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THE CAUCASIAN.

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EDITOR'S CHAIR.

THE OPINION OF THE EDITOR ON THE ISSUES OF THE DAY.

The Des Moines Ledger (Dem) says: "It is not important what a man has done or how long he has been a Democrat." Cleveland is evidently following the same doctrine.

Gen. Lew Wallace, the author of Ben Hur, a life of Christ that is more charming than any novel, says the appointment of Gresham is "like putting live coals and boiling oil on the bald head of the Democratic party."

Several persons returning from the New Berne fair and others who have dropped in since all express themselves as delighted with their trip. They say they have never seen any thing equal to the novel and instructive exposition.

The Burgaw Sun, published by Mr. E. M. Peterson at Burgaw, N. C., and the Onslow Blade by Mr. H. King, of Peanut, N. C., are the two latest editions to the reform press of the State. We welcome them both and hope to see fifty more such papers started during the year.

The reform press by its bold and manly fight has saved the country from two bad pieces of legislation since January 1st 1893. The bold and vigorous fight made prevented the present silver law from being repealed and has just defeated the Sherman government bond scheme.

Something wise from the Pen and Plow: "If there was ever a time for the American people to watch their rulers it is now. Sheltered by the general rejoicing at the election of Mr. Cleveland, there is being outlined a policy—covertly and stealthily but resolutely—which means absolute ruin to the business world. If the most earnest spirit we implore our merchants, our farmers, our laborers to study the situation.

The Sherman bond scheme has been defeated in Congress. The Reform Press Association exposed and denounced the scheme just in time to save the people from another outrageous piece of legislation. Did the Democratic press expose it? No. Did the Republicans? No. They have no opinions till the bosses speak. The fact is Cleveland favored the bond scheme, but was doing his work quietly, and the little partisan papers didn't know which side to take. The reform press has opinions and speaks them boldly and fearlessly.

The Daily Messenger comes to us no longer. We don't know why, unless it is because of the fact that THE CAUCASIAN has been exposing and ventilating the position of the paper. We charged that paper with being the organ of the W & W railroad and quoted Representative Parmele of Wilmington to substantiate what we have charged before, that the railroad owned the paper. Besides we have been dissecting and answering some inconsistent editorials in that paper. We suppose the editor could not stand this any longer. He can't answer what we said and the truth makes him sick.

Last week Henry Clews of New York sent us a letter for publication. There is a lot of taffy in it about the "newspapers being the moulders of public opinion" &c. He then goes on to discuss the financial situation and asks us to publish it, saying that it will be of great interest to the country. It is a regular gold bug letter. He claims that if the present silver law could be repealed that our "foreign securities would be safe." What does that mean? That government bonds on which the people are taxed to pay interest would go to a still higher premium. And while this is taking place your farm products and your land will be going down still lower in price. The Iowa Tribune commenting on the same letter which was sent to it too says: "In the name of humanity have the American people a greater interest in maintaining foreign securities at a premium for the benefit of a few English aristocrats that they have in providing for their own families and the payments of their debts? Let us look after our own interests and prevent if possible, a decline in our own small holdings and that of the products of labor, and refused to be hoodwinked by a broker who has placed these foreign fecurities with investers at a big commission and who is, of course, interested in maintaining the value of securities that he may continue to share in the profits by way of collecting and remitting the interest."

Some of our 2x4 exchanges who have been trying to make excuses for Cleveland being against free coinage have been referring to the fact that Gladstone is opposed to free coinage. Yes they announce with a great deal of satisfaction that the "grand old man" and wise statesman is oppose to silver. In this connection we make the following clipping from the London Standard; "Cheap silver" has given us cheap food and raw material, and has enabled England to hold her own in the world far more easily than her rivals. Nothing would be so disastrous to our foreign trade as a sudden rise in silver." Of course England is opposed to free coinage as long as she can bleed the United States. What fools or knaves our statesmen (?) are?

