

MONEY.

NO. 8

It is sometimes useful to remember what the constitution contains on the subject of money. It is the duty of the patriot to maintain and support the letter as well as the spirit of the constitution. The constitution of the United States says: "The Congress shall have power to coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures."

"No State shall coin money; make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; or pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts."

The constitution says, that Congress shall have the power to coin money. What money? Copper? gold? silver, or what? It does not say. As to free, restricted, limited, unlimited, dependent, independent coinage, it does not say one word. It says nothing of ratios, weight, and fineness of the metals selected for coinage. It is silent on the subject of per capita. It says that Congress shall have power to coin money. Again, it says, "and regulate the value thereof." It does not use the word fix as in the case of fixing the standard of weights and measures, but says "regulate," "fix" the standard of weights and measures, but "regulate" the value of money. Not fix the value, because from its very nature value does not admit of being fixed, or permanently established, like the measure of a yard, the weight of a pound, and yard and pound are quantities or measures that admit of definite and lasting determination, and do not change from year to year, or century to century. Value, on the contrary, may change from decade to decade, and therefore admits only of being regulated from time to time. Any Congress may coin money and regulate the value thereof and not violate the letter and spirit of the constitution.

"No State shall coin money." This places the power of coining money in the hands of Congress. "And no State shall make anything but gold and silver coin a tender for the payment of debts."

Here we are told what metals shall be used as legal tender money, viz: gold and silver. Money made of gold and silver seems to be the legal tender money of the constitution but if the constitution says that gold and silver are the metals the coin of which may be made a legal tender, what shall be the relative value of the two metals? What shall be the weight and fineness of the respective coins? Must it be understood that gold and silver, or gold or silver shall be made a legal tender? If a man has a debt to pay, must he pay part silver and part gold? Or may he pay all silver or all gold? Must both metals be coined in order to meet the requirement of the constitution when it says no State shall make anything a legal tender, but gold and silver? Let it be admitted that both metals shall be coined. Shall the coinage of either be restricted, or unlimited, regardless of the market value of the two metals, the relative convenience of handling them, and the general desirability of using one or the other or both as money. Shall a thousand dollars of silver money be considered the equal in every respect of a thousand dollars of gold money? A mint will stamp twenty million dollars in twenty dollar gold pieces in the same time that it will stamp a million silver dollar pieces; the labor incident to carrying, handling and counting the latter will nearly equal the labor required to carry, handle or count the former. Shall the two metals have a forced equality, notwithstanding the great difference in their natural equality? The constitution does not answer these questions. The answer is left to be made according to the conditions which confront each generation of people.

It is evident that the constitution tells us nothing positive about what the money shall be. All that is said, is, that only gold and silver coin shall be made a tender for the payment of debts. The constitution names the metals, and any attempt to stretch the meaning so as to make it correspond with any preconceived notions, we may have as to coinage, ratios, etc., would be a perversion of the meaning of the constitution itself. There is nothing in the constitution which tells us which coins to make the heavier, gold or silver. The constitution gives us no idea of the relative values of the metals.

Again legal tender for the payment of debts may be a misleading phrase. The question as to what is

the meaning of legal tender is a very interesting one. Who has the right to make anything a legal tender? The state or parties to the contract? The government makes coins of gold and silver and says they shall be a legal tender for the payment of debts. In practice does the government not contradict itself?

Take for illustration the following blank promissory note: On or before the 1st day of January, 1885, for value received, I promise to pay Henry Jones..... with interest.

(Signed) JOHN DOE, July 1, 1884.

Here then is a contract, an agreement on the part of John Doe to pay, and on the part of Henry Jones to receive. But to pay and to receive what? The parties to the contract say what shall be paid and what shall be received. The state, the government has nothing to do with making the contract. The state does not say what shall be the legal tender. The legal tender for the payment of the note must be named in the blank space. Suppose that John Doe agrees to pay one hundred bushels of corn. Then corn is the legal tender, Henry Jones will have no right to demand anything but corn in payment. If it said white corn, yellow corn, red corn, then white, yellow, or red corn would be the legal tender for payment of the note.

