

The silver dollar is made a legal tender to any amount for any purpose. Hence, the greenbacks and any bank notes or Government bonds of whatever issue may be redeemed either in silver or gold at the option of the debtor.

The English are natural sportsmen and they certainly know how to take defeat gracefully. Their comments on the Puritan-Genesta yacht race are models of good taste. "May the best man win," is a sentiment that should govern in every contest for superiority, and it does to a large degree.

The bankers' convention at Chicago disposed of the silver question by adopting a simple resolution asking that the coinage of silver dollars be suspended until an agreement shall be made by the leading commercial nations of the world making a new adjustment of the relative values of silver and gold.

Tobacco users and consumers and especially those engaged in preparing the weed for market, will find comfort in the statement that of the four thousand women employed in the national tobacco factory at Valencia, Spain, not one was attacked by cholera, though the disease raged with great violence at that place. Those similarly employed at Amsterdam also escaped during the great epidemic in that city.

The state census of Florida has just been completed. With 3 counties missing from the returns, the population of the state has grown from 244,079 to 308,802, an increase of 26 1-2 per cent. If the missing counties show the same progress as those from which returns have been received—and they lie in the most populous portion of Florida—it will make the population of the entire state 340,900, and in 1890 431,250, an increase of nearly 62 per cent. in the decade, against 43.5 per cent. during the previous ten years, from 1870 to 1880. In the central portion of Florida the increase is even more striking. In Orange county the population has grown 133 per cent. in five years, in Polk 110, in Volusia 102, in Sumter 101.

A correspondent of one of the big northwestern daily papers, in his opposition to Mormonism, goes too far, in saying that "it is not possible that and neighborhood of the Northwest would tolerate open preaching of this monstrous delusion." Neither law nor public opinion has anything to do with Mormonism, by way of forcible repressions. The constitution of the United States says: "Congress shall make no law respecting religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble," etc. But Congress can make and has made a law against polygamy, and it is polygamy that is to be fought and not Mormonism. Outside of their polygamous acts, the Mormons are protected by laws as other people are.

Efforts are being made at the East to increase church attendance. It is found upon investigation that regular church attendants are small in number compared with those who stay away, and a remedy is sought. One of the causes, if not the principal, is the fact that strangers are not welcome in many churches, especially if they are not well dressed. The Providence Journal says: "This is the attitude, unconscious or intended, taken by many of the rich congregations of the cities. They worship God in cliques on Sunday they meet in social cliques through the week; they glower at the humble stranger in their pew, or at the usher who put him there, as they would frown upon the unbidden guest at the reception, and they exhale a chilly influence which, however it may wrong the great Christian body, is not unnaturally interpreted as representative of the whole." While this is notoriously true of cities, it is not of the country at large. One remedy suggested is a good one. Less fashionable dressing for church services, would make the contrast less between rich and poor, and would encourage the latter to mingle with their more fortunate friends.

LATEST NEWS SUMMARY.

Let War Come, If It Must.

Sir John MacDonall, premier of the dominion, in a letter to a friend at Winnipeg, speaking of the fate of Riel, is reported to have said, it depends entirely upon the privy council of England. If that body decides in favor of Riel his sentence of death cannot be carried out, but if, as Sir John anticipates, it upholds the sentence, the Canadian government will not reprove him, and he will hang. Sir John also says that if French Canadians carry out their threat of rebellion if Riel is hanged, the English speaking people of the dominion and the government must meet them in arms. If this is to take place, if there is to be a war of race no time is better than the present, and Sir John trusts that the Nineteenth Rifles, the Winnipeg light infantry, and other Manitoba regiments will be ready to go to Ontario or anywhere else ordered, and do their duty as faithfully as they have done in the past.

From Washington.

Thirty-five thousand dollars has been sent from Washington to the governor of Dakota for the semi-decennial census.

It is estimated that there has been a decrease of about \$12,000,000 in the public debt during September. The payments on account of pensions during the month were about \$4,000,000.

T. J. Mackey, Gen. Hazen's counsel before the recent court martial trial, which tried him for his responsibility in the fate of the Greely expedition, has published an octavo volume defending Gen. Hazen, and giving the arguments before the court together with all the evidence.

