

about half an inch of rain fell in fifteen minutes; two persons in the vicinity of station were killed by lightning; no additional damage except to freshly cut hay. Rexburg: At 8:30 p. m. of the 12th commenced the heaviest rain and thunderstorm for years, lasting one hour; a horse and rider were killed by lightning 12 miles northwest of here. Paria: Two distinct shocks of earthquake on the morning of the 5th.

Summary: The mean temperature for the State was 71.0 degrees, 4.8 degrees warmer than July of last year; the highest monthly mean temperature was 82.1 degrees at Minidoka, and the lowest, 63.1 at Chesterfield; the highest temperature reached during the month was 107 degrees at Payette and Pollock on the 5th, and the lowest, 31 at Chesterfield on the 24th, making an absolute range of 76 degrees; the greatest local monthly range of temperature was at Payette and Soldier, 62 degrees, and the least, 43 at Burnside. The average precipitation was 0.73 inch, an excess of .12 inch over July, 1895; the greatest amount was at Idaho City, 1.86 inches, and the least, 0 at Minidoka; the greatest in any 24 hour period was 1.35 inches at Idaho City on the 14th. Average number of rainy days, 4. Average number of clear days, 18; partly cloudy, 9, and cloudy, 4. Prevailing direction of wind, southwest; average hourly velocity (from records at Grangeville and Idaho Falls), 6.6 miles; maximum velocity (at Grangeville), 42 miles an hour from the southwest on the 16th.

Miscellaneous Phenomena: Auroras, Downey, 10th, 11th; Idaho Falls, 11th. Dense Fog, Warren, 1st. Earthquake, Paria, 5th. Frost (light), Dairy, 13th, 14th. Hail, Chesterfield, 27th; Corral, 12th; Fort Lemhi, 29th; Gimlet, 2nd; Junction, 1st. Solar Halos, Fort Lemhi, 12th, 13th, 14th. Thunderstorms, American Falls, 12th, 15th; Boise, 13th, 15th; Burnside, 12th, 27th, 28th, 29th; Chesterfield, 13th, 21st, 27th; Couer d'Alene, 13th; Corral, 6th, 12th, 13th; Dairy, 10th, 11th, 12th, 14th, 21st, 27th, 29th; Downey, 2nd, 27th; Fort Sherman, 6th; 12th; Gimlet, 1st, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 15th, 16th, 27th, 28th, 29th; Grangeville, 6th, 8th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 28th; Idaho City, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 20th, 28th; Idaho Falls, 12th; Junction, 1st, 2nd, 14th, 15th, 28th, 29th; Lost River, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 28th, 29th; Nampa, 10th, 11th, 12th, 14th, 28th; Paria, 13th, 27th, 28th; Pollock, 12th; Rexburg, 12th, 14th, 16th, 18th, 20th; Roseberry, 12th, 13th; Salton, 1st, 6th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 30th, 31st; Soldier, 7th, 16th; Warren, 10th, 11th, 12th, 20th.

A BIMETALLIC SYSTEM.

London Financial News: The financial situation in the United States is very serious. The Senate has blocked all relief measures proposed by President Cleveland, and Congress is at a dead standstill on the money question. The free coinage senators are masters of the situation.

The condition of affairs in the United States Congress demands the immediate attention of British financiers and statesmen. The trade of the world is now in our hands, but it will not long remain there if the United

States goes to a bimetallic basis with free and unlimited coinage of silver.

With the addition of silver to the volume of money, everything in America would take on a new face; labor and industry would gain new life. The grip of the gold standard on the products of the world would rise. Great Britain would lose her markets in South America, Asia and Europe, and American ships would not be long in capturing the carrying trade of the world.

British creditors must now apply themselves quickly to the American money problem. The sound money men and banking interests, led by Senator Sherman, Cleveland and Carlisle, with a plentiful supply of means, have been beaten. The American people are thoroughly aroused and educated on the power and use of money, and made desperate by debt and business depression, they are forcing free silver as the main issue.