A prominent citizen of the State writing us a few days since said. "I am taking five papers and money is so scarce I had decided to stop one or two of them. But I can't stop THE CAUCASIAN. Enclosed find $1.00 to renew my subscription. The four issues you have gotten out at Goldsboro outstrips anything in North Carolina journalism. I would not have missed them for twice the subscription price of the paper for a whole year. May God give you strength to conduce to make such a bold and manly stand for truth. From now on I shall use my influence to increase your circulation and in doing so I will feel that I am doing my State a service. There is so much todyism suppressing the truth and stifling of honest opinions that it is refreshing and elevating to read a paper like yours." THE CAUCASIAN is not owned by any clique or monopoly. It will follow the motto "truth and justice" as its guiding star. We do not desire to attack or speak unpleasantly of any one, but when justice and the interests of the people demand it we will not be the greatest nor the smartest.

A WONDEROUS WISE UTTERANCE.

The Wilmington Star is responsible for the following chuck of wisdom. At the close of a long and labored editorial it says:

"Approached in the right way, and with the right spirit, the silver problem is not so difficult of adjustment as it might seem to be."

Now read it again. Do you catch on, is it too deep for you? It is for us. "Approached in the right way and with the right spirit." Will the Star explain this? We can't see how it can be approached in the right way and the right spirit till another election. The people certainly approached it in the wrong way and in the wrong spirit, by electing a gold bug for President. The Star says it is not so difficult to settle as it would seem. It seems to us to be pretty difficult to settle, with the people demanding free silver and the administration trying to strike silver down. The Star must be "wool gathering."

REMARKABLE SUDDEN CONVERSION.

What CAN be the matter with John Sherman, the ablest servitor of the national banks?

"When the devil was sick, the devil
a monk would be;
When the devil got well, the devil a
monk was he.

John must "want to be an angel" —of a certain description. John must be almost IN ARTICULO MORTIS.

An alleged "interview," with no credit to any paper, appears in Monday's Bulletin, of which the following is the conclusion:

"Senator," I said, "you have said our present system of banking is the best the world ever had. Now, after 1907, when we have paid our bonded debt, what is to be the circulating currency? Upon what basis are we to do banking?"

Said he: "Why, not have the Government of the United States issue its own money? It is the richest nation on the face of the earth We reduced in thirty years a war debt of $2,500,000,000 to now about $500,000,000, and to the amazement of all nations. Our credit is renowned. We now do a national banking business on the faith of the bonds of the Government. Why not do a business on the faith of the Government? The same confidence given to a bond of the nation ought to be given to the note it might issue. The Government should issue its own money."

This view has been held by all those emancipated from metal worship for the last twenty years or more. It is equally certain that no one man has done as nearly as much to prevent such a consummation as John Sherman. Bonds are not, and never were, necessary as basis for for currency, or as a means of effecting public improvements. The Government of the United States not only CAN "issue its own money," but could have done so at any time. If the utterances attributed to him are genuine, they indicate that he sees the end to be near and that this government WILL issue its own money, thereby emancipating the people from the superstition that in order for two persons to exchange the products of their labor, a third must go down into the ground to get a costly substance wherewith to make the exchange.—Sanfrancisco Star.

RICHARD OLNEY,
Attorney-General.

We were not able to get a picture of Mr. Olney for the cabinet group last week. He had never had a picture taken. But an enterprising photographer has kodaked him and here is his picture.

SKETCH.

Richard Olney Mr. Cleveland's Attorney General, educated from Brown University in 1856 and two years later from Harvard Law School. In a few years he became one of the best known lawyers in his State and now he is considered the leading corporation lawyer. The income from his practice is believed to be fully $60,000 a year. He has always refused public office; twice he has declined a Massachusetts Judgship. He has a summer residence near Gay Grables, on Buzzard Bay, where where he has been the friend and companion of Mr. Cleveland.

MR. GLADSTONE'S INCONSISTENCIES.

Wise Men Often Change, Fools Never.

(New York World)

The Tories of England can accomplish little by attacking Mr. Gladstone for changing in maturer years the opinions of his youth. The charge is an old one, and has been more than once admitted. "I am accused," said he on a memorable occasion, "of want of conformity in my opinions. I have not pretended to it. I have been all my life a learner, and am so still." On another occasion, in 1878, he gave a more elaborate explanation of his course, which furnishes the key to his career:

I trace in the education of Oxford one great defect. Perhaps it was my own fault; but I must admit that I did not learn, when at Oxford, that which I have learned since—viz., to set a due value on the imperishable and inestimable principles of human liberty. The temper, which I think prevailed too much in academic circles, was that liberty was regarded with jealousy, and fear could not be wholy dispensed with.