Major Burke, of the New Orleans Times-Democrat, has been to Washington to get the government to survey the territory in Louisiana where extensive deposits of iron have been discovered. The iron is brown hematite, yielding 40 to 60 per cent of pure metal without sulphur.

Owing to an error in the record, Brig. Gen. John Newton, chief of engineers, has had a narrow escape from premature retirement. According to the war department record, Gen. Newton would reach the age July 1, 1886, but he disputed the record, and claims to have been born on Aug. 24, 1823, and sustained his claim.

It appears that the president was influenced by the arguments offered by the Sabbath association in their call upon him the other day, for the order requiring messengers of the special delivery service to be on duty on Sunday, was revoked, and postmasters instructed that the service will be confined to six days in the week.

It is understood that a request was sent by Secretary Lamar to Attorney General Garland that suits be brought at once against the Montana Improvement company to recover indemnity for timber cut and manufactured from the public domain. The importance of this case may be judged by the fact that Eddy, Hammond & Co. employ upwards of 3,000 men in cutting timber.

The president is now varying his daily recreation by taking walks instead of riding every evening as formerly. He enjoys walking, and has spent a good deal of time on foot out of doors lately. His life in other respects continues uneventful, and he walks a greater number of hours and devotes less time to social and other recreations than any president we have had for many years.

Gen. Sheridan has drafted a careful and elaborate protest to the secretary of war, in which the history of the whole business of detailing the staff officers from the beginning of the government has been gone over. The general claims that the duties of his office are such as to make it important that he should be left wholly untrammelled in the choice of staff officers. The precedents furnished during the Rebellion are uniformly on the side of Gen. Sheridan.

Owing to the resignations among Dakota postmasters, the following appointments were reported: Paul A. J. Weed, vice J. A. Weed; Mapes, H. K. Stearns, vice Johnson; Kandiotta, John Manton, vice Campbell; Acton, Mrs. Elizabeth Scott, vice Girard; Conklin, James Heath, vice Crosby; Crystal Springs, J. S. Smith, vice White; Gardner, William H. Sawtell, vice Blythe; Lakeview, George F. Weaver, vice Baughman; Wardell, J. P. Ashley, vice Robinson; Kelson, George H. F. Johnson, vice Conant; Helena, Adolphus G. Lindsay, vice Piro, resigned; Hamlin, Daniel Thornton, vice Blythe, failed to qualify.

Personal Mention.

Private Betting, of the Eighth cavalry, stationed at San Antonio, Tex., has become heir to \$30,000, bequeathed to him by a relative in Paris, France.

Frank Siddalls, who recently paid \$50,000 for a pair of horses, makes his money by judicious advertising of his business in the newspapers at an expense of \$200,000 a year.

Hon. F. Hasaurek, a distinguished German editor of Cincinnati, died in Paris recently. He came to America in 1848 with Carl Schurz. President Lincoln appointed him as American minister to the South American republic of Ecuador in 1861. In 1865 he became editor and part owner of the Cincinnati Volksblatt, which now owes all its success and financial prosperity to him.

Record of Casualties.

Burglars are suspected of causing a \$7,000 fire at Clintonville, Wis.

Arthur T. Harris, night clerk of the Windsor hotel, Minneapolis is severely burned by an explosion of coal gas.

The steamer Charles Bobstok, a local packet plying between Davenport, Iowa, and Clinton, was burned to the water's edge at Cordova, Ill.

Seven buildings, including the Commercial house and several places of business, were destroyed by fire at Marietta, Wis. Loss between \$25,000 and \$30,000; about one-half insured.

The hardware store of H. Winter and the harness shop of H. Schultz was burned at Clintonville, Wis. The loss on the former is estimated at \$7,000, insurance \$3,000. Schultz's loss is unknown.

Prairie fires have raged in McPherson county, Dak., devastating 100 square miles. All the houses, barns, fences, granaries, stacks of hay and grain are destroyed, leaving nothing in the track but the blackened prairie. Hundreds of families are in a deplorable condition. The fire is now under control. The loss is difficult to estimate, but it is not less than \$250,000.