Great Britain need fear no injury to her trade or investments if the Republican party can force "protective tariff" as the main issue in the coming Presidential campaign, but if free silver dominates the American mind and carries at the polls, it will bring about a change in England that will be ruinous from its suddenness and severity. The damage that can be done British manufacturers by a protective tariff is slight compared with the disasters that would be entailed by a change from a single gold to a complete bimetallic standard.

It is evident that the Democratic party will not renominate a man who holds to President Cleveland's ideas on money, and a only hope for a continuation of Mr. Cleveland's financial policy will be in the success of the Republicans in the next election.

The success of free coinage will bring down the rate of interest on money, and cause an immediate rise in the price of all commodities. When silver becomes primary money the American mines will pour their products into the mints, and a new era similar to that produced by the issue of greenbacks during the Civil War will begin. Gold will leave the banks and enter into competition with silver in the avenues of trade, and the manufacturing of the United States, which have been shut down or crippled since 1892, will again resume their fights for the English markets.

It is doubtful whether the Republican party can be held much longer in check by sound money statesmen, as its adherents are divided by powerful factions. The Democratic party is also breaking up under the weight of the free silver agitation. It matters not to Great Britain which party succeeds if the gold standard is maintained, but either of the old parties or a new party which goes into power pledged to free coinage will be inimical and prejudicial to English manufactures and trade.

The American people cling with wonderful tenacity to party organizations, but financial embarrassment and business stagnation has become too severe for their patience, and they are ready for any change that promises relief. They are becoming convinced that it cannot be found in the protection theory, as that has been tried and they are massing now on free silver.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

HAMILTON, Mass., Aug. 17. — Miss Abigail Dodge (Gail Hamilton), the famous author, died tonight at her beautiful home from the effects of a paralytic shock. Too much work in mailing her last book, "The Valley of Death," during the hot weather broke her strength.

Miss Mary Abigail Dodge, writer, biographer and controversialist, widely known under the pen name of Gail Hamilton, was a native of the town in which she died, having been born in the year 1830. At the age of 10 years she went to Dr. Clark's private school in Cambridge. She was graduated from Ipswich academy at the age of 20. At the age of 21 she went to Hartford as assistant in the Hartford high school. She refused to take the customary examination, but was given the position without doing so. She was also instructor in physical science in this school for several years and was subsequently governess in the family of Dr. Gamaliel Bailey of Washington, D. C., editor of the National Era, to which paper she became a contributor.

In 1865-67 she was one of the editors of Our Young Folks, a magazine for children, published in Boston. From 1870 until a little over a year ago she had lived most of the time with her cousin, Mrs. James G. Blaine, in Washington. In the course of this daily contact with the Blaine family, Miss Dodge was led into a very close friendship with Mr. Blaine, and at the death of the latter she became his literary executor, having possession of all his papers and documents of value to her as his authorized biographer. She was engaged, as frequently as her health would permit, on Mr. Blaine's biography from the time of his death until her illness of last year, and it is thought her untiring devotion to the work was instrumental in bringing about that prostration.

Since the illness which came on so suddenly in the Blaine mansion in Washington, Miss Dodge has lived very quietly at her old home in Hamilton, Mass.

Gail Hamilton was a frequent contributor to prominent magazines, and her published works, written in a witty and aggressive style, consist largely of selections from her contributions. Her books include: Country Loving and Country Thinking, Gail Days, New Atmosphere and Stumbling Blocks, Skirmishes and Sketches, Red Letter Day in Applethorpe and Summer Rest, Wool Gathering, Woman's Wrong, A Counter Irritant, Battle of Books, Woman's Worth and Worthiness, Little Folks' Life, Child World, Twelve Miles from a Lemmon, Nursery Noonings, Sermons for the Clergy, First Love is Best, What Think Ye of Christ? Our Common School System, Divine Guidance, Memorial to Allen W. Dodge and Unsuppressible Book.

In 1887 she wrote a series of letters on civil service reform for a New York paper. Letters on a wide range of public questions written for the Boston Journal were widely copied throughout the United States.

Miss Dodge's one novel, First Love is Best, had not the success which attended some of her other works.