There is no doubt that Mr. Gladstone was a sincere student when Macaulay referred to him as "the rising hope of the stern and unbending Tories." But there is quite as little doubt that the changes wrought in his convictions were the result of laborious and conscientious study, and not of a desire to follow the caprices of public sentiment and reap the rewards of office. He more than once preferred to follow his convictions rather than acquire power or place. He scorned alike the restraints of academic training and the slavery to usage. He was a protectionist; he became a free-trader. He opposed modification of the Irish land laws and the disestablishment of the Irish Church; he accomplished both, and said they were achievements of which he was proud. He defended slavery and then became an abolitionist.

But it will be observed that all the changes were in the direction of broader conceptions of commerce and of human freedom. They were all on the lines of a larger statesmanship. There were no instance of reaction towards the narrower views he had formerly maintained. In the higher and more comprehensive sense, therefore, every change was consistent and in perfect harmony with the expansion of his intelligence.

Besides, if change of conviction is matter for reproach the most illustrious names of history must suffer from it. It has proved the sublime infirmity of the greatest intellects in this country as well as of every other. Both Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Webster changed their views on the tariff. They strove against each other, and, like Hamlet and Laertes, changed rapiers and strove again. Mr. Madison changed his opinions on the United States Bank. Mr. Clay was not less inconsistent,

It is after all the wise men who change their minds—the fools never. But when Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Randolph Churchill charge inconsistency on Mr. Gladstone the everchanging waves of the sea must laugh.

Between the Devil and the People.

The Legislature is afraid to take any action on any important measure. They see the bosses on one side and the people on the other and they don't know which way to move. They will draw their pay about the 4th of March and go home. The most laudable act of this Legislature will be its final adjournment.—Our Home.

SILVER AND COTTON.

A PAPER READ BY MARION BUTLER VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE N. F. A AND I. U., BEFORE THE 3RD ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN BY-METALIC LEAGUE.

"The Loss Sustained by the Cotton-Planters on Account of the Demonetization of Silver Since 1873."

THE SOUTH AND WEST MUST JOIN HANDS AND STRIKE A DECISIVE BLOW FOR INDUSTRIAL FREEDOM.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE BIMETALIC LEAGUE:—I am asked to address you on the topic "The loss sustained by cotton planters on account of the demonetization of silver since 1873." Since receiving your highly esteemed invitation (for which honor I wish now to thank you) I have been so pressed with public and private duties that I have not been able, from the data at hand, to make the necessary calculations to insure such accuracy as would warrant laying before you and the public the approximate figures that would indicate the total loss for these twenty years, enormous as it is. But permit me to say that the free coinage of silver is and has been a burning question with us of the Southern section of this country. Producing, as we do, three-fourths of the cotton crop of the world, which is largely sold and manufactured abroad, we were the first to feel the baneful effects of the demonetization of silver. The market price for our cotton during the year intervening between 1866 and 1880 fell from thirty-two cents to eleven cents per pound, and we believe that this blighting result is due to the contraction of the currency and the degradation of silver more than to any and all other causes combined. Since that time, chiefly through the same cause, the price has fallen so low that the great bulk of the crop is now made at a positive loss. The reason for this was first attributed to the inevitable conditions which obtain in reaching a specie basis after a violent inflation of the currency. But subsequently events disclosed the fact that after nearly fifteen years of specie resumption, prices continued to decline and harder times come to our people. This long-continued distress, this ever-increasing contest with want and unremunerative labor, has forced an examination into the real causes which conspire to bring about such abnormal and apparently inconsistent results. When a people first begin to feel any oppression they are prone to blame the man in sight. So in this case, at first the factors and middlemen were charged with the offense, then the railroads and speculators became the subjects of condemnation and then the manufacturers and the tariff were accused of being responsible for low prices and the resultant hard times. But, while some, if not all, of these are still held guilty to a certain extent, the real underlying cause was found to be an inadequate and a continual shrinking volume of currency—a currency held firmly in the iron grasp of the gold trust of this country which in turn was and is absolutely dominated by the gold trust of Europe. And I declare here and now that there is no help for the cotton-grower of the south, no certain remedy for the evils which surrounds us there, save that which would come through a reconstruction of the financial system of this country. This reconstruction should logically begin with the restoring of silver, and through the free and unlimited coinage at the constitutional ratio, putting it on equal terms with gold.