As a train from St. Paul on the Milwaukee short line was nearing Minneapolis, a young man, E. Pierson, a Scandinavian, stepped upon the track to pick up a news-

paper. Charles Otis, the engineer of the train, sounded the whistle several times and reversed his engine, but the man was killed. The attorney of the railroad says: "This is the fifth fatality in which Engineer Otis is interested, for he is among the most competent, reliable and conscientious men who handle the throttle in the Milwaukee's employ. It was Mr. Otis' engine that killed Graber, at Teuth avenue and Fourth street, last winter, and also about the same time killed Milkman McCroary, at the Twenty-eighth avenue crossing. Then it was the locomotive controlled by Otis which overtook the Richfield farmer, who persisted, while intoxicated, in speeding his team on the track toward the Short line bridge in advance of the outgoing passenger train.

Crimes and Criminals.

The authorship of the forged Monroe county, Ark., warrants is now charged on the late county Judge, T. W. Hooper.

The Indianapolis police made an important capture in the person of Isaac Reynolds, who was caught in the act of making half-dollars.

Two years ago at Glenwood, Ill., C. W. Wallace killed John Clingersmith, to whom he was related by marriage and has just been indicted for murder.

Clausen Graham, a New York broker, steals \$25,000 worth of gold certificates from Spencer, Trask & Co., and skips with Miss Alice Brainwell. Detectives overhauled him at Springfield, Mass., but he eludes them.

Charles E. Pratt, arrested at Council Bluffs, Iowa, for having hired a boy to burn property belonging to a man against whom he had a grudge, near Panama, Iowa, made his escape from an officer by jumping through a car window while the train was going twenty-five miles an hour.

The circuit court for Barron county, Wis., Judge Clough presiding, has recently been in session. The only cases of general interest were those of the state against Frank Fiske, for the shooting of one Bailey at Perley, last fall; and the state against Francis De Long, for the murder of Peter Emmonson, at Cumberland, on the 9th of June last. The former case was dismissed on account of the prosecuting witness failing to put in an appearance. The latter case on trial for the past two days, was decided by the judge directing the jury to bring in a verdict of acquittal.

Foreign Gossip.

Cholera reports continue to come from Spain and Italy.

At London the privy council will hear arguments in the appeal of Riel on Oct. 19.

Baronet Ward lays claim to the \$200,000-000 estate of the earl of Norfolk in England.

Advances from False Point, India, says the recent floods destroyed five hundred villages.

British troops and a gunboat have been ordered up the Nile, owing to the rebel advance at Hamek.

The French elections are proceeding very quietly. The Republicans are apparently sure of majorities in the provinces.

Forty nihilists, including a number of professors and well known persons, have been arrested at Warsaw, on a charge of conspiring to murder the czar.

Governor General Lansdowne rode on horseback from Fort MacLeod to Calgary, a distance of 104 miles, and he astonished the mounted police by his good horsemanship.

Bulgaria is one military camp. All the male population between the ages of fifteen and forty-five is under arms, and thousands of volunteers are being enrolled daily. They appear to be earnest and determined.

Great activity prevails in all the various bureaus of the Turkish war office. Troops are rapidly arriving at Constantinople, and are being as quickly dispatched to Tripoli, Salonica and Delagatch. Marshal Fud Pasha has started for Adrianople. The first formal meeting of the ambassadors to consider the Roumelian question will be held at Constantinople, when said Pasha, the new minister of foreign affairs, arrives from Berlin, where he has, until the recent change of ministry, been Turkish ambassador.

As an outcome of the slumming crusade of the aristocracy of London, a committee was named for the purpose of assisting members of the lowest classes of the metropolis to emigrate to Canada. In addition to this fifty families were given \$100 each by Lady Burdett Coutts for the same purpose. From a report made by the Rev. Mr. Ketoe, who has returned from visiting them in Manitoba, the venture has been entirely successful. The immigrants are all doing well, paying the interest on the money advanced to them, and are perfectly satisfied with their lot.

General News.

