

ment and went to the front. The remainder of his history is pretty well known. His success in the field was scarcely a parallel to that achieved at the bar, his maneuvers being mainly blunders and his control at times oppressive and always harsh. The war over, he entered politics as a Republican and was several times elected to the lower house of Congress. Later he returned to his first love, and was elected governor of Massachusetts as a Democrat, following this performance with a campaign for the Presidency as a Labor Reformer in opposition to Grover Cleveland and James G. Blaine. He failed to receive a single electoral vote and his popular following was so limited that he retired from politics and has since been looking quietly after his great manufacturing interests, his law practice and his book, which was issued last year and proved a flat failure from a financial point of view at least. Ten years ago or perhaps even less, the announcement of his death would have created considerable emotion, if not consternation in the land; now it is simply a commonplace event the details of which do not occupy nearly as much space as the Associated Press bestows almost every day upon what some broken down or broken up prizefighter is saying and doing. In such a life and such a death, the ups and downs of this mortal pilgrimage, its possibilities, probabilities and certainties are more vividly illustrated than was ever accomplished by the use of words.

ART ON ENVELOPES.

Reader, have you seen the new Columbian stamps, which in their fifteen different denominations comprise a whole picture gallery? They are of comfortable size, and, considering the amount of art displayed, they are selling at a ridiculously low rate. For two cents, for instance, you can get "The Landing of Columbus" in maroon; this will be the most used of all the various styles and it is the only one which has reached our latitude in any numbers as yet. Other grades and qualities and colors are equally reasonable in price. The *Chicago News-Record* quotes them at the figure that prevailed the day after their introduction at the World's Fair city. As the price has probably not advanced since that time there is still reason to believe that one cent buys a blue landscape showing Columbus on shipboard in sight of land; for three cents there is a green engraving of the Santa Maria, and a picture of the entire Columbian fleet may be had for one cent more; it costs a nickel to see Columbus appealing to Queen Isabella for aid; six cents to see him entering Barcelona in triumph (royal purple); ten cents to see the presentation of aborigines at the Spanish court, in Vandyke brown, and fifteen cents to witness the explorer in the act of reciting the story of his discovery. There are 50-cent, \$1, \$2, \$3, \$4 and \$5 stamps for the use of the extravagant, but those mentioned are the principal ones.

THE BIG hat on the head of a selfish woman ought to go—but not to the theater.

SILVER REGULATES THE MARKETS.

No more lucid potent or irresistible argument against the debasement of silver could be devised than is contained in the table following. Those who are responsible for the depreciation of the white metal are therein shown to be responsible also for the correspondingly low prices of the commodities which the agricultural classes produce and the surplus of which they must sell in order to get along; it is a fact, curious only to those who either do not investigate or having investigated are wilfully stubborn, that silver actually regulates the price of every staple article in this country—that, for example, if wheat is worth a dollar a bushel when the standard dollar is worth 100 cents, it is worth but 75 cents a bushel when the dollar is dropped to the value, and so on down, as the table shows:

Year.	Cotton per pound.	Corn per bush.	Wheat per bush.	Silver per oz. calendar year.
1872.....	19.3	.70	1.47	1.32
1873.....	18.8	.62	1.81	1.39
1874.....	15.4	.72	1.43	1.27
1875.....	15.0	.85	1.12	1.24
1876.....	12.9	.67	1.24	1.15
1877.....	11.6	.54	1.17	1.20
1878.....	11.1	.56	1.34	1.15
1879.....	9.9	.47	1.07	1.12
1880.....	11.5	.51	1.25	1.14
1881.....	11.4	.53	1.11	1.13
1882.....	11.4	.67	1.19	1.13
1883.....	10.8	.68	1.13	1.11
1884.....	10.5	.61	1.07	1.01
1885.....	10.6	.54	.86	1.06
1886.....	9.9	.50	.87	.99
1887.....	9.5	.48	.89	.97
1888.....	9.8	.66	.85	.93
1889.....	9.9	.47	.90	.93
1890.....	10.2	.49	.83	1.04
1891.....	6.0	.41	.85	.90

Figures, correctly set down, do not lie at any time, but in this instance they tell the truth most eloquently. We all understand that unusual production or unusual scarcity, or at times purely local causes may and do change the markets somewhat; but as a rule and taking the proposition as a whole, the money which effects nearly all the business transactions in our everyday life cannot be debased without a sympathetic result being immediately discernible as to the other products named.

WHAT THE CENSUS COSTS.

The Eleventh Census, which the superintendent thinks can be completed by the end of the year 1893, and for which the present Congress is asked for a further appropriation of \$240,000 to defray its expenses from March 4 to June 30th, has already cost in the neighborhood of seven and a quarter millions of dollars. By the time the work is completed it will have involved an outlay of between eight and nine millions. This is an enormous increase in the cost of the work as heretofore done, but it is explained in the fact that the present census has assumed a much broader field of operation than any of its predecessors, this being noticeable in the statistics that have been prepared on education, churches, insurance, Indians, fish and fisheries, horticulture, irrigation, viticulture, street

railway statistics, water transportation and other subjects. In addition, there has been an expense of \$1,250,000 entailed by taking the statistics relative to farms, homes and mortgages, which was entirely without the province of the census work proper and was never attempted before, and which a large proportion of people still deem entirely irrelevant and out of order. These at any rate will be apt to differ with Supt. Porter in the view that when the great extent and variety of statistical work actually completed is taken into consideration, the eleventh census should be regarded as a marvel of economy.

But as a matter of fact there has been a constant increase in the cost of the census, owing in large part to the fact that with each recurring decade the business has taken a wider scope and been arranged more conveniently to subserve the purposes for which it was undertaken. One hundred years ago the work (census of 1790), which was comprised in one volume, cost \$44,377, while ten years later, 1800, the cost of the work, in one volume again, was \$66,609. The census of 1810 necessitated an enlargement to two volumes; the preparation of which cost \$178,445. The next succeeding census, that of 1820, also in two volumes, cost \$208,525. The census of 1830 required but one volume, yet the cost increased to \$378,543. That of 1840 required four volumes, and the cost amounted to \$833,371. The million dollar mark was passed by the census of 1850, the four volumes of which cost \$1,329,027. The census of 1860 and 1870 were each comprised in four volumes, and cost, the former \$1,922,272 and the latter \$3,833,511. The census of 1880 was comprised in twenty-four volumes, and cost \$5,682,750. Not only was there an absolute increase in the cost, but there was also an increase per capita, the cost per head of population having increased from 1.12c. in 1790 to 11.68c. in 1880. The per capita cost of the census of 1890 will certainly exceed that of the census of 1880.

COMMON CAUSES OF DEATH.

The *Boston Traveler*, a staunch and stalwart Prohibition paper, tells of a curious compromise verdict that was rendered in a neighboring town recently at an inquest held on the body of a confirmed toper. After listening to the testimony of the surgeon, the coroner suggested the verdict, "Water on the brain." To this a juror objected, saying that he had known the deceased for ten years, and during that period he had never heard of his having a sober moment. To say that such a man can die of water on the brain, was sheer nonsense. "It can't be done," he exclaimed, "cause why?—he never took any into his system." The true verdict, he held should be, gin, rum or brandy on the brain, but as he couldn't get his fellow jurors to agree to such a verdict, he was willing to make a compromise and bring in a verdict, "Died from the effects of brandy and water on the brain," and the paper reporting the case says such a verdict was so returned.

Local readers will have no difficulty in recalling instances where the cause