I am proud to stand before you as the representative of a great agricultural organization, the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, and still more so on account of the fact that its grand motto of "Equal rights to all and special privileges to none" is followed by a declaration of principles, among which has ever stood a demand for "the free and unlimited coinage of silver." And right here I am reminded that exactly one year ago tonight, the combined Industrial and Labor Organization of the county assembled at St, Louis, (known as the St. Louis Conference) adopted unanimously this same demand. This demand was among the first issued by our organization, and upon this demand every true member of the Alliance stands to-day. As an organization, we recognize the demonetization of silver as an outrage upon the producers of this nation as a whole and as a crime against every man, woman and child who works for a living within its borders.

As a technical question, I am frank to admit, I have never been able to give it that thorough investigation which it deserves, but as a general economic proposition, I several years ago established the opinion that free coinage of silver was not only right, but imperative. This feeling, I am sure, is well nigh universal among the cotton growers and wealth producers of the South; and I am constrained to say that if the fight for free coinage should be abandoned by the people of the North, or even the silver producing States themselves, we of the South would continue the fight for it as a measure of prime necessity for our section. First, we would fight for it as one great step in the financial reform such as would make it possible for us to pay our debts in a currency of the same per capita circulation as when contracted; and next, to prevent the ruinous competition with the cotton planter of India, whereby they or the middlemen have an advantage, measured, as a rule, by the artificially produced difference between gold and silver. The fight for free coinage is not with us a matter of sentiment. A real and cruel condition drives us to it. If I should paint to you two pictures, one of our people when we received good prices for cotton; the other, the now-condition under ruinous prices, the contrast, would move any man, even a Congressman, who had a heart less hard than stone, less cold than an iceberg, and less cruel than a serpent.

The cotton crop with us is essentially our money crop, and the price of cotton, probably more than any other product, is governed by the manipulation of the so-called money markets of the world. Because of this any change in or dislocation of the volume of currency, either from additions or depletions, is almost unerringly registered in the price paid for cotton. As proof of this proposition I will quote the following facts, which were set forth by Hon. John Abbott in an excellent speech delivered in Congress last session:

Fiscal year ending June 30—	In the Home Markets.			
	Cotton per pound.	Corn per bushel.	Wheat per bushel.	Silver per fine ounce (calendar year).*
	Cts.	Cts.		
1872	19.3	70	$1 47	$1 32
1873	18.8	62	1 31	1 29
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	11.8	54	1 17	1 20
1878	11.1	56	1 34	1 15
1879	9.9	47	1 07	1 12
1880	11.5	54	1 25	1 14
1881	11.4	55	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 11
1885	10.6	54	86	1 06
1886	9.9	50	87	99
1887	9.5	48	89	97
1888	9.8	55	85	93
1889	9.9	47	90	93
1890	10.2	49	83	1 04
1891 close of	6.0	41	85	90

*The coining value of an ounce of pure silver is $1.29.

It will be noticed that as silver advanced, as it did immediately after the passage of the act of July, 1890, cotton advanced in price also; that as silver fell in price afterwards, cotton has closely followed. As further proof of the soundness of this proposition, allow me to call your attention to the following dispatches from a number of large cotton-buyers in two of the great cotton markets of the world.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 11.—Glenway & Co.'s report says: New York opened 3 to 4 points lower and closed 14 points lower. After the call, however, prices were further depressed. The decline in Liverpool is attributed to a decline of 3-8d in silver.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 11.—Atwood, Vidlite & Co.'s circular says: The decline is owing to a serious loss in price of silver, which is 3-4 of 1 per cent. lower than yesterday.