Chicago has raised \$10,000 for the Parnell campaign fund.

The Irish parliamentary fund in Minneapolis amounts to \$520.75.

The completed census of Iowa gives the state a population of 1,753,980, a gain of 129,639 since 1880.

The failure of Runkel, Hollister & Co., Pierre and Rapid, Dak., amounts to about \$8,000, with limited assets.

The fourth attempt to close the saloons in Leavenworth, Kan., under the prohibition law, failed recently. Two hundred saloons are wide open.

The gross earnings of the Milwaukee & St. Paul for the fourth week in September were \$776,000, an increase of \$40,000 over the same time in 1884.

Saturday and Sunday night the 3d and 4th insts., the frost was severe enough to clean up gardens and fields in many places, and with it was a little snow.

The receipts of the territorial fair at Huron were almost \$7,500. All bills and premiums are being paid as rapidly as awarded. The officers say they believe they will have a few hundred dollars in the treasury for next year.

Assistant General Manager Tucker, of the St. Paul road, thinks the Minnesota railroad commissioners have made a mountain out of a mole hill in the matter of transit rates. The Chicago Times thinks the effect of the manifesto will be small.

Signal Observer Lyons at St. Paul reports that the mean temperature of September was 59.1, just equal to the September average of the last fourteen years. It was decidedly warmer than the corresponding ones of 1872, '73, '74, and 1883; slightly warmer than those of 1875, '76, '79, and 1880. The warmest September was in 1877, and the coldest in 1873, the means being 64 and 54 degrees respectively.

A TERRIBLE COLLISION.

The Robinson Circus Train Wrecked Near Fergus Falls, Minn., and Five Men Killed.

At 3 o'clock Sunday morning the 4th, inst., John Robinson's train, in two sections, was coming into Fergus Falls, Minn., from Wahpeton, Dak., on the Northern Pacific railroad, about four miles west of the city, a coupling broke and the rear seven cars of the engine of the second section at the rate of forty miles an hour. The caboose and two sleeping cars, containing 160 sleeping men, composed a portion of the section which had broken loose. The engineer of the approaching train stopped his engine, and he and the fireman jumped and were saved, but both sections crushed into each other, killing five men outright, fatally injuring three, and injuring ten or twelve others slightly. The watchman of the train, trying to warn the sleeping men of the danger of the collision, was killed himself, refusing to desert, although aware that a collision was inevitable. He was frightfully mangled. His heart was found on top of a flat car some distance away, his bowels lying on the ground and body cut to pieces.

Had the engineer of the rear section only a moment's more time, he could have backed his train and avoided the calamity. But it was too late, and the cars struck his engine with tremendous force, throwing the three sleepers from the track, and smashing them beyond recognition.

No performers or animals were hurt. The men killed were the Watchman Wilson and four canvassmen. The engine was badly smashed and cars reduced to kindling wood. The most remarkable fact is that more were not killed and injured. Twenty or thirty others received slight cuts and bruises. The list of killed: Roberts—Canvasser, joined at Wadena, on the way to Cincinnati.

William Krause—Lived at 42 Main street, Cincinnati.

Sam Blair—Joined at Collak, Wash. James Wilson—Watchman, formerly policeman at Cincinnati; lived at Hummel house.

Charles Wallace—Joined at Portland, Or. Antecedents unknown.

Position of Veterans in the Army and Navy.

A number of discharges were made in the Brooklyn navy yard last spring, owing to the smallness of the appropriation available. Among those first discharged were some veterans. The matter was at once taken up by the Veterans' Right union and efforts were made to have the men reinstated in their positions. Commodore Chandler was appealed to by the committee and they were referred to the foreman, but no satisfaction could be obtained. The committee, consisting of R. D. Little, Joseph W. Kay and George F. Hooper, on the 16th of last July wrote a letter to Secretary Whitney stating the facts. To the above appeal the following letter was received a short time ago:

Navy Department, Washington, Sept. 22, 1885—Gentlemen: Your letter of recent date, requesting that due attention be given to the claims of honorably discharged soldiers and sailors for employment and retention in the navy department and the yards under its control has been received. In reply I have to say that it will give me pleasure at all times to give preference to those honorably discharged from the military and naval service of the United States, either for appointment to or retention in office, as the case may be, if equally competent and deserving. The efforts of the Grand Army of the Republic to maintain in this way the premium on patriotism displayed by those honorably discharged soldiers and sailors are commendable and shall have my co-operation. You may rest assured the fact that a man is an honorably discharged soldier will not militate against his obtaining employment in any of the establishments under the control of the navy department, but, on the contrary, the fact will be (as it has been heretofore) considered by me as a recommendation in favor of the applicant for the employment he seeks. I shall be glad to have my attention called to any violation of the law with reference to this subject. Yours respectfully,

A. C. WHITNEY, Secretary of the Navy.

Secretary Whitney's letter was referred to Commodore Chandler, and the men were reinstated.

A Sensational Divorce Case in Chicago.

The Chicago Tribune says: The only divorce sensation was in Judge Tuley's court, where Mrs. Doran was seeking a divorce. Mrs. Doran, in happier days, was Mary A. Wood, and she lived in Winnipeg, Man., where her father, the Hon. Edmund Burke Wood, was chief justice of the province. The complaint is only twenty, and in March, 1883, she was only seventeen. She is in her bill that when she became the wife of James Frederick Doran, the young man represented himself to be the paying teller of the Bank of Montreal and a member of an excellent and aristocratic family of that city. He said, moreover, that his grandfather was going to give him as a wedding gift a furnished house and a monthly allowance of \$100 over and above his salary. Mrs. Wood gave the daughter \$400, which the husband kindly consented to take care of as they started upon their wedding journey. She says she never saw the money again. When she reached Montreal she found her new relatives to be very common people, living not in Montreal, but at Lac Beauport, a village on the outskirts of the city. She also says that it transpired that Doran, while in Winnipeg, had lost his place as teller in the bank, and was a defaulter to the amount of \$1,560. The deficiency had been made good by the grandfather, as well as a similar one for \$1,700 due the bank in St. Johns, N. B. The young wife telegraphed to her mother, who came at once from Winnipeg. After a sojourn at the seaside they came to Chicago, and now live at the Woodruff hotel.

"I don't know about this," said Judge Tuley. "If every woman who has been deceived were entitled to be divorced, this court would never do any other kind of business. You have got to make out a case of desertion. I will read over the testimony, but I don't know."

The prince of Wales having been informed recently that his son, Prince George, was having rather a gay time at Portsmouth, when he was supposed to be learning how to be a British sailor, sent instructions to have the boy summarily withheld from his amusements and made to adhere to his work aboard ship until he shall complete his course of instruction in the gunnery and torpedo service. Prince George is said to behave exceedingly well aboard. After completing his course at Portsmouth he will be transferred to the British naval squadron in the Mediterranean as flag lieutenant under the duke of Edinburgh.

TRANSIT RATES.

The Railroad Commissioners Against Transit Rates—Their Report.

The Minnesota board of railroad commissioners have made public their report in the matter of transit rates—a subject which has been very widely discussed, and in which buyers, sellers and shippers are deeply interested. The proceedings taken are based upon complaints filed with the commissioners by citizens of Carver, McLeod, Renville, Chipewa, Swift and Big Stone counties, Minn., against the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad. These counties are dependent upon the Milwaukee road for the necessary transportation to get their grain into market, and they claim that the system of present transit rates is a burden upon them which should not be tolerated by the state. The commissioners take position against the transit rate system—as at present enforced—and declare that the shipper must be given the option of having his grain carried to Minneapolis at a reasonable freight charge, or of availing himself of the privilege of the transit rate through to Chicago or the East. The commissioners do not abolish the transit rate at all. If the shipper and the railroad company agree upon terms the transit rate system can be carried out, as is now being done. The effect of the order of the commissioners is that the Milwaukee and other roads, having Chicago or Eastern terminal facilities, cannot force the shipper to pay freight charges to Chicago, but allows him the privilege to pay only for carriage to Minneapolis. The railroad affected are thus compelled to give a reasonable local rate on grain, which is not done under the present order of things. The only roads affected by the commissioners' order are the Milwaukee and St. Paul, Minneapolis & St. Louis, Omaha and Duluth roads.