Suppose that instead of corn, the agreement to pay one hundred ounces of silver, or one hundred penny weights of gold had been made. Then one hundred ounces of silver in the former case, or one hundred pennyweights of gold in the latter would be the legal tender, and payment would have to be made accordingly. In each case the contract names the legal tender.

Now, suppose the promise is to pay one hundred dollars. Here the contract is implied that payment is to be made in the legal tender dollars made by the government. It is a contract to pay and to receive, just as much so, and in the same sense as in case of the ounces of silver or pennyweights of gold. In no case does the government say what shall be paid and received. What it does say is that each party shall perform his obligation as stated in the contract, that the payment shall be made in bushels of corn, ounces of silver, pennyweights of gold, or dollars is an accident dependent upon the desires of the parties to the time of making the contract. The government simply enforces the fulfillment of the contract. The government makes no man give his note for one hundred bushels of corn, one hundred ounces of silver, one hundred pennyweights of gold, or one hundred dollars. But, if he does give his note for either, it says he shall pay it, that is fulfilling his part of the contract.

It is, of course, immaterial how this matter be viewed. The important thing to keep in mind, is to look at it, so that it may be seen as it is. Suppose that the corn was worth 40 cents a bushel when borrowed and 50 cents when payment was to be made who should receive the benefit of the rise in price? The party who lent the corn or the party who borrowed it? He borrowed \$40 worth of corn, should he pay back \$50 worth? It should be answered that the contract was not to pay dollars worth of corn, but bushels of corn. The contract should be fulfilled.

What we are on this subject of debt, suppose that A borrows one thousand dollars of B, to pay C for a tract of land. And suppose that at the end of five years when A goes to pay B, the value of the land has sunk to eight hundred dollars, and suppose that the land decreased in value because money appreciated in value. A feels that he has been wronged out of two hundred dollars. Now at which end of the transaction ought he go to get his two hundred dollars? To B from whom he borrowed the money, or to C to whom he paid it? C has the thousand dollars which has appreciated in value, and A has the tract of land which has depreciated in value. B has neither the land nor the money, but has A's promise to pay him the thousand dollars. He is out one thousand dollars, and if the money appreciates in value it is not just that the note he holds against A should appreciate in value. C has the money that has appreciated in value, but has A's promise to pay him the thousand dollars. He is out one thousand dollars, and if the money appreciates in value it is not just that the note he holds against A should appreciate in value. C has the money that has appreciated in value, but has A's promise to pay him the thousand dollars. He is out one thousand dollars, and if the money appreciates in value it is not just that the note he holds against A should appreciate in value.