NEW YORK, Aug. 11.—Hubbard, Price & Co.'s report says; The market opened at a decline of 3 points and during the day continued to decline, and the closing was easy at about 14 points decline from last night's figures, because silver was so weak.

Such plain indisputable facts should convince the most skeptical that the Western silver miners are not the only class that would be benefitted by making silver one of the money metals of the country. As it stands at present, the miners of the West are digging silver, and the planters of the South are making cotton—all laboring with might and main to produce two great commodities. And when we have toiled and produced them both in abundance, behold, in steps the alien, by whose manipulations they are used as weapons of destruction to both industries. This is only possible while we stay apart. This fraticidal and suicidal course has already closed down half of the silver mines of the West and put a mortgage on over half of the plantations of the South. Is it not time that such folly was ended? Is it not time to call a halt and decide upon some action for the common good? Shall the alien continue to be the beneficiary of our labors, or shall we take a stand for our joint interests and the producers of the country? I for one believe that the time has come. I believe that the hour has struck when the people of the great and growing West should unite with the people of my own awakening Southland, and standing together upon one common platform strike the decisive blow for industrial freedom.

MISSPLACED FAITH.

Free and unlimited coinage of silver and free trade with the world will lead us on to a free government and a free and prosperous people. Let the Democratic administration set us at liberty.—Wadesboro Wave. The Wave seems to know what we should have in order to make us prosperous, but bless its confiding soul it will never get it from a Democratic administration.—Iowa Tribune.

No Brother, Let 'em all Speak at Once.

No cotton has been raised since Christmas. Will some over-production fellow bob up and tell us what has caused the decline in the price of that staple? One at a time, if you please; don't all speak at once.—Our Home.

Emerson was once told by some of his friends who were frightened because of an unusual disturbance of the elements that the world was coming to an end. He replied by saying, "Well, it won't matter; we can get along as well without it."

HOW MANKIND GROWS

REV. THOMAS DIXON ON THE EVOLUTION OF HUMANITY.

A Prelude on the Coming National Administration—Evolution Evidently the Divine Method—God Works by Means—The Never Ending Struggle—Excelsior!

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—The sermon of the day in Association hall was preceded this morning by a review of the new administration about to be inaugurated at Washington. Mr. Dixon said:

We stand again upon the threshold of a change of administration in our national government. These courts are the landmarks found at regular intervals making our national history. We have no such thing as a governmental crisis. Our government is astronomical. It is wound up to run four years. It runs four years.

The formalities of an administration change impress the eye with dramatic importance. In reality they are unimportant. The real change occurred some time before in the minds of the sovereign people. The officeholder in America is merely a servant carrying out his master's orders. There is only one king among us—the citizen king. The officeholder is always and only a servant, from the street sweeper to the chief of police, and from the justice of the peace to the president of the republic.

With our presidents the people have lodged large powers. And they are sorely abused. The presidential chair has sometimes transformed a second rate politician into a dignified and patriotic statesman for the time.

Many of our presidents have turned from the petty demands of party cliques and factions and the noblest independent action in a conscientious effort to represent the whole people, whose will they personify.

President Harrison in the close of his vigorous administration has given us a striking example of this broader, nobler view in appointing as supreme court judge a man opposed to his own party in politics. General Harrison in that act showed himself to be president of the United States of America, representing 60,000,000 of people—not merely the figurehead of a political machine. The machine has howled most vociferously. Let it howl. Honest and patriotic citizenship rejoices and writes Harrison's name a line higher on the roll of true fame.

In making up his cabinet for the new administration Mr. Cleveland has treated us to a genuine sensation in politics. The fact is Mr. Cleveland is a very sensational officer—be it said to his honor. The little machine tinkers can never predict even what he will do next. Mr. Tilden said of him that he was the boldest politician he had ever known. He certainly is a unique force in modern American politics. He thinks for himself. He carries out the will of the people according to his own conception of that will—not according the dictates of a faction.

He has appointed Judge Gresham, an independent Republican, secretary of state.

