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## THE BLOW HAS FALLEN.

Silver is defeated.

Bland's propositions in the nature of substitutes for the repeal bill were voted down one after another by majorities which, by many in this country, will be pronounced "frightful."

The news from Washington today will hardly excite interest, let alone surprise in this part of the world. It was a clear case of coming events casting their shadows before, and the very few who permitted their hopes to bolster up their waning belief to the last may experience a feeling akin to disappointment, but the kinship cannot be very close. The present extra session was called for the purpose of repealing the Sherman law or so much thereof as provides for the purchase and thereby the independent recognition of silver as a money metal, this to be without condition. A great number of the members who left their homes (and who may be yet) bimetalists have changed front temporarily at least, and converted what at first appeared to be a majority for silver into one for gold. As to whether they will be strong enough hereafter to secure a law looking to the rehabilitation of the now despised and castaway metal, even if not permanently in the gold men's camp, it is premature to speculate; certain it is that they have not a two-thirds majority, and for all practical purposes might as well have none. Silver, for the present, if not altogether, is "over the line and out."

The Senate has not yet been tried, it is true; nor has the sun arisen tomorrow morning. If this similitude is deemed too immediate for appropriateness, in view of the dilatory and other means of resistance which the western champions can resort to in the upper house, we will change it—the recurrence of the anniversary of the Nativity with its sacred memories and general joyousness is not yet at hand, but are there any rational doubts that after a brief season it will be here? Almost as certain is it that the Senate will vote silver down one form or another by a majority as large in proportion to membership as that in the House, at least by a majority sufficiently large for all practical purposes. And then what?

We have as a nation used silver as money from the beginning, and excepting the last twenty years without restriction. It may not be so easy a performance to adjust ourselves to the changed condition as some may imagine, notwithstanding our general adaptability and elasticity. Nor do we look for such results and hardships as many have pointed out. Uncertainty is a potent element in prolonging discor-

aging conditions, and this at least we shall be rid of and able to proceed thereafter with understanding and definiteness. So let us not prefer the gloomy side of the picture until it is thrust upon us; perhaps it may never be; we can at least hope so without additional cost.

The NEWS is not of those who ascribe corruption to those members who changed their minds on the silver question, nor does it believe such imputations. We do believe that most of them looked at in this way: "President Cleveland is responsible for the successes and failures of his administration and he desires to cut loose from silver; were we to resist him we would simply be obstructionists in the way of his policy being carried out and have ourselves to bear the burden of any discredit or loss that might come upon the government. Let the responsibility go where it belongs; and while we do not agree with the President in this matter, he is entitled to his way. Let him make his own experiments, and if they prove beneficial, well and good; if not, we hereby declare ourselves exonerated." While this may not be the way all of the converts look at it, we believe the majority of them are in such position. The NEWS is hopeful and advises its readers to be in the same frame of mind.

## NOW THEN FOR GOLD.

With silver dethroned, about the first thing the commercial people of the United States, and those who directly or indirectly depend upon them, will do will be to cast about them and determine the visible as well as the possible gold supply. With demonetization should come an end to appreciation; the yellow metal being the only legal tender will be sovereign and supreme, representing at once the zero and crowning point of finance, so that either inflation or contraction of its value will be out of the question. It will determine the value of everything else that is marketable, and doubtless some few things that are not usually so rated; but itself will neither go up nor down. It will be the center of the system around which the entire commercial cosmogony revolves. How much have we got and how much more can we get?

Of course there will be a renewed interest in gold-producing mines, and those which have been neglected or abandoned because of too limited production will again have attention turned their way. California in places is fairly honeycombed with such properties. The San Francisco *Chronicle* says there are hundreds, if not thousands, of mining claims in that state which will pay for working in view of the greatly increased purchasing power of gold, and no small amount of inquiry is being made concerning them. It shows that mining in its true sense is as legitimate and laudable an industry as farming or merchandising or anything else, but the true sense referred to is not dealing in mining stocks on the exchange or swapping elaborate certificates and shares for good hard coin, but digging in the ground and forcing the valleys and hillsides to give up

their precious secrets. That was the sort of mining which gave California its pristine reputation and the sort of mining which may well be resumed at this late day.

It is understood that gold mining can never be so simple, easy and profitable a process as in the days of '49 and for many years following, when most of what was taken out of the earth was through placer mining; because the surface has been thoroughly gone over and what was obtained taken away. But the Golden state is still golden to some extent as is seen by the latest report of the director of the mint. During the calendar year 1892, the value of the gold produced in California was \$12,571,900, which was over one-third of the entire product of the United States, and nearly one-tenth of the product of the whole world. This is pronounced good; but it might be better, and the newly awakened interest evinced in gold mining in that state seems to foreshadow an increased product within a very short time. It will all find a place, and then, like *Oliver Twist*, the country will be apt to call for "more."

## THE CATHOLICS THIS TIME.

The organization in this city of the secret order of Amorines, whose avowed object is to combat the Catholics, whatever the real object may be, brings out the full strength of the artillery of a morning cotemporary. The club is characterized as "outrageous" and "inhuman." Its object is said to be "worthy of the densest darkness of the middle ages," being a violation of the laws of the country "in erecting a religious test against holding office" and pursuing Catholics "to the point of discharging them from employment, both public and private, and depriving them of all chances to work for a living."

Fair-minded American citizens, no matter what creed they profess or from what part of the world they come, will feel justly indignant at any attempt to ostracize fellow-citizens on account of religious beliefs; and none will protest more emphatically against that medieval practice than the members of the so-called Mormon church. Knowing the sentiments of this people as we do, and having a personal acquaintance with the men spoken of, we may safely dispute the statement of the morning paper referred to that several Mormons belong to the iniquitous order.

We may also be allowed to have certain doubts as to the sincerity of the truly fine sentiments expressed by that same paper in regard to the matter. It was never before known to be concerned about the sacred rights of the people to their religious convictions. Its crusade against the Mormon church is against it, unless indeed it should have undergone a change of heart recently.

Only a few years ago a secret organization was formed in this Territory under the name of Utah Loyal League. In the circular issued on that occasion a long list of charges were made against the Church, many of which were fictitious while others were perverse, and a call was made to combine against the majority of the