

200 pounds and stands 5 feet 10 inches in his stockings. His complexion is dark, his eyes are blue, but his mustache and hair are of a dark brown verging on blackness. He talks from the abdomen and he can speak for hours without tiring. He has an extraordinary memory and usually talks without notes. His best sentences are framed after he is on the floor, and he don't believe that the greatest speech can be made otherwise than on the spur of the moment. He is still a young man and was born on the last day of February just thirty-nine years ago.

#### BRYAN OF NEBRASKA.

Bourke Cockran is a great orator. Bryan of Nebraska is a very fair speaker. He lacks Cockran's form and physique, and his square face is angular rather than full. He is a black-eyed dark-faced man of thirty-three. His jaw is heavy, square and smooth shaven. His cheek bones are prominent and his forehead square. He is a pleasant talker and is fond of dealing in well-rounded phrases, and his speeches are full of poetry. His first speech in Congress was a surprise. Sayers of Texas gave him a portion of his time, and Bryan spoke on free wool. He had not talked three minutes before he had the attention of the House, and he held them for an hour. Bryan is comparatively a poor man. He is a lawyer of Lincoln, Neb., and he comes originally from Illinois.

#### HIS NAME IS LAFE.

The latest sensation among the youngsters of the House is Lafe Pence of Denver. He created a sensation as soon as the House opened, and he made one of the bright, shrewd speeches of the time. He had quite a contest with Isadore Rayner, in which he showed himself as regardless of the feelings of his opponent as is Tom Reed. He kept the House in a roar of laughter during his attack on Bynum, and he promises, in fact, to be a second John J. Ingalls. Pence is a typical westerner. He looks like the cow boys of Frederick Remington's sketches. Tall and lean, he has a long, thin head, the most striking feature of which is a long, thin nose. His cheeks are thin, his jaws strong, and his smoothly shaven face is full of lines of determination and grit. He is all muscle, bones and brains. Just how much brains the future will show, but he has demonstrated that he has a fair quantity and no lack of grit. His face is rather sallow, and his arms are as long as those of John Sherman. He has shed his vest during these dog days, and he wears a flannel shirt with a turnover collar, about which he has a long blue scarf. This scarf is tied in a sailor knot, and the blue ends of it stand out on each side of his chin against his short black coat. With all his rough air he is a college-bred man, and he comes here at the age of thirty six as a Populist and a silver Democrat.

#### A WORD ABOUT ISADORE RAYNER.

Speaking of Pence brings to mind Isadore Rayner. Rayner is a clean-cut, dark faced member from Baltimore. He made a reputation for himself during the Fiftieth and Fifty-second Congresses as an able debater, a sound thinker and an all-round good fellow. He is of Jewish descent, but there is no sign of the Israelite in his features. I don't know how rigid he is in his belief, but I have been told that he is rather liberal. He

comes of a wealthy family, and he makes about \$25,000 a year at his law practice in Baltimore. He is well educated, modest and very ambitious. He talks smoothly and well. He calls himself a bimetallist, but he is one of that sort which lean toward a gold standard. Isadore Rayner is about five feet eight inches in height; he weighs about 150 pounds. His face is dark and rosy, and his jet black hair, which he parts very near the middle, is smoothly plastered down upon his head. His forehead is high and broad, and he looks more like a club man than a Congressman.

#### SILVER-DOLLAR BLAND.

Silver-Dollar Bland on the other hand looks like a grocer or a lay Methodist preacher who devotes himself to selling goods between Sundays. He wears a white necktie, a blank alpaca sack coat and black pantaloons and vest. He is a short stocky man well along in the fifties. He has the sallow complexion of the Missourian and much thinking has gouged the hair out of the top of his head. His hair is not motheaten, as has been said of Allen of Mississippi, but it is well thinned out at the crown and over the forehead. He has a reddish brown beard covering the lower half of his face and he keeps his jaws moving while not speaking in chewing tobacco. He is a man of considerable ability and of bull dog tenacity. His silver dollar bill in reality was invented by Senator Allison and Bland was at that time in favor of free coinage. He is thoroughly posted on all silver questions and his district sends him here as the advocate of silver. He is not a great speaker. He is a man of small means notwithstanding that he lived in the mineral regions of the west during some of the greatest gold and silver finds. He is not a companionable man and he is rather quiet and reserved than "hale fellow well met."