To say that this took the breath away from the various little machines would be to mildly express it. Such acts on the part of a retiring president and an incoming one of the opposite party are indications of the dawn of a new day in American politics. The day of party worship is passing away. The day of men and principles is once more returning. The party fetich has been the power that during the past generation has well nigh throttled true statesmanship. Mr. Cleveland begins his work well. He has little to bind him to partisan pig politics. The better element of our citizenship look with hope and faith to his administration.

The next four years will be eventful in the history of our nation. In these four years will be formed the lines of real battle along which the hosts of freemen are to fight in the next generation. Traditions, memories and ghosts must go to the rear. New men and new measures for a new generation and a new world! The coming 20th century holds its own problems. The children of the century must settle them. With all its wild dreams and "impossible" propositions, I say again the new People's party has sounded the battlecry for the next generation.

Let the old parties shut their eyes to the fact if they will. It is among the possibilities that this party of the masses, as against the classes, will elect the next president. The rise of this party during the past four years to the poll of a million votes was a miracle in American politics. If the old parties do not heed some of its demands, their deathknell will be sounded within the life of the incoming administration. Let no young man be blinded by a display of power in the passing moment. The power that rules today may be thrust into oblivion tomorrow. The Tammany that rules supreme today may be a stinking memory within a decade. The new administration may fall at the end of four years never to rise again. Truth and right alone endure forever!

THE BRUTE INHERITANCE.

We ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for our adoption—to wit, the redemption of our body.—Romans viii, 23.

It is a fact—we are still waiting, still groaning over the problem. Progress in civilization is simply the mark of our attainment in our effort to throw off the brute inheritance. I believe that, as clearly as a scientific hypothesis can be established, the theory of evolution is practically established. It seems to me to harmonize more clearly with the Bible than any theory of creation I have ever read, and to be the only rational explanation of the method God used in making man. I cannot see how it was possible for God to cut man out of whole cloth, as a tailor would cut a coat out of a piece of goods. It is not God's way of doing things, and I cannot conceive that it is the way he made the world from the beginning.

Real progress today is developed in proportion to our elimination of the brutal in life and society. Are we making progress? Yes, we are. I believe that the world is better today than it was yesterday, and that there is a continuous progress through the centuries. As I study history I see man slowly emerging from a more brutal into a less brutal condition. The apostle cries in anguish of heart, "Who shall deliver me from the body of this death, from this power inherent chained to me, which drags me down, and with which I must forever wrestle?" Struggle and conflict are the very requisites of progress, and there can be no real struggle without real progress. Man is all

[Continued on Second Page.]

MY LADY TONGUE.

BY AMELIE RIVES,

AUTHOR OF "THE QUICK OR THE DEAD," "ASMODEUS," "ON BONES ISLAND," ETC., ETC.

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CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCES JUDITH.

People used to say it was almost a duty for Colonel Henry Merriweather Page to marry a second time. A motherless boy might do well enough, but when it came to a girl growing up altogether among darkeys and men, it was absolutely blood-curdling. The poor child was really dressed in a manner that was almost indecent, and it had even been said (here the informant generally put an impressive hand in a one-button lisle-thread glove upon the arm of the person to be enlightened) that she actually used bad language—in fact, swore, as she heard her father do.

It was perfectly true that she rarely put in an appearance at church, and when she did participate in the hebdominal devotions of Brownsville parish, she was wont to clatter up the central aisle in a short and gatherless habit, which was extremely shocking to the taste of the congregation. She wore boots, moreover, and it was rumored a spur on occasions. Her greatest offense, probably, was her mode of dressing her hair, or rather of leaving it to dress itself. She had a small, shapely head clasped closely from brow to throat by heavy red-brown curls.

Colonel Page's pew was the most conspicuous in the pretty sandstone church; and the nape of his daughter's handsome neck, exposed in all its chignonless effrontery of a Sabbath, was a never-ending source of displeasure to the outraged Brownsvillians.

Had not St. Paul expressed himself clearly, not to say strongly, on this very subject? Was not a woman's piety almost as surely to be measured by the length of her hair as the age of a horse told by the length of his nippers? Could a young lady fly in the face not only of tradition, but of the Scripture, in this fashion, and yet be all that is required of young ladies by a country parish? Not so. The rector's wife went alone in her state carry all to remonstrate with Miss Page upon this very subject.

