

larger quantity of the average commodities used in common life in our markets or in the markets of the world than either the gold or silver dollar would in 1872, before this unfortunate outlawery of silver commenced. Let it be a fact riveted in your minds that this extraordinary greedy grasping of the commercial world for gold since that time, caused by the outlawery of silver, has raised the value of gold as a commodity and by this enhanced value prices are now governed. It is the sole object of bimetallists to change this or equalize this strain and duty on the two metals. As there is a wide distinction between free coinage and the American system of bimetallism adopted by our government all I am contending for in this article is the wisdom and honesty of this system. I have some special faults to find with it because it is too much restrained. We have not acted with sufficient liberality towards silver in regard to the amount purchased nor its use after it has been coined. We have made no proper provisions for its coinage after June 30, 1891."

A PLEA FOR INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLS.

In the congress of university regents lately held at Albany, N. Y., Ex-President White of Cornell, made a commotion by a vigorous and eloquent address in behalf of the intermediate schools. For a University president to come down from his exalted perch in the classics to bless the rude "ladder by which he did ascend" was an astonisher to such an assembly.

But out of their amazement such grand educators as President Lowe of Columbia, President Taylor of Vassar, and many others of their type did not fail to discern something in the subject worthy of their attention, and a discussion ensued which is likely to result in a small educational revolution.

Mr. White's proposition plainly stated, was that our educational structure was getting dangerously top-heavy. The higher institutions were swallowing up the whole educational business. Not realizing what they were building upon they were mounting skyward while for ought they seemed to know their foundation might be decaying from under them. He urged in the premises that it was time that more attention be given to the intermediate schools.

The universities, it was shown, were mostly enjoyed by the rich and were patronized in a great measure as a sort of popular luxury. The intermediate schools on the contrary were for the millions and on them depended the stability, intelligence and character of the nation. But the universities were showing strong inclinations to arrogate to themselves this intermediate work, and it was not the correct plan.

According to Mr. White the remedy lay in establishing a more pronounced

line of demarkation between the courses of the lower school and those of the university. The former in his judgment should be greatly extended and strengthened in every respect. At the same time the university courses should be disencumbered of intermediate studies, and more rigid methods should be adopted in determining entrance qualification. Instead, then, of a young man devoting four years to a jumble of incoherent work, he could graduate in a finished course in two or three years at most.

With all due respect and esteem for the great colleges, it would be a great blessing to the nation if these splendid suggestions of President White could be made to take root in the hearts of some of the country's moneyed philanthropists and cause a portion at least of the stream of wealth which is pouring into the coffers of institutions already so rich they don't know what to do with their measureless income, to be diverted into channels where it would do the people some good.

ANCIENT CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

MR. BENNY, in *American Notes and Queries*, gives an account of the four kinds of capital punishment which were practised among the ancient Jews. Stoning to death was the system most adopted. It was not a pell-mell casting of stones at the victim, as is commonly supposed. There was an eminence or raised bank of fifteen feet, to which the criminal was first conducted. He was stripped of his clothes if a man, and then hurled from the top of the eminence or wall. The first of the witnesses who had testified against the condemned man acted as executioner. If the convict fell face downward he was turned on his back. A heavy stone was taken to the wall whence the man had been thrown, then the second witness rolled the stone so as to fall on the culprit below.

Burning as a form of execution was practiced, but not as it was in the middle ages in Europe and Asia. A pit two feet deep was dug. In this the victim was placed in a standing position. The earth was thrown back and tamped, until the man was buried up to his knees. A rope was then placed around his neck. The two witnesses pulled at the rope until suffocation ensued. In the process the lower jaw usually dropped, thus opening the mouth into which a lighted wick was dropped. This constituted the burning.

Decapitation was the third form of capital punishment. It was consider-

ed the most odious form of death. It was the penalty inflicted for wilful murder, and on persons who consorted with pagans and idolaters.

Strangulation, the fourth form was usually effected the same as in the burning penalty, but no lighted wick was placed in the mouth. This was the punishment accorded to false prophets, to persons who disobeyed the order of the Sanhedrim, to persons guilty of striking a parent, or stealing a fellow-religionist, or committing crimes against public morals. None of them recommend themselves to modern thought or advanced civilization.

SHAME!

EVERY "Liberal" citizen of Salt Lake who has any manhood left must feel disgusted with the course pursued by his party toward Justice Laney. The facts in the case are these:

When the Democratic party was organized in this city Mr. Laney joined it, having been a Democrat in politics for many years. In doing so he had to leave the faction called "Liberal," believing with many prominent gentlemen who had trained with that body that its mission was ended.

O. W. Powers, hired by the "Liberal" faction to manipulate its affairs so as to carry elections, as he was in reference to the last municipal election, issued a demand upon public officers elected on the "Liberal" ticket and who had joined the Democratic or Republican party, to resign their positions at once.

Justice Laney paid no attention to this ukase, but remained at his post. He had acted as Police Magistrate for more than a year, under the direction and sanction of the City Council.

On Monday, the day of the school election, Justice Laney, in the presence of a reporter of the *DESERET NEWS*, told the assistant prosecuting attorney that the "Liberals" were voting Parley's canyon conduit workmen in the First precinct, and further, that he saw among them criminals who had appeared before his court. His statement was published that evening.

There has been no denial of the facts alleged, nor any attempt to disprove them, nor any effort to give Justice Laney an opportunity to establish his charge. But the City Marshal, without any authority of law, immediately proceeded in effect to depose Justice Laney by requesting another Justice, on Tuesday morning, to sit on police cases, and refusing to take them before the regularly installed and acting Police Magistrate.

At the "Liberal" Convention held