#### CATCHINGS AND CANNON.

"Mississippi Catchings" and "Illinois Cannon" have created considerable attention already and they will keep themselves before the people during the rest of this Congress. Catchings of Mississippi looks for all the world like George Daniels, the general passenger agent of the Big Four railroad. He has long red chin whiskers, a square forehead, from the middle of which a white part runs back to the crown, and thin light hair so carefully combed that you can see the parallel lines of white scalp shining through it. He makes me think of the Maine speaker of the House who got so angry at Hamlin one day. This man had very few hairs and he combed them just in order to cover his baldness. One day Hamlin went up to him and in a joking way said: "Excuse me, Mr. Speaker, but you have one of your hairs crossed this morning." This remark made the speaker very angry and he became Hamlin's enemy for life. Well, Catchings' head is not exactly bald, but the hair is very thin and very fine. His head is very full at the top and the ears are well set down on the sides. He is not a bad looking man and he is a fairly good speaker. He delights in quoting Jefferson and Jackson and he talks easily and well.

Joe Cannon, on the other hand, is the greatest air tearer in Congress. He makes a dozen gestures a minute and when he begins to shake his finger it moves up and down at the rate of 100

revolutions to every sixty seconds. He looks a trifle older than when he was in Congress a few years ago, but he has, if anything, more energy than ever, and he appears every day on the floor fresh for the fight. He is more at home here than he was in Illinois. A large part of his life has been spent in Congress and he once told me that he would be a rich man today if he had kept out of it. As it is I have been told that he is worth in the neighborhood of \$200,000. Some of this has been made in banking. He is a strong advocate of a protective tariff, is in favor of a postal telegraph and is a Republican first, last and all the time.

#### A WORD ABOUT MCGREARY.

Governor McCreary has made a number of good speeches during this session. He is a bimetallist and he rings all the changes upon his theory, talking in stentorian tones and gesturing the while with a pair of spectacles which he puts on his nose every time he has to look at his notes or read a quotation. He is a big man, weighing, I judge, about 200 pounds and standing about five feet ten in his polished boots. He has a heavy head, a dark rosy face, which he keeps as smoothly shaven as was that of Daniel Webster, and he cultivates, it seems to me, Webster in his voice and manner. He seldom jests on the floor, though he is a good story teller in private. He is a lawyer from Richmond, Ky., and is worth about a quarter of a million dollars. He lives in Richmond, within a stone's throw of where he was born. His law office there is the headquarters of the politicians of the state, and he was spoken of for the United States Senate when Carlisle was elected.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

#### HIGH UP IN THE MOUNTAINS.

MOUNT BALDY, Sept. 2, 1893. — In our last letter we looked back. Now we are looking down.

Baldy mountain is over 12,000 feet above sea level, and stands at the head of Provo Bear, Weber, and the Duchesne rivers. On this mountain stands a government monument, a monument that indicates the north-west corner of the Uinta reservation. Standing here one can look to the east and see Reed's Peak, the highest mountain in Utah, above 14,000 feet high; also see Evanston city. But the most interesting sight are the many beautiful lakes that form the head of Bear river. This river runs at the head to the east, thence north, thence west through the many mountains, gathering water until it reaches the Great Salt Lake.

Looking to the north, you behold the lakes that form the Weber river, which runs to the north some distance, thence west into the Lake.

Look to the west and you behold many mountains towering above the great forests of pine, so green that they look black. These mountains are broken rock principally, with but little soil and but little vegetation, some beautiful flowers of many colors but no fragrance. It is not uncommon to see a flower with in a few feet of an everlasting snow-drift. From here you behold Mount Nebo, also many mountains further west.

Looking south you see the Elk mountains, with many others. The see-room must extend hundreds of miles in that direction. Here, too, are the lakes that form the Duchesne river.