She waited for some forty minutes, and when at last her hostess entered, it was not in a neat magenta-colored paduasoy, neither a black or salt and pepper barege, trimmed with braid and pearl buttons, as was then deemed the thing, but—shade of that godly woman, 'Mrs. Colonel" Henry Merriweather Page—in a blue flannel waist, an old homespun skirt pinned up about her boyishly straight hips, and muddy boots that left apparent impressions on the red velvet carpet of the drawing-room.

When Mrs. Nelson, after much dextrous maneuvering, had finally led the conversation, by what she considered a masterstroke, up to the moot question, Miss Page had replied merely by running a slight brown hand through the offensive locks and saying:

"Why do I wear it this way? Oh! I like it, and dad likes it, and Dick," then, with a sudden oblique glance of her bright red-brown eyes: "I shall always wear it so, even when I am married."

"You seem to have no doubt on that score," the rector's wife had replied, in a voice which was dryer than the smile that accompanied it. Mrs. Nelson had what might be termed a well-irrigated mouth. "Pray, is it to be soon?"

Miss Page had laughed at this, flinging one blue-flanneled arm over the chair in which she sat sideways, and Mrs. Nelson had shuddered both at the laugh and gesture, which she found unpleasantly in keeping with their owner's cropped locks.

"Dear me, no! Goodness, no! I shoul think not!" the delinquent had replied,

"OLD MAIDS ARE ACCIDENTS."

heartily. "I haven't even an ideal; but, o course, he'll turn up—they always do. Old maids are accidents."

"Accidents!" the rector's wife had exclaimed, in a tone which I am unable to describe.

She held up the gray cotton gloves, ornamented with wrist-tassels, these last sharing in the good lady's agitation. Their frisky bobbings developed a kittenish desire in Miss Page to seize and secure them. How delightful it would have been to observe the face of their wearer had she done so.

Miss Page did not always control herself so well as on this occasion, however. She yielded to her inclinations without stint not infrequently.

One of these events took place not long after the visit of the rector's wife, and that was when the rector's son proposed to her.

This gentleman was a pretty little personage, with the physique of a tolerably well-sculptured snow-man. His orange-colored hair surmounted his orange-colored ears with a pinion-like stiffness, which suggested the idea of a pair of Mercury-like heel-wings having sprouted in the wrong place. He had orange-colored eyebrows, above little dark blue eyes, like raisins set into his pudding face, and his orange-colored beard grew one way on one side of his face, and another way on the other, as though its owner were standing in a perpetual draught.

But neither a man's personal appearance, nor the fact of his being a rector's son, can have any appreciable effect upon his love affairs (so far as he himself is concerned). Thus it chanced that Timotheus Nelson became enamored of the hoydenish Miss Page, and proposed to her. It was bad enough until he got down on his knees. Judith could not stand that, and so down she went on her knees also, just opposite him, and said, as well as she could for laughing:

"Please get up."

You may be sure he did so with alacrity. He did more—he got up metaphorically as well, and remained from that time in a standing position.

He admitted that very night what he could never be persuaded to even so much as listen to before: namely, that for young women to apply scissors to their hair is as unseemly as a like application is meritorious in young men. He confided to his mother that he had once met Miss Page riding along upon the highway, and that she was whistling. He went so far as to state that with her mouth in that unfeminine position he considered her positively plain, and concluded by stating that flaxen hair worn in demure bands on either side of a flaxen countenance was a sight at once refreshing and ennobling, after having looked for any length of time upon crisp brown curls, and a face that changed as often as an autumn sunset.

Mr. Timotheus Nelson had a cousin Lucy, who answered exactly to the flaxen ideal, and he soon after made her Mrs. Timotheus Nelson. He took a certain pride in presenting her to Miss Page, and in listening afterward to her shocked exclamations in regard to the much-discussed curls.

It was about this time that, by something of a coincidence, a cousin of Judith also

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THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

MR. CLEVELAND'S OUTLINE OF THE POLICY OF HIS ADMINISTRATION.

HE DECLARES IN FAVOR OF "HONEST MONEY AND ADVISES THE PEOPLE TO BE MORE ECONOMICAL.