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It was A's and C's transaction, A received the land, and C received the money, now why should they combine to make B lose the two hundred dollars? A and C did the trading. They received the benefit, why make a third party bear the loss? What kind of a country would it be that would for one moment listen to or tolerate such a proceeding? The constitution does not provide for the appreciation or depreciation of values, but if it means anything at all with reference to the value of money it means that the gold and silver coins shall be honest coins. The word dollar does not appear in the constitution, but it is implied that if we call the coins dollars then any one dollar shall be equivalent in every respect to every other dollar. Such a thing as a cheap dollar or a dear dollar is not known to the constitution. If the constitution means anything at all it means that the legal tender coins shall bear plainly and truthfully the impression of the stamp which is designed to inform people what the weight and fineness of the coins are. The constitution was not constructed and adopted for the perpetration of dishonesty and fraud. The money of the constitution is honest money. The stamp of the government should be a truthful stamp. Before the government certifies that a piece of metal is a dollar, it should satisfy itself that it is a dollar. The constitution does not contemplate fooling the people. It does not contemplate defrauding them. The constitution gives Congress the power to coin money and regulate the value thereof. Accordingly one of the first duties of the first Congress elected under the constitution was to provide for the coinage of money. This was no easy matter as some would have us believe. Much time and much labor were spent to ascertain just what the unit or base of the money should be. After ransacking records and history it was finally concluded that 371 grains of pure silver was the proper quantity to put in a dollar. If we had no other evidence, the number 371 would still tell us that the task before our forefathers was no easy one. Of all the numbers from 1 to 1,000, there is not one more singular than 371. Even if a 3, a 7, and a 1 were found to be the figures, what order should be given them? Should it be 371, 317, 731, 713, 173 or 137? After great research it was found that 371 was the order in which the figures should be placed. But the men who were trying to find a unit of value were honest men. They were afraid that it might be a little too much or a little too little, in either of which cases the people would be wronged. They reviewed their work, and lo! and behold! they found that 371 was not quite enough, but lacked just 1, and that instead of the unit being 371 grains of pure silver, it should be 371 1/2 grains. To most men 371 grains may seem near enough, but our forefathers were so particular that they wanted to get nearer. They knew that it was very important to have the number as nearly correct as possible. Many numbers such as 200, 300, 400, etc., would have been much more convenient. But it was not a matter of convenience. It was a matter of honesty and justice. It was not enough to be written a unit of the right number. They went much further and added 1/2 of a grain. One-fourth of a grain is a very little weight. If the reader will take a pound of sugar and divide it into seven thousand equal parts, each part will weigh one grain, which will be four times the weight of the one-fourth of the grain our forefathers put to the 371. Now divide each one of seven thousand equal parts into four equal parts and you have twenty-eight thousand equal parts, each one of which will weigh just one-fourth of a grain the amount our forefathers thought is just to add to the 371. The one twenty eighth thousandth part of a pound is a very small quantity. Also, if the 371 1/2 grains be divided into fourths of a grain, it will be found to contain just 1485 of these exceedingly small fourths, the value of each of which was the 1485th part of a dollar, about the fifteenth part of a cent. So particular were our forefathers they would not have so much as the error of a cent. They worked until they got within a half cent of the mark, and if there were any among them a little weak in the honest religion of the heart, they no doubt thought that to be within half a cent would be near enough. But the majority did not

think half a cent near enough, so they worked on till they got within the tenth of a cent, but still the majority said we must get nearer if we can. It will not do to wrong any man, be he rich or poor, out of even the tenth of a cent. They did not have kerosene lamps and electric lights then, but had to work at night by the light of tallow candles which had to be snuffed every few minutes. They worked and worked and worked until they got within one-fifteenth of a cent, and after having tried that small fraction they concluded that that was as near the true number as honest men could get. Accordingly they recommended 371 1/2 grains, and it was adopted for 1792, not necessarily for 1892. Owing to their superior qualifications, there have been men who seemed to think that they could have found the unit of value adapted to any age or country, in a time not exceeding ten minutes. SAVIGNY.

LOCALS.

What has become of the drum corps.

Country melons are very small this year.

What looks more natural than to see Messrs Joe Goodman and Sid Rintels on the streets together.

Three is the number of prisoners in jail at present, one of them belonging to the chain gang.

Dr. Johnston has a blue-haired Thomas cat. Jesse Hamilton says the hairs are naturally blue.

See notice of land sale by Jas. C. Gibson, commissioner, found elsewhere in this issue.

What would the superstitions think had they seen the thirteen coffins on one dray wagon at a time.

John F Harwell, the register of deeds of Catawba county, died Wednesday morning. He was quite popular.

Mr. D A Caldwell is a potato raiser, too. He planted one of the "bliss of triumph" variety and raised therefrom 78 potatoes.

The Old Mercantile Company will move into the store room next to THE STANDARD office, formerly occupied by Morrison, Lentz & Co.

Mr. John Stirewals, of the Bethesda No. 4 section, had a stroke of apoplexy on Monday. His condition is serious.

THE STANDARD received a very pleasant letter from Paul Caldwell. He is now manager of a drug store in Baltimore.

The colored fire company will send three delegates to the colored Firemen's convention at Henderson on August 12.

That brass band in the West made up of young ladies is merely cumulative evidence that the new woman is not indisposed to blow her own horn.

Mr. H C Lentz, partner of Merchant John K Patterson, has gone to Rowan to spend a vacation of a month or so. What may be the result of his trip will be made known later.

Miss Ufford, of Philadelphia, is quite sick at Misenheimer's. She is an aged lady and the trip there prostrated her. Her son and niece, who started White Hall, are with her.