Gen. Becker is of the opinion that the farmers along the lines of roads tributary to St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth will be benefited by the decision of the commissioners. For some time past the people have been demanding an abolition of the transit. They desire to ship wheat at reasonable rates to terminal points without being compelled to bill the same through to Chicago. The only way in which the railroad companies can evade the ruling, in order to retain the shipments through to Chicago, after the grain has been sold at Minneapolis or St. Paul, will be by competition. This will, of course, be beneficial to the shipper, by giving him a lower freight rate to that point. In his opinion the decision, if complied with, will be of benefit to St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth. Grain which heretofore could not reach Duluth will do so now. The claim set up by the railroads that the transit system has done much to build up the milling system appears to be indisputable, but, on the other hand, the farmer has suffered. The shippers have been obliged to protect themselves from an accumulation of rebate freight, and the only way in which this could be done was to reduce the price of wheat. The railroads may refuse to comply with the decision of the commissioners, but in that case the law will be appealed to. If that is not strong enough the legislature, at its next session, will be called upon to exact a law sufficient to meet the emergency. The commissioners, in considering the matter, had in mind the relief of the farmers from the burdens that had been imposed upon them by the railroads. They had made an effort to secure free trade in grain, which they hoped would be successful.

DEVIL'S LAKE TRAGEDY.

Important Decision on the Claim of Fred Ward, Who Was Killed at Devil's Lake—The Claim Given to Ward's Daughter.

Assistant Secretary Jenks, of the interior department, has decided that Edna Rose Ward, the little daughter of Fred Ward, who was killed by a mob at Devil's Lake April 22, 1883, is entitled to the quarter section of land for which her father lost his life. The decision vindicates the Ward brothers in their right to this claim, and is important as a precedent in similar land cases. By the decision it is established that an alien who has not declared his intention of becoming a citizen acquires no right by settling on public lands. The wrongful removal of a settler's house by an adverse claimant does not affect his rights, and the guardian of a minor heir of a deceased pre-emptor can file a declaratory statement and complete the claim. It will be remembered that John Bell, who was not a citizen of the United States, settled on the claim in question. Township plat was filed Sept. 29, 1882. Bell filed on the claim the day of the alleged settlement, July 1, 1882. E. P. Ward, the guardian of Fred Ward's child, filed a pre-emption declaratory statement Dec. 21, alleging the settlement Feb. 21, 1883, nearly eight months later than Bell's. The testimony showed that Bell was on the land in June, 1882, and built a sod house. In February, 1883, he built a frame house. He had broken five acres of land at this time. Fred Ward put a shanty on the claim Feb. 21, and in two hours a mob of twenty men removed it. On April 7 Bell filed a declaration of his intention to become a citizen. On April 22 Ward put another house in place. That night he and his brother were shot and killed. The decision of the department is: While Bell was still an alien, Ward placed his house on the land. His action was not a forcible intrusion upon the land. Bell at that time was disqualified from acquiring land. Ward initiated a valid settlement. The removal of the house could not destroy his claim. The land was unsurveyed and unenclosed. The law was ample to protect Bell's rights, and there seems to be no excuse for the violence which caused the death of the Ward brothers. A careful examination of the testimony fails to show that Ward did not make his settlement in good faith, and the peculiar circumstances attending the removal of his first shanty, taken in connection with the facts surrounding his death, would seem to furnish sufficient excuse for his absence from the land in the interim.

The land is now of considerable value, and will prove a fortune for the little child whose rights have now been established beyond appeal. It was understood at the time that Bell was acting for a syndicate of speculators.

Upon the recommendation of Land Commissioner Sparks, secretary Lamar has approved the dismissal of Special Agent Travis Rhodes, stationed at Grand Forks, Dak., and of Robert Berry, an examiner of surveys in Colorado. Their places have not yet been filled.

J. H. Rowe, who sued the Detroit Free Press for \$25,000 for libel, gets a verdict of six cents.