

pany to raise beets for this year's consumption. The uniform price for sugar beets next season will be five dollars a ton. Farmers are already realizing that they can raise them with profit, as this product is a direct means by which they are enabled to obtain ready cash. We are pleased to be able to note the fact that they are entering into arrangements with alacrity to produce the beets needed for next season's run of the sugar works.

### PRECIOUS METALS IN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

THE Wells Fargo Express and Banking Company's annual report for 1891 pertaining to precious metals in the United States and Mexico is a carefully compiled document, and makes instructive reading for persons interested in financial and currency questions. In the States and Territories west of the Missouri river, including British Columbia, the aggregate of precious metals produced during 1891 was: Gold, \$31,975,994; silver, \$60,814,004; copper, \$13,261,663; lead, \$12,385,780. This makes a total gross result of about \$113,250,000. The commercial value of the metals named is estimated as follows: Silver ninety-eight cents an ounce, copper eleven cents a pound, and lead \$4.30 a hundred pounds. Of the gross yield as shown above, gold makes about 27 per cent., silver 51½ per cent., copper 11½ per cent., and lead 10½ per cent.

A table is given showing the annual production of lead, silver, copper and gold from 1870 to 1891 inclusive. During this period, the fluctuation in gold product has not been very serious. In 1870 it was a little over \$33,500,000. It kept gradually increasing until in 1877 it reached very nearly \$45,000,000. After this it retrograded steadily until 1884 when the product was only \$25,000,000. It increased again after 1884 until it reached \$32,000,000 in 1889. For 1890 and 1891, the figures are about equal, being \$31,795,361 for the former and \$31,685,118 for the latter.

The fluctuation in the annual product of silver has been very little also, but it has steadily increased. In 1870 it was only \$17,000,000, and gradually increased to \$46,000,000 in 1877, in 1882 \$48,000,000, and in 1889 very nearly \$65,000,000. In 1890 a decrease of \$2,000,000 is shown, and in 1891 a further decrease of \$2,000,000 more.

Lead shows a steady annual increase from 1870 of \$1,000,000 to \$12,385,000 in 1891. From 1870 to 1880 copper product, if any, is not shown, but from the latter year to 1890 it increased from \$900,000 to \$20,500,000. Last year it fell to \$13,250,000. These

figures show the net products of the States and Territories west of the Missouri River, exclusive of British Columbia and the west coast of Mexico.

A table showing the annual product of gold and silver in Mexico from 1877 to 1891 is given. In the former year nearly \$25,000,000 worth of silver was produced. The increase yearly since has been regular until in 1891 a product of \$43,000,000 is shown. The gold product during these fourteen years averages about \$1,000,000 a year, with very little fluctuation.

The coinage in Mexico from July 1873 to June 30th, 1891 makes a grand total of nearly \$434,000,000. Of this sum \$9,242,467 was gold, \$424,500,000 silver and \$203,000 copper.

Mints were first established in Mexico in 1537. From that year to 1891 the aggregate of precious metals coined into money was \$3,395,118,408. What is known as the colonial epoch extended from 1537 to 1821, the independence epoch from 1821 to 1873, and the Republican epoch from 1873 to 1891. During the first epoch over two billions of dollars were coined, during the second \$800,000,000, and during the third nearly \$434,000,000.

Of the grand total of \$118,237,441 worth of the precious metals produced in the States and Territories west of the Missouri, Utah shows a production of \$13,408,493. Colorado comes first with \$28,203,037, Montana second with \$28,000,000, and Utah third. Even California, Nevada and Idaho, fall below Utah in their products of the precious metals.

### RESENTED HIS SARCASM.

THE had blood which has lately been exhibited in Kansas in connection with the murder of Sheriff Dunn and the conspiracy to assassinate Judge Botkin, has even been shown by the attorneys in the courts toward each other. A few days ago several persons charged with the murder of the sheriff were under preliminary examination at the town of Liberal, when, as related in a Kansas paper, the following incident occurred:

"About 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon the court adjourned until this morning because the State had two witnesses around the sand hills somewhere that it wanted to get into court. Judge Ellis of Pratt opposed the early adjournment, and the argument became so heated between R. M. Painter of Meade, of counsel for the State, and Ellis that the court had to adjourn in confusion. Painter made a very eloquent address which Ellis denounced 'a wad of noise and blow without anything behind it.' This angered Painter and he rose to a question of privilege. He said he didn't propose to be 'bamboozled' any longer by Judge Ellis. He said that he had been all through the case the subject of sar-

castic and cutting remarks from Ellis, and he didn't propose to stand it any longer, court or no court. The sudden adjournment of court prevented any more personal remarks and further bloodshed in Seward county."

### THE PUBLIC WELFARE PARAMOUNT

WE do not think it will be profitable for either party, in the discussion of the bills introduced in Congress on the Utah question, to resort to personalities, or to misrepresentation either of the measures themselves or the motives of those who framed them. Why cannot this kind of bickering be banished from the debate and fair argument take its place?

The masses of the people care very little for such disputes but are anxious only for the common welfare. If the Faulkner bill will produce the best results, by all means let us favor it. If the Teller bill is most likely to settle our difficulties and give us that peace, harmony and stability which are so needful, that should be supported.

But Republicans will say, "the Faulkner bill is a Democratic scheme," and the Democrats will cry out, "the Teller bill is a Republican trick." Who cares for all that kind of clap-trap? If it is only party advantage or party glorification that is in view, we consider the motive paltry and the object frivolous. The good of the community should be the grand purpose of all parties, and any body of politicians that cannot see or will not acknowledge good in an opposing body, is unworthy of popular respect.

THE DESERET NEWS is for Utah, its progress and prosperity, before any party or factional interests, and holds itself free to commend what is clearly for the benefit of the people, and to condemn that which is evidently for their injury, no matter what party it may seem to endorse or oppose. So, if we support a Republican measure and criticize a Democratic measure, or vice versa, it will not be in any party spirit, but with a desire and determination to uphold the welfare of the community.

We are not neutral on any public question, but we are independent of any party trammels or party leading strings, when measures that are of vital importance to the Territory are the issues of the hour. Let us seek for a settlement of our strifes, and the establishment of a stable government in proper season, and leave a fair field for party politics and the free discussion of party measures.

London, Jan. 12.—Mr. Lincoln, United States minister, is suffering from a slight cold. There are no pronounced symptoms of influenza.