

100 cent. With a free coinage law in force, and the silver of the world turned this way, he thinks our country would soon be a woful spectacle of financial chaos. Under the present restrictive law he thinks it had enough. He says:

"The silver dollar now issued under a limited coinage has 80 cents of intrinsic value in it, so accredited the world over, and the other 20 cents is legislative will—the mere breath of Congress. That is, what the dollar lacks of value to make it a perfect dollar Congress supplies by public declaration and holds the extra 20 cents in the Treasury for its protection."

In reply to this the New York *World* asks under what head does the extra 20 cents appear in the treasury statement, or in what form is it held? The *World* further asks:

"Wherein does the coinage under the Republican silver bill differ in essential character from free coinage? If the 'breath of Congress' can add 20 cents to the value of each of 60,000,000 silver dollars a year, thus creating \$12,000,000 of value out of nothing, why can it not do the same for as many silver dollars as the mints can coin?"

General John Beattie, a well known financial authority of Ohio, argues:

"The difference between the Republican and Democratic platforms of Ohio with respect to the silver question is imaginary rather than real. Both platforms are absolutely unwise and thoroughly dishonest. The policy approved by the Republicans as well as that proposed by the Democrats will, if adhered to, render the 80-cent dollar the only metal currency of the country. If the short dollar is a good thing, it would be better to reach it at a bound than to go to it by stages. If bad, the sooner we are confronted by its disastrous effects the more speedily we shall abandon it and place ourselves upon a solid and sensible business footing."

These views will show what a complicated issue this free-coinage question is. There is, however, one feature plain to every newspaper reader, and that is, the same arguments now used against free coinage were used against the law of 1890. If this law is a good one, then the silver men as far as theory goes have the best of the contention.

IRRIGATION IN WYOMING.

The fourth of the series of census bulletins devoted to arid States and Territories comprehends Wyoming. There are in that state a total of 3,246 farms, of which 1917 are irrigated. The total area of land in these 1917 farms is 1,508,850 acres, upon 229,676 acres of which crops were raised by irrigation in 1889. In addition to the irrigated area from which crops were gathered, there were 240,000 acres irrigated for grazing purposes.

The average size of irrigated farms on which crops were raised is 119 acres. The average first cost of water right is \$3.62 per acre, and the average cost of

preparing the soil for cultivation, including the purchase of land, is \$4.98 per acre. The average present value of the irrigated land of the State, including buildings, etc., is reported as \$31.40 per acre, which, deducted from the average annual value of products per acre, leaves an annual average return of \$7.81 per acre.

In comparing the total irrigated acreage in crop of Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming, the following figures are found respectively: 65,821, 91,745, 263,473, and 229,676. The average size of irrigated farms in the four divisions already named in acres is respectively as above enumerated, 61, 30, 27 and 119. The number of irrigators respectively are 1,075, 3,085, 9,724 and one 1,917. Here it is seen that Utah and Wyoming occupy extreme positions as regards methods and character of agriculture. The average size of farms in Utah is twenty-seven acres, while in Wyoming it is 119. But in the latter State, large quantities of land are irrigated for obtaining hay and forage, while in Utah the irrigation is entirely used for farming proper.

The average first cost for water right per acre is in Arizona \$7.07, in New Mexico \$5.58, in Utah \$10.55, and in Wyoming \$3.62. The average annual cost of water in these divisions is respectively \$1.55, \$1.54, \$0.91 and \$0.44. The average annual value of products per acre is also respectively \$13.92, \$12.80, \$18.03, and \$8.25.

WAR CLOUDS IN EUROPE.

The political atmosphere in Europe is once more agitated with rumors of war. The dispatches from London state that England is somewhat excited over the agreement between Russia and Turkey, by which the volunteer fleet of the former passed through the Dardanelles. The British foreign office, it is said, is making an effort to obtain concerted action on the part of the treaty powers, to demand an explanation from the Porte.

The French papers maintain that Turkey has a perfect right to enter into a treaty with Russia independent of the treaty of Paris, and that in such an agreement the French government would support the Sultan.

Lord Salisbury takes the position that the recent Russo-Turkish agreement is an evasion of the Paris treaty, and he is determined that Great Britain must make a demonstration of some kind relating to the affair, even if she has to do it alone and unaided.

In Austria military manoeuvres are being practiced under the direct observation of the Emperors of Germany

and Austria. In France, also, there is a good deal of drilling, conscripting and sham warfare.

Russia, of course, is always prepared for war. She knows nothing else but might and dreams of conquest.

Germany seems restless, and is not disposed to let the memories of the Franco-Prussian war be obliterated.

The Germans celebrate the 2nd of September as a kind of national holiday. This is the anniversary of the fall of Sedan. It was celebrated this year with unusual pomp. This angered the French terribly. The German papers dwell on the victory of twenty-one years ago, and advocate aggressiveness now. French papers and statesmen also dwell on the Sedan celebration, but with bitter words and scorn of their ancient enemy.

The action of these two great nations in reviving war animosities is neither wise nor Christian. But then why blame them for keeping up bitter memories of Sedan, when we ourselves keep alive the fearful memories of Bull Run, Mission Ridge and Appomattox.

DEFENDING THE "MORMON."

We find the following in the Montreal, Canada, *Herald* of August 28th. The writer is very chivalrous in his endeavors to defend the "Mormons" from the vile attacks of their literary enemies:

"*Editor Herald:*

"In your paper of July 7, 1891, I found a pot-pourri from Chicago and Salt Lake *Tribunes* that is full of errors. You should be more charitable than your neighbors, for you have not been a party to the anti-Mormon fight.

"Let me tell you something about it. Between 1832 and 1846 the Mormon people were robbed of property that in 1850 was worth, according to non-Mormon estimate, \$20,000,000. Many of their men had been murdered; many of their women ravished. The mobs that persecuted them were church members led by 'Christian' ministers!

"Why was it? Polygamy did not appear until 1853. The Mormons made no use of their strength politically until they gathered in Utah. They never made any attempt to institute a hierarchy. In fact their belief is that when God is ready He will do away with the governments of the earth and institute His own. That will be theocratic, of course. But the Mormons will have nothing to do with it save to serve as the accepted children of God to represent Him when He has set up His own rule. The Mormons are non-resistants. They sent out an army in 1857 to prevent a United States army from coming into Utah, but they were instructed to kill no person, and they did not, although they held the army back about nine months. This may seem to you like rebellion, but it was not. Brigham Young was governor, at the time, appointed by the President, and the law gave him control of the militia. An army was sent against him on the representations of a few malicious men whom Brigham had beaten on bidding on a contract to carry the overland mails. Those men made old-man-Bu-