

lame.



was the that name brakeman screamed, as our train steamed slowly up to a low, unpainted freight hor 9, at the terminus of the railroad. One car conveyed the passengers, three in

number, to this wilderness station. We took up our bags and walked out on the platform. There was no waiting-room; nor was there even a solitary hackman to whom we might appeal for transportation. If hackmen there had been, we could not have given him orders where to drive us.

The sun was setting. There was no shadow of a hill or tree. Slowly the prairie changed from green and brown to pale yellow, and there were no outlines of irregularity to mark its outer circumference.

A few blanketed Indians stood about watching their "supplies" with evident anxiety. An occasional oath, borrowed from the vocabulary of the white men about them, was all the English which they uttered or knew.

No other building was in sight, save a one-storied red structure just across what is now, I supppose, the main street in the city of Wichita, Kansas. In the doorway of this red structure, above which was a sign in black letters, "Tavern," a woman suddenly ap-

peared She beckoned to us in the twilight, and seconded her motions by a shrill cry of "Come over here!"

We obeyed, and entered the tavern. Supper was soon provided at a long board table, where we ate with the cowboys and the freight hands. We had corn bread, white bread, canned vegetables and fresh pork, roasted and fried. Black coffee was served cracked cups without saucers.

We were government employes, on our way to Fort Sill. At Wichita the railroad gave place to the stage line.

Before daylight we were aroused for breakfast, which was what was left of supper, made into hash. We paid our bill to the landlady, who wrapped our greenbacks in a piece of buckskin and deposited them in a long, homeknit stocking which hung from her apron band.

The stage-coach was drawn up to the door by four horses, as gay and prancing steeds as one could wish to see. The vehicle itself, a stage-coach of the true overland style, was large and strong, with three seats beside the driver's The canopy, sides and cushioned seats were of genuine brown leather.

We started off at high speed. The curly spring buffalo-grass seemed as soft as wool. The ground was unbroken save by the settlements of the prairie-dogs, whose towns made almost a continuous city on each side of the trail for many miles. The saucy inhabitants were out early, probably in the interests of farming, standing straight up and talking to one another, darting out of sight down their doorways, and peeping out again as suddenly.

The morning sun appeared, without shadows, as he had set the night before. There were now and then little farms planted with small peach-trees.

From the doors of dugouts, or tiny frame houses, half-dressed children peeped curiously forth. On we sped through creek and river, up slippery banks and on over the plains.

"If this is staging," we said, "then good-by to steam cars for the prairie." But our pleasant way, like many another, was subject to change. At the end of fifteen miles we halted for a relay. Our horses were foaming, and must be replaced by fresh ones. We alighted at a small stage-line station, her bony, repulsive shape. The fence hour with her head bent low upon her and were told to "take out our lug- was made of cotton-wood rails, and to loyal breast, rose and folded the quilt gage."

In six minutes we were ready to start | grave. again. The four horses and leathercovered vehicle, which had dashed out of Wichita with its pledge of comfort and rapidity, gave place to a dirty, canvas-topped, two-mule coach without cushions.

backs save as we leaned cornerwise it was little trouble to right it again. against the slender supports which

held up the canopy. Our new steeds were slow and stub- to the house.

JERUD'S RHEUMATIZ. born. By much flogging from a rawer seen, they were induced to plod

along. They were thin in flesh, and

Now and then we saw early wild crocuses and canterbury-bells, and the soft, trailing sensitive plant, with its silken balls spattered with golden dust. There were no more houses-only level, unbroken plain, with an occasional steep-banked stream, on whose marging grew a sparse fringe of cottonwood-

A gray wolf trotted out of the timber and stared at us. Deer in the distance bounded away, while one solitary 'prairie schooner" crossed our path, with its jingling kettles hung low underneath the wagon, grazing the tips of the grass.

"Twenty-five miles before another relay," said the driver, "and it will take us all day."

If the driver had been communicative the hours might have passed quickly; but he was taciture. Such pay as he drew from the stage company was well earned, for between the stubborn mules and the sometimes bad road he had a hard time of it.

Toward evening we drew up to a little shanty, the first building we had seen for twenty miles, and alighted for supper and to change mules.

An old woman and her son kept the house. She was "glad to see me," she said, "for women don't come this way much, and I get lonesome."