The annual camp meeting for Hickory Grove, Mecklenburg county will begin on the fourth Sunday in August. Cabarrus and Concord are always represented upon this occasion. The Lenox Topic says there are people in Caldwell county who believe that the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 means that the Government gets the 1 and the people the 16.

Mr. Lawson Lentz and family passed through Wednesday from their home, Mt. Holly, going to Mt. Pleasant, Mr. Lentz's old home. They will spend some time there visiting relatives.

Mrs. S L Keller, who has been on a visit to relatives in No. 2, has gone to Woodstock, Va., where she joins her husband to spend a week before going to Rev. Keller's new charge in Ontario, Canada.

Frank Smith, a young man of Forest Hill, and an operative in Mill No. 2 of the Odeil Manufacturing company, got his hand badly torn up in the machinery Wednesday afternoon.

In the Coleman-Hartzell case, the jury could not agree upon a decision and after being out all night, at 9 o'clock this morning made a mistrial, the jurymen standig seven for Hartzell and five for Coleman.

NIGHT HAWK OFFICERS.

They Bag Some Game But it was no Go-Only a Tramp and not a Convict.

About 12 o'clock Wednesday night Authorities telegraphed the agent at our depot to notify Chief Police Boger and assistants that three convicts had escaped from the Mecklenburg chain gang and that they were coming this way on a freight train. They did not arrive, however, although Chief Boger, accompanied by Sheriff Sims, Deputy John S Hill and Mr. R Will Johnston, pulled three men off the rods of the incoming train. They bore no evidence of being convicts or subjects of hard work and satisfied they were not the ones the officers released them.

One big greasy bum, in answering questions, stated that he was "only a tramp." They went on their way rejoicing.

"Had a Meat Skin Laid Away."

Will Luther, a 16-year old negro boy that loafa around town, this (Friday) morning made an effort to make away with a slice of bacon from the store of Mr. Ed Fisher. It was a good sized piece, and in trying to conceal it he was caught in the act. He was made purchase the meat and then liberated. The small boys got on to him and in song they chased him about town singing "Luther had a meat skin laid away, to grease himself with every day."

Fido Has Deceased.

"Be thou faithful unto the end," and so it is with Fido, the faithful little dog of Mr. Ed. Castor. He had followed in his master's footsteps to the Buffalo Mills Wednesday morning, but during the day took sick. He never returned home again. After reaching Mill street, near Spring, he lay down like a dog and died. And now we hear "poor Fido is dead."

Populists Win.

The game of ball between the Populists and Democrats, of No. 10 township, played Wednesday afternoon, resulted in a score of 6 to 2 in favor of Populists. Of course the defeat of the Democrats was attributed to the successful work and unflinching decisions of an umpire who was as strong a Populist in baseball as in politics. Everything passed off pleasantly, nevertheless, and another game will be played soon.

Helpless and Alone.

Mr. R A Brown was lying in a bad fix Thursday when trying to hail a street car in Charlotte. Mr. Brown waved the motorman down and was running to catch the car when his leg broke—his wooden leg. There he stopped, for he couldn't go further. The car moved off, while Mr. Brown look longingly after it. A policeman finally came to his assistance and asked about the trouble. He was amazed to learn that Mr. Brown had broken his leg instead of being "overloaded," as was the policeman's first thought.

One Hundred and Fifty.

It is seldom people turn out on an occasion such as a lawn party as they did Wednesday night at Forest Hill. Under the auspices of the ladies of the Methodist church, ice cream, cake, watermelons, fruits and candy were served to the great mass of people, and as a result of their efforts, they realized \$150, and there was little, if anything, left that was not sold. Mr. Ritz made between 80 and 90 pounds of taffy. The party opened at 7 and the lights were put out at 11 o'clock and the place of recent revelry was then a deserted lawn. My! what a success.

For the Orphans.

It was a gala day at Mooresville Thursday, when between three and four thousand people gathered there to participate in the annual picnic for the benefit of the Barium Springs Orphanage. The old veteran, Capt. A D Cowles, of Statesville, spoke to the old soldiers on the cause and results of the late war. His speech followed that of Mr. L C Caldwell, mayor of Statesville, who spoke on "A Nation's Greatness—the Homes Thereof," who showed his deep and perfect understanding of his great theme.

