

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1887.

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A Few Plain Words.

The Senate has voted \$21,000,000 as a beginning in the work of national self-protection. The Senate is Republican, and we already see signs of a disposition in the House to treat this measure as a Republican measure, and to oppose and defeat it accordingly. It is not a Republican measure. It is a national measure, in which partisanship has no share, and which should receive the hearty support of every American patriot.

The people have made up their minds that the coasts and harbors of our country should no longer be left defenceless.

Bad will it be for the Democrat or Democrats in the House of Representatives who for political reasons may become responsible for the defeat of any honest measure of national self-defence.

What Democrats Think Of.

Before the election of 1884 the Republicans used to say that the Democrats were not fit to administer the Government, and the Mugwumps substantially agreed.

Since the election the Republicans have said that there were not enough worthy Democrats to fill the Federal offices, and, oddly enough, one of the most potent advocates of this theory seems to be the Hon. GROVER CLEVELAND.

Now a number of people are endeavoring to spread the idea that GROVER CLEVELAND is the only statesman moving in Democratic circles who is fit to be nominated for President in 1888. Very likely Mr. CLEVELAND arrees with this view, too.

The Democratic party, however, knows that of these three propositions one is as absurd as the other. The Democracy is bigger than any one man. It is bigger than the number of Federal offices. It is bigger than the Republican party. And if it is not shoru of its strength by fool politics, it will nominate its candidate for the next election and elect him.

But will it be apt to nominate any one who appears to think that the Republican-Mugwump estimate of the Democratic party was more than half right? And if it should, in one way or another, chance to nominate him, could he be elected afterward? The Mugwumps may not be thinking of these questions, but the Democrats are.

The Czar's Hand More Visible.

On the recent correspondence between the Czar and Kaiser WILLIAM, which was last week made public through the French Foreign Office, we based the inference that Russia had decided to require payment in advance for neutrality in the event of war between France and Germany. The conclusion seems confirmed by the tenor of an article in the Moscow Gazette, whose editor, Mr. KATKOFF, as the chief mouthpiece of the Pan-Slavic party, is known to possess the Czar's confidence, and has nothing to fear from the official censorship.

Mr. KATKOFF says that if Russia is to keep the rest of Europe quiet while France and Germany fight out their quarrel to a finish, the Czar, on his part, ought to have his hands free to carry out some business of his own in the Balkan peninsula. But, as the German Chancellor, in the course of his late speech in the Reichstag, substantially pledged himself to allow Russia the de sired liberty of action, we must infer that BISMARCK'S promises have lost currency at Moscow since 1878, and that Mr. KATROFF means that the price offered for the Czar's non-interference with a Franco-German duel must be paid down on the nail. If the Germans, as BISMARCK said, really

care nothing for Bulgaria, and would not even lift a hand to bar Russia out of Con-

seeing that his own example would supply ber with a plausible excuse for breaking faith after she had once acquired all that she covets on the Bosporus?

The Pulitzer-Howard Mill.

It is in every way unfortunate that two such distinguished journalists as ex-Congressman JOSEPH PULITZER and ex-Brother JOSEPH HOWARD, both of the World newspaper, should resort to physical violence to settle a difference of professional opinion. There was no need of going to that extreme. The dispute was not beyond the purview of diplomacy. Both Mr. PULITZER and Mr. HOWARD are fluent and eloquent talkers, equally capable of sustaining a protracted argument. The resources of intellectual warfare were not exhausted before the final appeal to arms. No humane observer can help feeling that the physical conflict could and should have been avoided.

Sifted from a mass of more or less trustworthy testimony respecting this deplorable affair, the exact facts seem to be as follows: The quarrel between Mr. Howard and Mr. PULITZEB originated in a discussion as to the proper way of conducting the World newspaper. The nature and merits of the original controversy are immaterial. Hot and angry words led on to hotter and angrier, and at last Mr. HOWARD applied to Mr. PULITZEB an epithet so offensive that Mr. PULITZEB struck wildly with his clenched fist at Mr. Howard's face. Under ordinary

circumstances Mr. Howard, although an older man than Mr. PULITZER, would be a dangerous adversary for the latter to pro-voke. But the ex-Brother is very nearsighted. The blow delivered by the ex-Congressman knocked off his eyeglasses, leaving him for all practical purposes as helpless as a nation without coast defences.

The accidental loss of Mr. HOWARD's eyeglasses at an early stage of the fight undoubtedly cut short what would have been one of the great decisive battles of history ranking with Waterloo, Gettysburg, and the HEENAN-SAYERS conflict. It was Yankee against Magyar, Plymouth Rock against Middle Szolnok, dash and enterprise and pugilistic science against that patient endurance which enables the children of Mr. PULITZER's race to withstand prolonged and severe punishment. It is not impossible that Mr. HOWARD might have thrashed the ex-