We had expected to move on after supper, but the driver came in to say that the relay mule had strayed away, and we should have to wait till morn-

The old woman was delighted, nor were we sorry. "Staging" was losing its fascination, and we felt much obliged to the relay mule for running

"He'll be back bright and early in the morning," said the old woman. Einathan, he tied the big dinner-bell onto his neck so's to be sure to find him. To-morrow's Decoration day; did | with." you know it?" she asked, as we sat by the corn-cob fire.

We had almost forgotten it. Our hostess went on:

"We always decorate, Elnathan and There ain't any graveyards around here, only just one single soiltary grave." She wiped her eyes, which had filled with tears. "See it out there, that bit of white loomin' up close to the barn?"

We could distinguish in the gloaming what looked like a headstone, and told

"Yes," she went on, "that's a grave. It's my old man, Jerud; Elnathan's father. He died three years ago, and



A FEW INDIANS STOOD ABOUT. we buried him out there. That headstone you see ain't marble it's a platter that Einathan bought up to Wichita. We couldn't find no headstones proper, so he got the name and date painted on this and set it up at the head. Like to look at it?"

We answered that we certainly should like to see it, and followed her. In the barn-yard were our mules, some prairie hay, a bunch of last year's cornstalks and a Texas cow with wide branching horns, a look of defiance in the south of it, on the outside, was the My companion was sure that she had

At the head was a very large Queen'sware platter, with "Jerud Whitehead" painted across it in black letters. It stood straight up, like any headstone. and though, as the old woman said, "It sometimes topples over, especially The seats were high, and without in the spring when the ground thaws," "I'm going to decorate Jerud's grave to-morrow," she said, on our way back

"Was your husband a soldier?" we asked, sadly and respectfully.

"No," she answered, "not exactly; but he would 'a' been. They was going to draft 'em in our town one time, and Jerud he was took with rheumatiz so he was confined to his bed for a month. He was awful sorry, for he did want to fight for his country; and he said he'd just as soon be drafted as to volunteer-it showed how bad they want-

ed him, "Then another time," she went on, 'Squire Smith offered him five hundred dollars to go as his substitute; and I was willing, for we needed the money bad enough. Jerud got all ready to start, as peart as could be, but the very last thing he was took down with the rheumatiz again. Jerud was as good as could be, and as brave; and I've seen him stand in the door leaning on his cane and cheering the boys when they marched away, and saying how he did wish he could go, too.

"'Well, Jerud,' I would say, 'suppose you start in one of your good spells? And he'd answer, 'All right.' Half a dozen times I'd pack up his things and get him ready to go, when all of a sudden his rheumatiz would come back, and he'd have to stay at home. the war passed, and poor Jerud, he sighed when the boys came home, and pretty near almost cried.

"Jerud wasn't given to work very much, on account of his rheumatiz; but I never laid that up against him. We come out here for the stage company five year ago, and done pretty well. Einathan and I done most of the work.

"It always seemed to weigh on Jerud that he hadn't been a soldier. He would sit out on a bench at the door for hours, watching, Einathan and me plant the corn, and having that far-



SEATED ON THE QUILT. away look in his eyes you hear talked about. And one time he died. We've decorated his grave ever since, just

"Do you have many flowers around pere?" we asked.

as if he'd been a soldier."

"Oh, no, there ain't no flowers, so ta speak. I don't care much for them little wild things, and I ain't never planted any poppy seeds and hollyhocks and geraniums and pinies. I've got some-

We looked at the trunk. It was covered with calfskin, tanned with the hair on, the fur side out, and studded with brass nails. We wanted to ask what was in it which was "better than flowers to decorate graves with," but we restrained our curiosity.

of grassy mounds and shining concave headstones.

It was late in the morning when the relay mule was found; but the driver himself had then disappeared, and our starting was postponed. After the breakfast dishes were washed the old woman dressed herself in her old-fashoned best clothes, put on a bonne which had been hers "before the war." and sat down by the ancient trunk We did not talk, for she seemed sad and absent-minded.

She unlocked the receptacle which held something better than flowers to decorate graves with, and drew care-

the grave. talking with Elnathan, the two took arrangements with many countries, all the quilt by each of its four corners of which will be especially in the inand spread it evenly above the grave. | terests of the agriculturists of the Then the old woman sat down on one country. The duty on raw hides corner of the "decoration," while Elnathan went away to his work.

