DESERET EVENING NEWS.

image to poets. Homer compares the celestial light which gleamed from the shield and helmet of Diomed to the rays of "Sirius, the star of autumn," which "shines with a peculiar brilliancy when laved by ocean's waves;" and to pass at once from the father of poetry to our greatest modern poet, we find in Tennyson's "Princess" the same image, where he says of Arac and his brothers: "As the flery Sirius alters hue, And bickers into red and emerald, shone Their morious, washed with morning, as they

It is difficult to persuade ourself that these ever-changing tints do not really belong to the stars. But there is now no doubt that they are caused by our own atmosphere. Unequally warm, unequally dense, and unequally moist in its various strata, the air transmits irregularly those colored rays which together produce the light of a star. Now one color prevails over the rest, and now another, so that the star appears to change color. But it is only low down toward the horizon that these changes take place to their full extent. In the tropics, where the air is more uniform in texture, so to speak, the stars do not in texture, so to speak, the stars do not scintillate unless they are quite close to the horizon, "a circumstance," says Humboldt, "which gives a peculiarly calm and serene character to the celestial depths in those countries.' Fra-

SILVER AND GOLD.

The relative values of gold and silver have been ascertained, with probable accuracy, almost from the date of the discovery of these precious metals and their use as a medium of exchange. In the time of Abraham the relative value of gold to silver was one-eighth; a thousand years before the Christian era it was one to twelve; B. C. 600 it was one to thirteen; at the commencewas one to thirteen; at the commence-ment of the Christian era it was one to nine. Since that period the standard, more positively stated, has been as

A.D. 500, gold to silver as 1 to 18 A.D. 1100, " 1 to 8 A.D. 1100, 1 to 8 A.D. 1400, butts , FT 1 1 to 11 A.D. 1600, 1 to 13

A.D. 1700, " 1 to 15.

With a slight variation the latter ratio continued to 1848. Before the California discoveries of that year, gold uniformly commanded a premium which the interest then destroyed, and the demand for silver occasioned a value of gold to silver in London that year was ld to 15d. The price of gold then was 77s 6d per oz., and of silver 59id per oz. On the first of January, 1868, silver was 62d per oz. This rise was due in a degree to the fact that short supplies of cotton from this country during the war required large sums of silver to be sent to India for cotton as well as for other articles. After the gold discoveries in California. France began to exchange her silver for gold currency, sending the silver to India for silks and other products. The tea and silk trade of China with all countries also absorbs an immense value of gold to silver in London that all countries also absorbs an immense

amount of silver.

From the commencement of the Christian era to the discovery of America, it is estimated that gold had been taken from the subface and mined to the amount of \$3,800,000,000; from that date to the close of 1842, \$2,800,000,000; to 1860, Russia adds \$746,000,000, and California and Australia \$2,000,000,000 to 1860. The annual average product of more. The annual average product of more. The annual average product of more amount of \$3,800,000,000,000 to 1860, Russia adds \$746,000,000,000 to 1860, Russia adds \$746,000,000,000 to 1860, Russia adds \$746,000,000,000 to 1860, Russia adds \$746,000,000 to 1860, Russia adds \$746,000 to 1860, Russia add

gold at the commencement of the Christian era is estimated at \$8,000,000; at the discovery of America this pro-duct had alternative to \$100,000; in duct had abstracted to \$160,000; in 1600, it had increased to \$2,000,000; in 1700, to \$5,000,000; in 1800, to \$15,000,-000; in 1843, to \$34,060,000; in 1850, to \$38,000,000. in 1853, to \$236,000,000. There was a subsequent falling off, so that in 1850, the product was only \$210,000,000. The average annual loss by the wear of coin is estimated at one-tenth, of one per cent. The loss by

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As may be seen by the following article, which we copy from the New Orleans Times of 15th inst., Buck & Wright have borne off the highest premium in the stove line at the New Orleans Fair Six entries were made with Back's Brilliant, away should the heap.

New Orleans Fair. Six entries were made with Back's "Brilliant," away sness of the heap.

The great stove trial was resumed yesterday at 12 o,clock, before a largely increased crowd over the day preceding. The utmost good humor seemed to prevail, both among the exhibitors and spectators, all of whom seemed thoroughly imbused with the good old? Exprinciple of "may the best stove win." Promptly to the time the committee appeared on the judges' stand, Saunders, particularly, glowing with excilement and responsibility. The entries were the same as at the previous trial, and the engineers had not been charged.

At ten minutes to one the drum tapped, and all lighted up. Norton's Furnace, run by Mr. E. Wood Farry, led off in smoke, amid the cheers of the crowd and loud cries of "Go it, old one." Charter Oak followed, and the rest gave vapor immediately after. In four minutes, just as they were (as we might say rounding the quarter stretch, "Cotton Plant" popped in bread; all followed suit as duled as though life depended on the issue, but Buck's Brilliant had started fire with bread already in the stove. Then came the lug; the conke countenances glowed like the stoves, a perpetual snapping of opening and shutting doors resounded over the arena. Stoves were patted, coaxed and petted as though they were human beings. All seemed confident of winning, and the crowd enlivened the scene with numerous and encouraging comments from time to time. Mr. Perry's efforts seeming to be the greatest favored.

At twenty minutes past one "Cotton Plant" threw open its throttle valves and announced that it wanted to be back ap; roached, excitement had increased to a balling heat, both within and without the arena. At last Peerless Jupaci out its bread in 42 minutes, Norton's Furnace followed suit, in 4215; Cotton Plant next, in 43 then Charter Oak, in 482 then Good Samaritan, 44:20, and lastly Buck's Brilliant, in

next, in 43, then Charter Oak, in 48:2 then Good Samaritan, 44:20, and lastly Buck's Brilliant, in 47. The grand result of the trial was as follows: Norton's Furnace, E. Wood Perry, bread weighed 7 lim 3 or burned fuel 7/2 lim.
Charter Cak, Blee, Brea, & Co., bread weighed 7 lims 4 oz; burned fuel 6/2 lims.
Peerless, Campman & Co., bread weighed 7 lims 4 oz; burned fuel 6/2 lims.
Good Samaritan, bread weighed 7 lims 3 oz; burned fuel, 7/2 pounds.
Cotton Piant, Levi & Navra, bread weighed 7 lims 1 lims, burned fuel, 7/2 pounds.
Lims, burned fuel, 7/2 lims, 1 lims, 1 lims, burned fuel, 7/2 lims, burned fuel, 7/2 lims, 1 lim

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