Builder claims it as a melancholy fact that exhibitions of popular science alone will not pay a dividend. "The Panopticon, where all sorts of manufactures were displayed in course of making, becomes the Alhambra, the educational courts of the Crystal Palace are insufficient without farces and fireworks, and an aquarium, whether at Brighton or elsewhere, to succeed financially must provide music with the mollusks and songs with the sea lions."