

# THE CENTRAL TIMES.

A. R. GRANTHAM, Editor.

Render Unto Caesar the Things that are Caesar's, Unto God, God's

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## OUR WASHINGTON LETTER

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

From the day when the extraordinary session of the Fifty-third Congress commenced to be, there have been efforts looking to compromise in the matter of financial legislation, but until now the efforts had every appearance of ineffectiveness and the proposition lacked earnest support. But it seems as though the movement toward compromise had assumed definite shape. Men who are anxious for legislation insist that both the intense gold and silver men will have to surrender a little of that for which they contend or the session will be resultless. The proposition likely to be adopted—if frank expressions of opinion by legislators of prominence have any value—will be far from satisfactory to those who represent the silver interest, but it will be very much better for them than the mere unconditional repeal of the silver purchase law of 1860. It seems as though an agreement will be reached by which the purchase of silver will be suspended until all the silver now in the vaults of the Treasury Department has been coined, and when that has been accomplished (it will take something like eight years to do it at the rate of \$1,500,000 a month) the purchase of silver is to be resumed at the rate of 2,000,000 ounces per month until the total silver currency in the country is \$800,000,000. The compromise also provides that there shall be, immediately, a gold bond issue to the extent of \$200,000,000, and the result will, it is claimed, be a sufficiency of both metals. That the administration will agree in advance of legislative action to such a compromise is not at all likely, for the President has declared with all necessary emphasis his desire to have this session do nothing but repeal unconditionally the obnoxious silver purchase act. But if such a compromise came to him with the approval of both Houses he would undoubtedly sign the bill. That a compromise like that outlined would go through the House of Representatives is certain; that it will go through the Senate is quite probable.

The silver oratory of Representative Breckenridge, of Kentucky, filled the House once more this week for the first time since the blue grass orator became a conspicuous figure in the public eye. There was a general rustle of sensationalism in the air. Mr. Breckenridge's tones were never mellow nor more magnetic, his picturesque periods rolled out with rhythmic plentitude, his white locks tossed above flashing blue eyes. The Federal elections bill was a congenial subject to him, and he had a greater incentive to distinguish himself than usual, because there were atrats of coldness through the audience. In the beginning of his oration Mr. Breckenridge attempted to dispose in short order of Representative Johnson. "With these words," he said, referring to the Republican, "I dismiss him and his speech." Quick as a flash the man from Indiana was on his feet. With a tone that rang out sharply across the hall he shouted: "There are other things the gentleman would like to dismiss." Then, after a pause, "But the people will not dismiss them." The Kentuckian made no reply for a moment, when he said: "I do not know to what the gentleman refers." The Republicans laughed at his answer; then they trooped almost unanimously into the cloakrooms, leaving but empty seats to the silver-haired ora-

tor whose moral skirts have been so bully singed.

A story which has been given general circulation, dealing with the United States Senate collectively stated that when a man rose to be a member of that body one of the essential requisites of his membership was a horse and carriage, to wait for him every afternoon outside the northern wing of the Capitol. It is true that a long line of equipages stands before the Senate wing of an afternoon, and that a larger proportion of the Senators ride home behind their own thoroughbred than members of the other House. But there are several Senators who patronize public vehicles, while Vice President Stevenson invariably sings into a green car after the adjournment, hands out a six for-a-quarter ticket, and reads the aft-noon papers until the car reaches his hotel.

Repeated calls on Attorney Onley to "smash a trust," just as a guarantee of good faith, have not produced results as yet. It is altogether possible that the Attorney General does not desire to take any step which may add to the complications of a business condition which is already pretty well disordered.

Mrs. Cleveland is out again and has so far recovered that she takes an occasional drive with the President. The baby, too, is doing well.

The total purchase of silver bullion by the Treasury Department for the month of September was 2,746,500 ounces, being 1,753,500 less than the monthly quota of 4,500,000 ounces. This is the third month in succession in which the purchases have fallen below the limit prescribed by the Sherman law.

The speculation as to the contents of Governor Nathan's communication to President Cleveland, which drew forth his recent silver letter, is not likely to be gratified. It is believed to contain certain statements hardly advisable to publish in print.

The lie is frequently passed in Congress. In fact there are many persons who incline to the opinion that misrepresentation has a general circulation in that body.

## HISTORY OF THE THIRD PARTY.

### From Adam Down to the Present Day—The Devil Was First Third Party.

"What is the news down in the old settlement concerning of religion and politics in general, and the Third Party in particular," says I to Aunt Nancy one night after supper. I do love to sorter wind up the old lady's talkin machinery and then stand from under while she lets the check rein down and turns herself loose.

"I never yet have come up to that pint where I wanted to be a man and drink whiskey and wear breeches and vote," says the old lady between the puffs from her pipe, "and I am not one of the sort to be forever meddin' myself along with the politics. I am a woman, and more than that, thank the Lord. I am a she woman. I love to go to all the big meetins and quil-tins and log-rollins and barbecues, and smoke my pipe and talk and pass off the time in pleasant confabulation with the neighbors, but I am more than willin to let the men folks do the drinkin and cussin and votin. And yet still at the same time, while I ain't no politician, and neither the son of one, I don't wear cotton

in my ears, nor blinds on my eyes and I can't help from pickin up a few scattering politics comin and goin. As for the Third Party, it has jest about wiggled into the old settlement, which the same it is bound to wiggle everywhere in the run of time. Of course it ain't none of my funeral, but still I kinder like to see the procession pass by. The sooner it is dead and the buryin is over with the better it will be for the country in common and the people in general. I never did like the Third party. The name of the thing is enough for me. It is the devil. If you will take all the back history of the world and the human race from Adam down to the present day and generation you will mighty soon see where your Aunt Nancy is right. The first appearance of the Third Party was in Heaven, where he tried to get up a split amongst the angels and run a side show on his own hook. He was a kicker and a bolter, forever and eternally stiffin up a mess and runnin on the independent ticket. He got so big and flew so high till by-and-by he fell and the good Lord pitched him overboard.

It was the Third Party that

stirred up trouble in the first family and brought sin and sorrow and ruination on the whole discovered human race. Adam and Eve had a pleasant home to live in, with plenty of everything around them, and I s'kon no doubts they was gettin along more smoother and happier than any man or woman that ever lived, under the same roof from that day to this. But about that time the Third Party—the old devil—he came in and tempted Eve, and Eve she tempted Adam, and Adam he fell, and from that time the human family went down in one general kerfummaz and everlasting confessionment of sin and sorrow and troubles and tribulations. It was likewise also the Third Party—the devil—that brought poor old Job down to rage and sobs and biles and a great fret with himself and everybody else. If you would take only particular notice, you will see that the Third Party has always been a mighty bad egg. It generally takes about three to stir up a rale bad mess, and the third party always does the devilment."—Franklin Times.

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