More than \$200 were realized for the orphans upon this occasion.

For Over Fifty Years.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used for over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children while teething, with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the bowels, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for Diarrhoea. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Beware and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U.S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

NARROWLY ESCAPED.

Fire in No. 3 Township Thursday Night, Burning All Mr. Baker's Household Effects.

Mr. William Baker is attending court this week. He lives on Caleb P Cline's place, near Mt. Gilead church in No 5 township. He carried home with him a piece of beef Thursday evening and thinking it would not get cooked thoroughly done before time for him to come to town, put the beef into a pot and the pot onto the fire.

About 10:30 o'clock the family was awakened by the screams of his wee baby and to their horror found themselves enveloped in a mass of flames, the house being so nearly burned down that they barely escaped with their lives. It was a narrow escape indeed.

Mr. Baker was in the city last Friday and says he lost everything pertaining to household effects.

A DISTRESSING AFFAIR.

Mr. McNinch's Child Swallows Bit Chloride of Mercury and Dies From the Effects.

When Mr. S S McNinch and family moved from their old house into the new one they now occupy, Mrs. McNinch threw out a lot of old bottles, some of which had mixtures of different kinds in them. Among the number was a bottle of bi-chloride of mercury, which she had cleaned her beds with in March. She had intended having the bottle carried away, but had forgotten to do so from day to day. Yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock the children, among whom was Pearl, the next to the youngest, a lovely little girl of two-and-a-half years, were at play in the yard. The little one found the bottle containing the deadly mercury, and before the other children knew what she was doing, swallowed some of the contents of the bottle. The children ran in to tell Mrs. McNinch. She sent in haste and alarm for Mr. McNinch and physicians. Drs. McCombs & Gibbon, Irwin and Woodley reported, ank worked with the child all evening. The little one suffered dreadfully. The stomach pump was used and the poison gotten out of her stomach, but she got some of it down her wind pipe, and it was soon apparent that the wind pipe was closing up. Her efforts for breath were pitiful to behold. The distracted parents and physicians worked with her all afternoon and night, but there was little hope of saving her life. She began sinking at 12 o'clock. As a last chance of saving her an operation was performed on her throat, a tube being inserted in the wind pipe. It was too late. The little one's struggles ceased even as the operation was being performed.—Charlotte Observer.

Intensely Alive corpse.

Dr. L A Bikle is in the city and is well and enjoying himself no little, yet in the face of this rumor had it at King Mountain, his home, that he is dead.

This morning Mr. W A Manney, one of Dr's. parishioners and a staunch friend, telegraphed Mrs. George W Means as follows: "Is Dr. L A Bikle dead? Answer quick at my expense."

Dr. Bikle got the despatch and answered it himself, as follows: "I am alive and well."

I goes without saying that Dr. Bikle was delighted to be able himself to answer the despatch.

Grover Took His "Turn."

President Cleveland gave the natives of Buzzard's Bay an agreeable shock a few days ago by entering the shop of the negro barber in the village and calmly awaiting his turn for a hair-cut. Everybody wanted to waive his right to being next, but the president declined to permit them to do so, and awaited his turn just like any plain American citizen. The barber was so agitated that he came within an ace of cutting a man's beard off instead of his beard.—Philadelphia Telegraph.

The Albany School.

The Stanly News says: "At a meeting of the trustees of Albany Academy Friday evening, Mr. John F Kirk, of Lisk, Rowan county, was elected principal, and Miss Maggie Barrer, of Mt. Pleasant, teacher of primary department. It is useless for us to say anything in regard to the efficiency of these teachers.

THE PIANO AND ORGAN TAX

Judge Simonton Holds it to be Violative of the Constitution.