The quilt was set in diamond pieces grass-green and yellow and blue and black and purple. It was the gayest of its kind that I had ever seen. The warm spring sunshine lighted up the bright tints into a kaleidoscope of

beauty. The Texas cow peered through the not too substantial fence at the amazing brightness, astonished into a betrayal of unusual emotions. Presently she wisked around the yard in a freedom of movement which startled me.

The old woman, after sitting for an been asleep, but I saw traces of tears as she laid the quilt away in the old trunk. remarking, as if to herself:

"Yes, I shall always decorate Jerud's grave. He would 'a' been a soldier if it hadn't been for his rheumatiz."-Elizabeth Grinnell in Youth's Compan-

Of the fifty-one thousand breweries estimated to be in the world, twentysix thousand are in Germany

DEMOCRAT DISUNION

ALL THE FACTIONS, HOWEVER BERATING CLEVELAND.

Business Increases—Protection Element in the South Clearly Apparent -Features of the Tariff Bill-The World's Rapidly Increasing Supply of Gold.

(Washington Letter.)

A thousand pounds of dynamite exploded in the midst of a mining camp would not have been more effective in its disintegration than was President Cleveland's speech in the distribution of the remains of the once powerful Democracy. It has torn that ill-fated organization still further asunder. Editor Henry Watterson of the gold Democracy is attacking it savagely. The organs of the silver Democrats and Mr. Bryan himself are hurling recks at it; Mr. Bailey is attacking it savagely and the Populists are jumping on it with both feet, while the Republican editors of the country are tearing it to tatters.

Signs of Prosperity.

The calamity shriekers who have been insisting that the promised prosperity has not materialized are thrown into confusion by a recent announcement from that reliable business barometer, the Weekly Review of R. G. Dun & Co., which in its last weekly issue says: "Nearly all will be astonished to learn that actual sales in April by leading houses in each line of busi ness in the principal cities east of the Rocky mountains average only about ten per cent less than in April, 1892, the year of largest business hitherto, and were 6.1 per cent more than in the same month last year. Yet this is the summary of 357 reports, each covering actual sales of merchants in one of fourteen cities. They are especially encouraging in view of great fall of prices within the last five years and floods and other retarding influences this year."

Southern Senators Protectionists.

The growth of the protective sentiment in the south, which was clearly shown by the fact that over thirty southern votes were cast for the Dingely bill in the house, will be again emphasized when the votes for the bill in the senate are counted. At least five southern votes will be in favor of the bill in the senate, one of them by a Democrat who announced before his election that he should vote for a protective tariff. When it is considered that every one of these five southern senators who will support the protective tariff bill succeeded men who voted for the free trade law now upon the statute books, the growth of the protective sentiment in that section will be recognized.

A Year's Supply of Free Wool.

The wool growers of this country, while they are delighted with the prospect that they are to get protection, must not expect to feel the effects immediately. Latest investigations as to the supply of wool in stock in this country show that the amount of foreign wools now in the hands of the manufacturers is sufficient for at least seven months' supply and that if the present enormous importations continue, as seem probable, they will probably have a full year's supply on thing in that trunk over there that's | hand when the new law goes into efbetter than flowers to decorate graves | fect. This is a deplorable fact, but it is one of the numerous misfortunes attendant upon the existence of the free trade tariff law now upon the statute books, and until it can be gotten rid of there can be no getting rid of its depressing effect. Eight and nine cents a pound duty on first and second class wools, while it is not as That night we went to sleep to dream | much as the rate named by the Dingley bill when it passed the house, is just 8 and 9 cents more than the rates of the present Wilson law. It is also conceded to be more in proportion to the general value of wools than the rates established by the McKinley law. which was quite satisfactory to the wool growers.

Hides to Be Protected.

The reciprocity feature of the new tariff law is likely to be even more satisfactory than that of the McKinley law. The addition of tea and hides to the dutiable list increases the opportunity for obtaining favorable reciprocfully forth a neatly-folded patch-work ity treaties and it is understood that quilt. Then she walked slowly out to the senate will put into the bill such provisions as to make it practicable to After standing for a few minutes secure very advantageous reciprocal which is proposed by the tariff bill in the senate would probably add about 5 cents to the cost of the foreign hide used in making the leather which goes into a pair of shoes, but as only onefifth of the hides used in this country are imported, the average increase in the price of shoes would only be onefifth of that, or one cent per pair. Assuming that the average man buys three pair of shoes in a year, his increased "tax burden" would be three cents a year, while the advantage to the farmers will be millions of dol-

