

# The Independent

DECEMBER 21, 1899

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# The Independent

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## Survey of the World.

### The Currency Bill Passed

The Gold Standard bill prepared by the Republican Caucus Committee was passed in the House on Monday last, after one week's debate, by a vote of 190 to 150, eleven Democrats standing with the Republicans in the affirmative. This result had been foreseen, as it was known at the beginning of the debate that the bill had the support of all the Republican members and of at least twelve Democrats, some of whom, however, would probably decline to vote on either side of the question. Mr. Driggs, of Brooklyn; Mr. Thayer, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Levy and Mr. Fitzgerald, of New York, Democrats, had spoken in support of the bill. There was no vote upon any substitute or amendment calling for the free coinage of silver at the ratio of sixteen to one. The Democrats were quite willing to avoid such a vote, which would have disclosed on their side of the House the revolt of a considerable minority, and they were favored in this matter by the terms of the special order governing the proceedings, which excluded the consideration of a substitute, except by unanimous consent. On Saturday, the closing day of the debate, when Republicans asserted that the Democrats were afraid to offer a silver amendment, Mr. Richardson replied that the special order barred the way. Whereupon the Republicans suggested that the Democrats should ask for unanimous consent. Mr. Bailey, with a silver amendment in his hand, made the request, but it was declared to be out of order in Committee of the Whole. When the committee rose, Mr. Overstreet asked that by unanimous consent the spe-

cial order be so amended as to permit the Democrats to offer a silver substitute. Mr. Driggs, of Brooklyn, Gold Democrat, came to the aid of his party associates with an objection, and thus was avoided an official record of the division in the Democratic party upon the chief plank of the platform of 1896.

### The Political Field

The Republican National Committee, at a meeting in Washington last week, decided that the national convention shall be held on June 19th in Philadelphia. On the first ballot the vote was as follows: Chicago, 20; Philadelphia, 13; St. Louis, 9; New York, 7. The second gave Philadelphia 25 votes, against 24 for Chicago. The meeting was a very harmonious one. The renomination of President McKinley, by acclamation, was regarded by all as a foregone conclusion. For the second place Secretary Root appears to be the choice of a majority of the politicians in Washington. In an address designed to convince the committee that the convention should be held in New York, Senator Depew remarked that the President would receive an immediate and unanimous nomination, and that the keynote of the platform would be "gold and glory." Mr. Payne did not offer his resolution for a reduction of the number of delegates from certain Southern States, as it was opposed by Chairman Hanna and the President, altho he told the committee that in his opinion both justice and expediency called for the proposed change. In Kentucky Governor Taylor was inaugurated on the 12th. It is pointed out that the decisions favorable to Taylor in the several contests were made

are thrown about them, and the results justify the effort, but I realize that the great proportion of the lodgers utilize the shelters for temporary convenience, and that this plan merely relieves and does not effect a permanent cure for vagrancy.

My conclusion as to the best means of treating the whole subject is that the class under consideration should be treated as individuals, not in bodies. If the workers among them should each pick out a special subject and attempt to induce him or her to change their mode of living, much better results would be reached. A large proportion of them have known no other manner of living and have followed the idle and vicious ways of their parents. Religious advice, in the form of addresses, no matter how forcible and eloquent, has no effect on such people. They are too deadened to realize the meaning of the advice. Only individual effort will benefit them. The various denominations can accomplish much in reforming

the slums by carrying out systematic plans of work. The various churches should have an understanding so that each body will be in harmony with the others and interests will not conflict. In smaller cities of 100,000 population and less, I believe the congregations can do better operating together. At Auburn, N. Y., for example, this scheme is followed and the result is that the City Mission is supported jointly by the different congregations. It is in charge of the Volunteers and includes a hall for meetings, a lodging-house, also a restaurant. In larger cities the area which includes these classes is so large that it is perhaps better for each church or denomination to work by itself. The field can be mapped out into sections so that there need be no interference. With the comparatively numerous force that Christian people could supply the plan of individual effort ought to be carried out with little difficulty.

NEW YORK CITY.

## A Carol for Christmas Eve.

By Ethelbert D. Warfield.

**M**Y Lord was born in Bethlehem  
Upon the Christmas eve.  
Ah! slack of heart, and slow of  
heart,

Who will not him receive.

My Lord was born in Bethlehem,  
And waiting shepherds heard  
Sweet angel heralds chanting loud  
The long-awaited word.

My Lord was born in Bethlehem,  
And in a manger laid;  
None tended him, none cherished him,  
Save that sweet mother-maid.

My Lord was born in Bethlehem,  
And wise men came to see  
His lowly state, and homage paid  
To his mild majesty.

My Lord was born in Bethlehem,  
But soon he had to flee,  
For cruel hate of sinful man  
Spared not his infancy.

My Lord was born in Bethlehem,  
But home had none on earth;  
A pilgrim and a stranger he,  
An exile from his birth.

My Lord was born in Bethlehem;  
He died on Calvary;  
O bitter, bitter is the thought  
He died so cruelly!

My Lord was born in Bethlehem,  
He died, but rose again;  
Rich is the gift his death hath bought—  
New life for sinful men.

My Lord was born in Bethlehem;  
In Heaven this Christmas eve  
He waits for you, he waits for me—  
All who on him believe.

My Lord was born in Bethlehem,  
And therefore do I sing  
Upon his feast with joyous heart—  
My Savior and my King.

LAFAYETTE COLLEGE, EASTON, PA.