ASHEVILLE, July 31.—Judge C H Simonton has handed down a decision in an important case. On the 20th of July a warrant was issued by Justice Carter against W J Hough, of this city, the charge being that Mr. Hough had violated section 25 of the revenue act of North Carolina forbidding the sale of pianos and organs within the State without payment of a license tax of \$350. Tucker & Murphy, of Asheville, representing the W W Kimball Company, of Chicago, and other piano and organ companies, produced a writ of habeas corpus from Judge Simonton, returnable at Flat Rock, July 24th. On that day J D Murphy argued the case before Judge Simonton. Yesterday the judge sent his decision to United States Court Clerk Patterson's office. In this the Judge holds in favor of the defendant, that section 25 is unconstitutional and void, for the reason that it is in violation of article 1, section 8, of the constitution of the United States granting to Congress the exclusive right to regulate commerce between the States.

City Treasurer Arrested.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., July 31.—Robert O Scott, ex-city treasurer, was arrested today, on a charge of embezzling \$10,707 of the city's funds during his term of office, which expired June 21. The alleged shortage was discovered by experts employed by the city council. Scott today filed his answer with the council, denying that there was any shortage in his accounts and asking for sufficient time to make a thorough examination of the books as he had only been given five days to answer the charges which it had taken five experts five weeks to make. The request was refused and criminal prosecution begun.

When taken before the Criminal Court the judge refused to take cognizance of the case as the capias on which Scott was arrested had not been ordered issued by the court. The clerk paid no attention to the court's refusal to try the case and issued another capias. Scott's attorney immediately applied to the Circuit Court for a writ of habeas corpus and secured Scott's release from custody on the ground of the arrest being illegal. The charge of embezzlement will again be made at the regular term of the Criminal Court on August 27th.

A Harmonious Couple.

Mrs. Perkins (calmly reminded).—"Jonathan, we're bin married 40 years next Tuesday, an' never had a cross word yit."

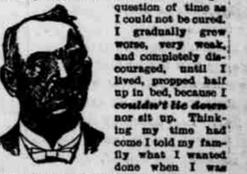
Mr. Perkins—"I know it. I've stood yer jawin' purty well."

Mrs. Perkins—"Jonathan Perkins you're a mean, hateful, deceitful old thing, an' I wouldn't marry you agin fer love nor money!"—Judge.

HEART DISEASE,

like many other ailments when they have taken hold of the system, never gets better of its own accord, but constantly grows worse. There are thousands who know they have a defective heart, but will not admit the fact. They don't want their friends to worry, and don't know what to take for it, as they have been told time and again that heart disease was incurable. Such was the case of Mr. Miles Farley of Dayton, Ohio, who writes June 19, 1894: "I had heart disease for 25 years, my heart hurting me almost continually. The first 12 years I doctor'd all the time, trying several physicians and remedies, until my last doctor told me it was only a question of time as I could not be cured. I gradually grew worse, very weak, and completely discouraged, until I lived, propped half up in bed, because I couldn't lie down nor sit up. Thinking my time had come I told my friends that I wanted to die when I was gone. But on the first day of March on the recommendation of Mr. Fannie Jones, of Anderson, Ind., I commenced taking Dr. Miles' Heart Cure for the Heart, and wonderful to tell, in ten days I was working at light work and on March 12 commenced framing a barn, which is heavy work, and I have not lost a day since. I am 62 years old, 5 ft. 4 1/2 inches and weigh 200 lbs. I believe I am fully cured, and I am now only anxious that everyone should know of your wonderful remedies." Dayton, Ohio. —SILAS FARLEY.

Dr. Miles' Heart Cure is sold on a positive guarantee that the first bottle will benefit. All druggists have it, or it can be sent by mail for \$1.00, or by express for \$1.50, or by Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.



Dr. Miles' Heart Cure Restores Health For Sale by All Druggists.



When my friends ask me what is the best remedy for disorders of the stomach, liver, or bowels, my invariable answer is, Ayer's Pills. Taken in season, they will break up a cold, prevent the grippe, check fever, and regulate the digestive organs. They are easy to take, and are, indeed, the best all-round family medicine I have ever known. —Mrs. MARY JOHNSON, 368 Rider Avenue, New York City.

Ayer's Pills Highest Honors at World's Fair. Ayer's Sarsaparilla Cures all Blood Disorders.