

for Ireland to the house of commons yesterday afternoon a little before 4 o'clock. The scene that occurred when he entered the chamber must have done his heart good, the cheers and applause lasting for several minutes, which were repeated when he arose to introduce the bill—the crowning work of his career. He then proceeded without hesitation to speak in behalf of the measure, the old-time flow of pure English, which may be printed as it falls from his lips without an erasure or substitution, being as lucid and unforced as it ever was. He was repeatedly interrupted with cheers.

It would be invidious to select for special mention any portion of the great Briton's effort from the telegraphed synopsis. Even with its meagerness something of the orator's warmth and virility seem to speak through the lines and chain the attention of the reader. However, allusion may be made to that portion wherein the promise of Great Britain when the act of union was passed that Irishmen should have seats in the cabinet had so shamefully been broken. Only one representative of Erin, he said, had even been thus recognized before the act was passed—the Duke of Wellington. If Gladstone did not say that this was because of military services rendered which thrust English prejudice aside and made the question of honoring the man who afterwards received the credit for overthrowing Napoleon a compulsory one, he had reasons for doing so no doubt, but to us it appears as an omission; and the additional fact was referred to that but one other Irishman since the act was passed—Castlereagh—had been similarly honored, this being equivalent to violation of the spirit at least of the national obligation.

The report, says after the speech the orator was overwhelmed with congratulations; that among the listeners was Justice Harlan of the United States Supreme Court, who pronounced the speech matchless and the peroration the most beautiful in pathos he had ever heard. As the judge has heard a great many and is a man most thoroughly qualified for determining such a question, we may accept his statement as a conclusion. The effort occupied between two and three hours.

Whatever may be the fate of the home rule bill, of one thing we may be well assured—that the name and fame of the Grand Old Man, which even some of his friends feared were in peril through the hazardous undertaking in which he is engaged, are more secure and if possible brighter than ever before. It all goes to show that man may not at all times if even at all measure the depth of human greatness by his own fallible judgment or determine to what length the space of life may extend ere yet the intellect falters and the structure gives way. Perhaps Mr. Gladstone's friends and supporters are as genuinely disappointed as are his enemies, one agreeably the other disagreeably, that the climax of a reputation already a living honor to its wearer is reached at the climax of his physical life.

THE MONEY QUESTION.

Mr. John J. Valentine, president of Wells, Fargo & Co.'s institution, a short time since issued a pamphlet in the nature of a "metal circular" for 1892; this may be a regular proceeding, but no matter as to that; the one here referred to possesses special interest by reason of its showing of the wretched condition of our metallic currency at the present time—one metal flowing out of the country in a steady stream, the other debased and all but completely demonetized. Mr. Valentine makes a calculation of the precious metals produced west of the Missouri river, this including British Columbia, for the past year, which shows in the aggregate—gold, \$30,119,636; silver, \$50,607,601; copper, \$19,370,516; lead, \$11,433,947. Total gross result, \$111,531,700. The "commercial" value at which the several metals herein have been estimated, is: Silver, 87 cents per oz.; copper, 12 cents per lb.; and lead, \$4.10 per cwt., which of course makes the report more or less imperfect, for the reason that the quotation for silver, for instance, is very near the maximum figure obtained for the year. Other things contribute to imperfection, such as the increasing and thereby cheaper facilities for transporting bullion, the difficulty of obtaining absolutely correct statements from mining and milling men, etc. But with all due allowance made for such causes, the statement may be considered nearly enough correct to base actually correct conclusions upon. Under any circumstances, as may be readily understood when the source of the statement and his exceptional opportunities for obtaining such information are considered, it may be accepted as the best and closest that can be had.

The net product of the states and territories west of the Missouri river and not including British Columbia or the western part of Mexico for twenty-two years past is given as follows:

YEAR.	SILVER.	GOLD.
1870.....	\$17,320,000	\$83,760,000
1871.....	19,286,000	84,398,000
1872.....	19,324,429	84,177,335
1873.....	27,453,802	89,206,558
1874.....	29,693,122	88,196,188
1875.....	31,652,283	89,068,194
1876.....	39,292,924	12,884,935
1877.....	45,946,169	44,880,223
1878.....	37,249,137	37,576,090
1879.....	37,024,867	31,470,262
1880.....	38,053,055	32,659,067
1881.....	42,967,613	30,653,979
1882.....	48,133,039	39,011,318
1883.....	47,976,161	27,816,640
1884.....	43,529,925	25,183,567
1885.....	44,516,599	26,393,756
1886.....	53,186,851	29,561,424
1887.....	70,883,884	32,500,067
1888.....	53,152,747	29,987,762
1889.....	64,808,637	32,527,661
1890.....	62,930,831	31,795,361
1891.....	60,611,004	31,685,718
1892.....	50,617,601	29,847,444

It is also shown that the total exportation of silver to foreign countries from this country and England for last year was \$67,342,524, this being about \$26,000,000 more than for 1891, while the falling off in production by comparison was very great. Another authority shows that the entire production of the world outside of this country and Mexico does not amount to 10,000,000 ounces more than is utilized for a circulating medium by the country that produces it. As to the production of gold,

the *Chicago Tribune* (rankly anti-silver) predicted early last year that the yield would amount to \$34,000,000, but as is seen by the above table, this was not reached by over 4,000,000, this constituting the smallest output with a few exceptions that has been recorded since 1849. It is believed that the production of gold by the entire world for 1892 can safely be estimated at no more than \$120,000,000. After deducting \$75,000,000 for the arts and for dentistry it leaves \$45,000,000 for coinage purposes—scarcely enough to make good the amount lost by abrasion, to say nothing of that which disappears by hoarding and which is consequently out of circulation.

Should gold eventually disappear from general circulation as money, either by continued falling off in the yield, thus narrowing its possession gradually down to a very few, or through the discovery of such vast and productive fields that it would become common and not sufficiently sought for to enable it to maintain its present royalty, the question properly arises as to what the world's people would do for money. Some means of effecting exchanges they must have, and paper will not do unless based upon something intrinsically valuable and absolutely secure. What, then, could we turn our attention to but neglected and just now despised silver? And if it is fit to act alone as money—the very thing which it does now in several great nations of the globe as we have shown in these columns—why should it not in company with the only other metal recognized as possessing intrinsic sovereignty, especially when we consider that the whole volume of the latter does not represent one-half the daily transactions of mankind? These are questions worth considering.

GOOD OUT OF APPARENT EVIL.

The Helen school district is in a sparsely settled section near the desert, close to the eastern line of California. The people there have been very careless about sending their children to school, and recently the number of pupils in attendance dwindled down to five. With two more gone, the state school law would close the school-house doors, and the teacher be out of a job. This fact was not in harmony with the notions of the principal of the education department, Harry Shaw, so he proceeded to augment his school from among the Indian children in the neighborhood. He succeeded in inducing fifteen young savages to become regular attendants, and they now engage in their studies with as much energy and earnestness as do the white children. Besides this, the school district draws \$600 annually from the government; this being the yearly appropriation of \$40 for each Indian child in public schools outside of reservations and in localities where no Indian schools are maintained.

A SUGGESTION TO EDUCATORS.

A prominent educator in this community, probably the most modest yet certainly one of the ablest and most successful among his talented fra-