

referring to both sides of the question. We think the long-time silver champion, Bland of Missouri, fairly carried off the palm not only as to logic but rhetorically and otherwise. Those who have been disposed to look upon him as a retailer of stale statistics and compiler of cold figures were doubtless surprised in many cases to see the word "applause" occurring so frequently in the telegraphic report of his speech. But Mr. Harter of Ohio also surprised his friends by the vigor of his defense of monometallism, and Mr. Raynor of Maryland of the same politics and of the same side, must be credited with having created a genuine sensation. To local interest the effort of Mr. Rawlins Saturday afternoon will have made the largest contribution; he seems to have sustained fairly well the western view of the question, and to have satisfied his Utah constituency of another scarcely less important fact—that he is in earnest in the reconsideration of his resignation as delegate.

The great debate will be resumed today and will continue for ten days at least. The battle of the giants is on and it will be fought to a finality within the shortest time on record. That it may result in the overthrow of wrong and the triumph of right is the hope that reigns in every western heart and which is sustained by a faith to that end that is renewed and strengthened with passing events.

ONLY A BEGINNING.

The NEWS does not expect to have much more to say about any of the numerous charges against Mr. Ryan, at least until after the grand jury shall have investigated the case and his actual trial before judge and jury be formally begun. But it does expect to have a great deal to say about certain other city officials of high and low degree, and flatters itself that the surprises of the week just ended will not have surpassed, if indeed they equal, some that are in store and that will be made use of when the proper time comes. No honest official need be in the least disturbed by this intimation, but every rascal has good cause to tremble; for the latter there will be but short periods of rest from now on. The qualification which one prominent Liberal politician demands from office-holders will not in all cases save those the NEWS is now after: swearing a big round oath, he said—"Our party must have men in the offices who, if they are scoundrels, are smart enough not to be found out."

HAWKS AND OWLS USEFUL.

By investigation and inspection we daily learn something regarding the animal kingdom, and it is generally something partially if not wholly at variance with our previous information or understanding. When this new learning comes from a government report or document, we then have the enjoyable experience of a double surprise, and such a condition is produced by bulletin No. 3, of the department of agriculture at Wash-

ington, which has some unexpected things to say regarding hawks and owls. The assistant ornithologist, Dr. A. K. Fisher, has presented a special report on these birds, and he says that only six of the seventy-three species and sub-species of hawks and owls of the United States are injurious. Three of those six are extremely rare, and another, the fish hawk, is only indirectly injurious, leaving two, the sharp-shinned and cooper's hawks to be reckoned with. The report continues:

Omitting the six species, 2212 stomachs were examined, of which 56 per cent contained mice and other small mammals, 27 per cent insects, and only 3 3/4 per cent poultry or game birds. In view of this fact the folly of offering bounties for the destruction of hawks and owls, as has been done by several states, becomes apparent, and the importance of an accurate knowledge of the economic status of our common birds and mammals is overwhelmingly demonstrated.

The NEWS thinks the Utah Legislature might do a much worse thing than to protect by enactment the hawks and owls of our Territory. What if these birds do take a young chicken for dessert now and then! They are better mousetraps than any cat, and in their destruction of these vermin they are worth to the farmer ten times the value of such of his wife's dowry chickens as they occasionally pounce upon. Give them justice, if not leniency! They earn all the favor they get, and much more!

THE NATIONAL PARK.

We are in possession of some interesting information regarding the Yellowstone National Park from a gentleman who has just returned from that part of the country. Upon the traveler's entrance into the park he is at once afforded an object lesson as to the manner in which the government protects its preserves, the vigilance being unceasing day and night, year in and year out. The visitor is met at the line separating the enclosure from the world outside by a military guard who take his guns from him and keep them for him if the return trip is to be made that way; otherwise the weapons are sealed so they cannot be used without breaking the seals, and woe betide the man who is found in the park with a broken seal on his gun! If he cannot show satisfactorily that the breakage was caused by an unavoidable accident or in necessary self-defense, he is placed under arrest at once with the prospect of a heavy fine at least staring him in the face and his chance for ever getting there again rather reduced.

The result of this rigid system is a beautiful commentary on primitive relationships and a severe but just reflection upon human savagery when at large among the lower species. Why does not a deer approach and hold mute but touching converse with us when we appear instead of bounding away with the speed of an arrow? Why are its beautiful liquid eyes and its graceful silken ears used as sentinels on guard against our branch of the animal kingdom, instead of being put to no other strain than viewing the beauties of nature and discerning the path ahead, and listen-

ing to the forest cadences of twittering birds, fluttering leaves, purling brooks and gentle zephyrs? Is it natural that that and the other animals and birds should be ever on the alert lest we steal upon them unawares and engage in our favorite pastime of bloodshed and destruction, and use such means as nature has invested them with for protection or flight as soon as we approach or they believe we are approaching? The governmental surveillance of the national park shows that it is not—that it is our treatment of them that has caused the nervousness and dread which they are governed by when we are not governed.

It must be a beautiful spectacle, that of a magnificent deer, or two or three of them, lying in repose on the grass or standing at ease and permitting one to come as near as he chooses without manifesting the slightest alarm; or to approach a body of water and watch ducks and geese within a few steps showing no more concern regarding the inspection than if it were not going on; and be able to approach almost anything which the park contains and not experience or impart "the smallest fear or doubt." Yet this is done right along. The animals realize that there is no danger and act accordingly. What a sublime spectacle in natural philosophy! What a subject for profound thought! How like the beginning and how suggestive of the end, when the lamb and the lion shall gambol together upon the green and lie down with ut fear or distrust!

There are of course some unpleasant features in this condition, but the novelty of the situation entire must mitigate them very much, especially to the newcomer. It would not, we take it, be altogether pleasant on emerging from the back door to be confronted by two or three hungry bears in quest of such stray scraps of food as may have found their way there from the table. This is, however, a common occurrence, and the rule is to drive them away if they will go; if not, to lasso and lead them back to the woods.

The wisdom of the government in setting apart that ground and holding it aloof from the destructive practices of mankind, becomes more manifest every day and cannot be too highly commended.

THE NEW CRUISER.

With the launching of the Minneapolis last Saturday at Cramps' shipyards, Philadelphia, no warships are left on the stocks, all the others having been launched. The Minneapolis is a cruiser intended for the destruction of the commerce fleet of any hostile power. Her best protection will be her great speed and in this regard she is expected to excel, being constructed so as to cut the water almost like an immense knife driven by 20,000 horse power engines. She is 412 feet long with a beam of only 53 feet. The ship although not intended for battle with the heavy ironclads is well protected and armed. The whole length, a cellular structure, five feet wide, extends along her sides. These are filled amidships with coal and the re-