He Says we Must be Careful about Revising the Tariff.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—President Cleveland's inaugural address was as follows:

My Fellow Citizens In obedience to the mandate of my countrymen, I am about to dedicate myself to their service under the sanction of a solemn oath. Deeply moved by the expression of confidence and personal attachment which has called me to this service, I am sure my gratitude can make no better return than the pledge I now give before God and these witnesses of unreserved complete devotion to the interests and welfare of those who have honored me.

I deem it fitting on this occasion, while indicating the opinions I hold concerning public questions of present importance, to also briefly refer to the existence of certain conditions and tendencies among our people which seem to menace the integrity and usefulness of our Government. While every American citizens must contemplate with the utmost pride and enthusiasm the growth and expansion of our country, the sufficiency of our institutions to stand against the rudest shocks of violence, the wonderful thrift and enterprise of our people, and the demonstrated superiority of our free government, it behooves us to constantly watch for every symptom of insiduous infirmity that threatens our National vigor.

The strong men who, in the confidence of sturdy health, courts the sternest activities of life and rejoices in the hardihood of constant labor may still have lurking near his vitals the unheeded disease that dooms him to sudden collapse. It cannot be doubted that our stupendous achievments as a people and our country's robust health have given rise to a heedlessness of those laws governing our National health, which we can no more evade than human life can escape the laws of God and nature.

Manifestly nothing is more vital to our supremacy as a nation and to the beneficient purposes of our government than a sound and stable currency. Its exposure to degredation should at once arouse to activity the most enlightened statesmen; and the danger of depreciation in the purchasing power of the wages paid to toil should furnish the strongest incentive to prompt and conservative precaution. In dealing with our present embarrassing situation as related to this subject, we will be wise if we temper our confidence and faith in our National strength and resources with the frank concession that even these will not pesmit us to defy with impunity the inexorable laws of finance and trade. At the same time, in our efforts to adjust differences of opinion we should be free from intolerance and passion, and our judgments should be unmoved by alluring phrases and unvexed by selfish interests! I am confident that such an approach to the subject will result in prudent and effective remedial legislation. In the mean time, so far as the executive branch of the Government can intervene, none of the powers with which it is invested will be withheld when their exercise is deemed necessary to maintain our National credit or avert financial disaster.

Closely related to the exaggerated confidence in our country's greatness which tends to a disregard of the rules of National safety, another danger confronts us not less serious. I refer to the prevalence of a popular disposition to expect from the operation of the Government especial and direct individual advantages. The verdict of our voters, which condemned the injustice of maintaining Protection for Protection's sake, enjoines upon the people's servants duty of exposing and destroying the brood of kindred evils which are the unwholesome progeny of paternalism. This is the bane of republican institutions and the constant peril of our government by the people. It degrades to the purpose of wily craft the plan of rule our fathers established and bequeathed to us as object of our love and veneration. It perverts the patriotic sentiment of our countrymen, and tempts them to a pitiful calculation of the sordid gain to be derived from their Government's maintenance. It undermines the self-reliance of our people, and substitutes in its place dependence upon Governmental favoritism. It stifles the spirit of true Americanism, and stupefies every ennobling trait of American citizenship. The lessons of paternalism ought to be learned, and the better lesson taught that, while the people should patriotically and cheerfully support their Government, its functions do not include the support of the people.

OBJECTIONS TO BOUNTIES AND SUBSIDIES.

The acceptance of this principle leads to a refusal of bounties and subsidies which burden the labor and thrift of a portion of our citizens, to aid ill-advised or languishing enterprises in which they have no concern. It leads also to a challenge of wild and reckless pension expenditures, which overleaps the bounds of grateful recognition of patriotic service and prostitutes to vicious uses the people's prompt and generous impulse to aid those disabled in their country's defence. Every thoughtful American must realize the importance of checking at its beginning any tendency in public or private station to regard frugality and economy as virtues which we may safely outgrow. The toleration of this idea results in the waste of the people's money by their chosen servants, and encourages prodigality and extravagance in the home life of our countrymen. Under our scheme of Government the waste of public money is a crime against the citizen; and the contempt of our people for economy and frugality in their personal affairs deplorably saps the strength

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