Why Gold Goes. With the importations of foreign

goods increasing enormously by reason of the prospective repeal of the Wilson law, it is not surprising that the gold exports are increasing. The foreign goods brought into the country must be paid for in gold and if foreign importations increase ten to twenty millions a month, it goes without saying that the gold exportations must increase. The silver advocates are saying that the recent exportations of gold are an evidence that the supply of gold in the standard worth 100 cents, a certain rendering it is

world is not sufficient for its requiremere fact that there is a monetary demand for gold in Europe and Japan because countries there desire to increase their stock and because of war possibilities does not argue a general insufficiency of gold in the world. The quantity of gold money in the world in 1873 was \$1,209,800,000, while in 1896 it was \$3,698,700,000. The supply of gold money in the world is now 50 per cent greater than was the gold and silver combined, in 1873.

Beet Sugar Factories. Parties who are preparing to establish beet sugar factories will be interested in a recent step taken by the secretary of agriculture in their behalf. Having supplied over twenty thousand farmers of the United States with beet seed for trial crops, Secretary Wilson is now making a practical and intelligent investigation to determine the sections of country where beet sugar manufacture is most likely to be successful, the object being to assist those who desire to invest in beet sugar factories.

G. H. WILLIAMS.

Bryan's Bad Break.

From the Chicago Tribune; The issue of the New York World published on its fourteenth anniversary contains a congratulatory, half fault finding letter from Mr. William J. Bryan to the editor, Mr. Pulitzer. He praises what the world has done for "tariff reform," etc., but, "as it would not be fair to commend the good without condemning the bad," he asserts that "the World's support of the gold standard," which, he says, "is at this time doing more harm than any other one thing, is out of harmony with the newspaper's efforts in other directions."

The New York World criticises its critic quite freely. It tells Mr. Bryan that the country has had several periods of prosperity since the free coinage of silver was suspended in 1873. It challenges as untrue his assertion that 'the financiers unmolested have looked after legislation on the money question," and calls his attention to the Bland-Allison law and the Sherman law, which the "financiers" assuredly did not favor.

The New York World simply tries to "amooth down" Mr. Bryan, whom it calls a "versatile and clever politician." It should have called on that individual, whose versatility may be admitted, but whose cleverness is open to grave doubt-for he has been a failure as a politician ever since he entered upon the avocation—to answer a few simple questions. They are questions which have been put to him often, but which he always evades and never answers, though he has made more than 600 speeches within months and has compiled a big book on the currency question.

These points have been made on

1. Silver free coined into 371% grains to the dollar will be worth only half as much as the existing gold dollar. Altgeld admits that fact and indorses it. And Bryan does not deny it. He has admitted it by indirection by his refusal to deny the as-

value free coinage silver dollars be made by law retroactively equal for debt paying purposes to the gold standard dollars, which would be twice as valuable. If this were done by a retroactive free coinage law, then about eight billions of credits, notes and deposits based on the gold standard would shrivel to four billions. The existing credits, deposits, and money on hand would be reduced to half their value. The owners of these deposits and credits would be robbed by Bryan's scheme of half this property.

Bryan has insisted and still insists on this retroactive robbery, and yet never attempts to justify it or show that it was right or honest. Like the members of the Illinois Legislature who voted for the infamous Humphrey bills, he has never assigned an honest

motive for his dishonest propositions But supposing Bryan were to abandon his demand for retroactive free silver legislation and ask for the adoption of the half value silver standard to apply only to future transactions. Then the question for Bryan to answer to the American people is. What will be gained by using two pieces of silver, each worth 50 cents in purchasing influence legislation. He simply calls power, to do the money work which one piece of gold standard money does now? In what respect are two pieces of silver, each worth half a gold dollar, better than one gold dollar, or other currency maintained at the gold

standard of value? 3. Suppose a farmer of Nebraska sells a horse for 100 silver dollars, each worth 50 cents, and then sells it for 50 gold dollars, does he receive more value for the former named animal than for the latter? Bryan seems to argue that two free coined silver doilars, each worth 50 cents, is more money than one gold dollar or one dollar of any gold standard money. Bryan tries to convey the idea that the two half value silver dollars are worth | do their utmost to prolong the debate double as much as the whole value on the tariff bill and delay its pasgold dollar. His argument seems to sage as much as possible. Every day be that 371% grains of silver under free coinage are of equal value to States senate will cost the United 23 1-5 grains of gold, but he well knows States government a large sum that 23 1-5 grains of gold will buy 32 | money. Cleveland Leader, times its weight of silver builton anywhere in the world, instead of 16 to 1. He knows that, and he also knows that under free coinage a silver dollar can only be worth the commercial value of the builion it contains.

