

THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS.

CONGRESSMAN KING AND THE SILVER TREND.

Judge W. H. King, Utah's Representative, has returned from Washington, and in this morning's Tribune is quoted as saying the following on the trend of sentiment in the East regarding silver:

I do not believe there is as much friendship for silver now as there was last fall in the East, and it seems to me the trend of sentiment in that direction has not ended by any means. People there are beginning to speak of silver with a certain disdain. They are placing the question beyond the pale of argument, and if it arises they try to dismiss it as something already settled. They are more than negatively opposed to silver. They are actually hostile, and if it was generally believed there that any tangible result would come from the visit of Messrs. Wolcott, Payne and Stevenson to Europe, steps would be taken at once to nullify it. I am sorry that such hostility to silver exists in the East, but the fact is as I have stated it. Unless some marked change of sentiment occurs, the East will continue to show an increasing vote against silver.

The views of Congressman King upon this point receive confirmation in the tone of the eastern press and in the observation of other men from the West who have touched the eastern pulse on the subject. The condition he describes was to be anticipated. In the East it is recognized as fully as in the West that the anti-independence, free-coinage forces won in the late election, and as multitudes always drift to the majority side when they determine where that is, this alone would account for a drift against silver. Besides, the eastern newspapers have been almost unanimously on that side, and the masses of the people are not long in swinging in line with generally expressed newspaper sentiment, right or wrong. If the bulk of eastern papers are right on the coinage proposition, then it will be well for the people; if not, their responsibility is a serious one.

But if the independent-free-coinage advocates are right there is no reason for their feeling decouraged at the outlook. With a change of administration, the anti-free-coinage people anticipated and promised better times, upon another basis than the currency. These better times are not for one season or two, but with a reasonable promise of permanency. If this is attained the people will be satisfied that the silver forces were mistaken. But the silver men said that prosperity would not come without free coinage. If they spoke truly, then a temporary improvement will be followed by a still further depression, and the people will be convinced that the silver men were nearer right than their opponents, and consequently there will be a revolution in favor of the white metal. The test of the issue is now at hand, and surely the free silver advocates should be content to abide by the result, now that they have no means of influencing it so far as

the present administration is concerned.

What will do the free silver movement more harm than anything else will be extremely radical expressions or actions. When the matter of views upon that point is made the summum bonum of all political qualifications, as has been the tendency here and in some other western states, the result cannot be other than injurious, not by reason of inherent fault in the silver cause, but because of the bigotry which attends extremists. There are other political views that deserve consideration besides the coinage question, and in government relations where the latter does not become a direct issue, its application as a test should not be so rigid that it cannot be waived to a degree that is not vital in order to secure the advantage of other views that are beneficial. If any of the anti-silver trend is due to the over-enthusiasm or excessive zeal of the silver men, there is in it more danger to the white metal than can be injected from any other source. For the cause to triumph because of its inherent rightfulness as a financial policy, it should be maintained with moderation and conservatism to all other political views not directly at issue with it, which moderation and conservatism have not been observed at all times in the past.

IS OUR EARTH HOLLOW?

Some time ago we noticed the fact that one of the most unique experiments of modern times was being made on the coast of Florida. The object was to prove by ocular demonstration the allegation of the so-called Koreshans, that the human family is living in a hollow sphere, not on the exterior but on the interior surface of the earth. The experiments have now been concluded, and, according to an interesting article in the Chicago Times-Herald, the advocates of the Koreshan cosmogony are elated. They say their theory has been established and they challenge the scientific world to discuss the matter with them.

The Koreshan theory of the universe was founded by Dr. Cyrus Teed of Chicago, and he has succeeded in making many converts. Last December a company of experimenters was sent to Naples, Fla., for the purpose of making a geodetic survey, under the supervision of Prof. U. G. Morrow of Chicago. The problem was to construct mechanically a straight line at right angles to the perpendicular. If the earth's surface is convex, as scientists claim, this straight line, if extended, would necessarily diverge from the surface; but if concave, it would approach it like the chord of a concave arc. The apparatus used to determine this point was called the rectilineator, and it is now claimed that this line which was commenced at an elevation of ten feet from the water, runs into the gulf at a distance of four miles from the starting point. It is claimed that at the

end of the first mile the "air line" was eight inches nearer the surface than at the beginning; second mile, about thirty-two inches; third mile, six feet, while at the end of four miles the line came in contact with the water. Also at every eighth of a mile the ratio was along the same line of progression, the results for even miles showing the aggregate result for the measured altitude of the line for the stations intervening. From these figures it may be seen that the ratio of concavity determined by these measurements very closely approaches the estimated curvature of eight inches to the mile. The ratio of descent of the line, the increase in the angle of deviation from the horizontal at stations of test with the levels, the length of the line surveyed from the beginning to point of extension into the water, as well as the direction of the plumb line at various points, in consideration of the principles involved in the apparatus employed, all declare, it is claimed, the fact of the earth's concavity.

AN EXAMPLE OF THRIFT.

The superior situation in which Utah people are noted as being, in comparison with those of the older settled portions of the country, continues to call forth admiration and encomiums from those who speak and write of what they see here. The recent Jubilee has given opportunity for another acclamation of merited praise of the condition presented in these valleys after the handwork of of its settlers during the past half century. The results which are thus lauded to the skies have not been attained through an almost spontaneous outpouring of vast treasures of the precious metals such as seems to promise in the Klondyke region just now, or such as has given great wealth for a time to other localities, in the past. It has been rather by the patient, plodding, intelligent industry of the people that agriculture, mining and manufacture have been made to yield their richness and beauty as there are now displayed.

Take, for instance, an illustration given in the Jubilee parade, by the smallest county in the State. It is one of the oldest settled, and, like many sections of the long-inhabited portions of our country east of the Mississippi, has had no great mineral development to assist it. Davis county has done very little in mining yet, though no doubt its towering mountains are storehouse of treasures vast yet to be called forth. But so far it has relied only on the branches of industry that are common elsewhere, agriculture and manufacture. In the parade referred to it had the largest showing of any county; its flour was of a quality unsurpassed; its vegetables and fruits occupied a similar position; its manufactured products were of the first quality. Though the smallest county in the State, and one which, by long settlement, might be expected to be overcrowded if any are, yet it is today the richest in the State in the wealth generally distributed among its people; and this is saying considerable, for Utah has some wealthy counties. It has a larger pro-