number of exchanges of goods is made ments. Upon the same principle they in a year. What will be gained by might argue that the exportation of using two silver dollars, each worth wheat and corn indicated that the 50 cents, to make the same number world does not produce enough of these | and amount of property exchanges? articles for its requirements. The Thirty-two times the weight of metal are used, but the results accomplished -that is, the business work done—is

Beet Sugar Activity.

There is already a movement on foot to establish a beet sugar manufactory in Minneapolis, and it is announced that beet seed is being obtained in various portions of the state and many farmers are planting it experimentally. The legislative appropriation and the efforts of the agricultural department at Washington will no doubt enable farmers to secure an ample supply of seed, and it is to be aoped that the result of this year's experiments will be such as to justify them in engaging to furnish, next year, any quantity that a beetery here or essewhere may be desirous of contracting for.

Two things are essential to the success of the beet sugar industry in this state. First, a modern manufacturing plant, with experienced men to run it; and second, an ample supply of Leets containing a profitable percentage of saccharine matter. The first they had at Menominee, Wisconsin, but failed, temporarily, for the lack of the second essential. The some mistake ought not to be made, and probably will not be made, in Minnesota. If capitalists put in a beet sugar factory at Minneapolis they will no doubt take pains to assure themselves in advance, of ample supply of beets of good quality. A dispatch from Albert Lea says that about one hundred farmers in that vicinity have agreed to plant more or less beet sugar seed. This is a movement in the right direction. Let the farmers in Hennepin and other counties follow their example,

It is estimated that the first factory established in this state will employ 400 to 700 men, and will be able to consume the product of several thousand acres of land. This will be a notable addition to Minnesota's industries and we are justified in predicting that it will be only the beginning of an important development. Minneapolia Tribune.

Sugar Imports and Duties.

New York Tribune: The imports of sugar are usually large at this season, but have been increased remarkably by the expectation of new duties. The treasury department has made up the record for April, showing that 757,799,527 pounds were imported in that one month, and in May and June the quantity is usually larger than in the preceding months, as the following figures for three years will show:

Mar. . 485,525,990 388,381,820 Apr. . 757,799,527 544, 106, 452 June 472,637,376

Entire year 3,669,314,838 3,289,605,406 in the four months, March-June inclusive, the imports in both the preceding years were more than half the imports for those entire years, but this year they have been 1,243,000,000

in two months, against 824,000,000 last year. The known heavy movements in May thus far warrants the expectation that fully two-thirds of a year's supply may be in hand by the end of 2. Bryan demands that the half the four months this year, including what stock refiners held prior to March, and on this quantity the difference in price, if as much as the proposed increase in duty under the senate bill, would be about eighttenths of a cent, or \$20,000,000, a handsome profit for the owners, namely the Sugar Refining company. The payment of duties at the present rate on about two-thirds of a year's cousumption will deprive the treasury of about as much revenue for the coming year which it would have derived from the increase of rate on .92 degree raw suincrease of rate. Under the Dingley bill the increase in rate on .92 degree raw sugar would be a little less, about seven-tenths of a cent, but the imports after April 1 would be subject to the higher duty, which would make a difference of nearly \$5,000,000 for the month of April alone,

> The President Favors Prompt Action. A dispatch from Washington says that President McKinley is trying to impress upon the senators the neces-

> sity of speedy action on the tariff bill. Mr. McKinley is not accused of making threats or of trying to improperly attention to the enormous increase in imports, and shows how the government may be deprived of much revenue to which it ought to be entitled if the passage of the tariff bill is un-

necessarily delayed. It should not be necessary for the president to make such an appeal to the senators. The members of the upper branch of congress should understand the need of haste without being told. Last week thirteen steamers loaded to the rails with foreign goods discharged their cargoes at the port of Boston, and more are coming. The importers and the free traders are overjoyed because of such a condition of affairs, and they may be trusted to that is wasted in talk in the United

A Paris doctor has discovered the crobe of baldness and has exhibit at the St. Louis hospital, together w a sheep innoculated with it wi raiue of the bullion it contains. lost its wool. He is now he