Congressman if the fight had proceeded to a finish; but whether he would have thrashed him till he squealed is very doubtful. Mr. PULITZER'S own experience will teach him not to overestimate the importance of an accidental victory over an opponent who has lost his spectacles. A few years ago, just before Mr. PULITZER moved away from St. Louis, he became involved in a street fight with Mr. WILLIAM HYDE, now Postmaster of that town. In some respects the circumstances strikingly resemble those of the recent PULITZER-HOWARD encounter. Mr. HYDE, like Mr. HOWARD, is a journalist; unlike Mr. HOWARD, Mr. HYDE has the eyesight of an eagle. Like Mr. HOWARD, Mr. Hype applied to Mr. PULITZER a contemptuous expression which it is not necessary now to recall; unlike Mr. HOWARD, Mr. HYDE accompanied this provocation with a blow of the fist which knocked Mr. PULITZEB in one direction and Mr. PULITZEB'S spectacles in

another. In that case it was the Magyar who had the misfortune to lose the use of his evesight, and thus to be placed completely at the mercy of his antagonist. Personal experience, therefore, as well as

the natural impulses of a generous and chivalric soul, will enable Mr. PULITZER to appreciate the disadvantage under which Mr. HowARD labored after his glasses had dropped from his nose. This bond of sympathy between the two distinguished gentlemen once established, the way to a perfect reconciliation ought not to be difficult.

The White Cross Army.

The White Cross Army is growing to be very considerable force in New York, and it gives evidences of much activity. At its last monthly meeting on Tuesday in the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association about eight hundred young men were present, and the interest displayed in the order of the Army seemed to be real How many young men are enlisted in the force we are unable to say, but on the 29th of March the Army will celebrate its second anniversary, when probably the figures will be presented.

of the Republican Club dinner which would appeal to his quick sense of humor: "Civil Service Reform-An incalculable advantage to the country if actually and faithfully car-

ried out.' It was actually and faithfully carried out in the first few months of Mr. LINCOLN'S first Administration, and most of the Democratic officeholders were carried out with it.

Either Too Much or Too Little.

Mr. WILLIAM BUFFIN COX of North Carolina is a martyr to the cause of civil service reform. Too much civil service reform stopped an otherwise useful career in the House. He goes back to private life four weeks from to-morrow. This circumstance lends a melancholy in-

terest to Mr. Cox's unselfish efforts to put through a bill increasing the salaries of the Civil Service Commissioners from \$3,500 to \$5,000. Mr. Cox prepared this bill and had it referred to the Select Committee on Civil Service Reform, of which he happens to be

the Chairman. Mr. Cox's committee favorably reported Mr. Cox's bill, saying : "As this reform has come to stay, it is highly imp that the best talent should be placed at the command of the President, in order to secure the services of such

men as are willing to fill the office for a reasonable com-pensation, and not accept the position merely through the hope of filling it temporarily as a stepping stone to future preferment." It strikes us that this is rather rough on

the present Commissioners, OBERLY, EDGER-TON, and LYMAN. As for the best Chinese talent that might come along after the \$3,500 men had been dis-

posed of, it seems to us that \$5,000 a year would be either too much or too little. If their services were to be compensated at Mugwump valuation, \$50,000 a year would be far too little. On the other hand, if the salary was to be

based on the generally accepted estimate of a Mugwump Commissioner's worth to the country, \$500 would be about \$500 too much.

The discussion upon the reduction of the revenue between SAMUEL J. RANDALL and JOHN G CARLIELE amphasizes the fact still more that the friends of Mr. CARLIELE can consistently run him for President upon the freest of free trade platforms only.

Is the Legislature doing everything in its power to insure the accomplishment of Mr. TILDEN's design to establish a public library?

The Anarchist society in Paris known as the "Batignolles Panthers" lately met on the Boulevard Rochechouart and solemnly pro-

testested against injury to DUVAL, the European counterpart of AUGUST SPIES, sentenced death for arson and robbery. One of the Panthers said he honored DUVAL because he was "the first Anarchist who had dared to tell Judges and jury that he had committed robbery in order to protest against the laws of property." Another Panther eulogized DUVAL as the star of his aspirations, because he had not "the courage to rob like DUVAL." Another Panther demanded the heads of "three millions of financial barons," A Panther was silenced by the President for being guilty of such a chestnut as saying that he was "against the Government." Everybody knew they were all against the Government." Meanwhile the grim race for the gallows between SPIES and DUVAL goes on.

The arguments upon the telephone patents before the Supreme Court have come to an end. and the judgments of the lower courts may affirmed, or they may be reversed and BELL's property in the instrument awarded to some

body else. Meanwhile the public is immensely interested in the expected decision, and none more so than GROVER CLEVELAND. If the BELL uld be defeated what would be don patent sh with the Executive suit?

The Country Can't Spare These Men

From the Indianapolis Sentinel. It is stated that Judge Holman will retire Congress at the close of the Fiftleth Congress, and from Congress at the close of the random set of the reappears in public life it will be as Governor of if he reappears in public life it will be as intimate friends Indiana. Some of Mr. Voorhee's most intimate friend state that he is very tired of the cares of state, an would gladly yield his position and commence the practice of his profession in New York could he be sure of a Democratic successor. The success and wealth which has earned Conkling's retiracy from public life is pointed to as a reason why Mr. Voorhees would consult his own personal interests if he did resign. It is well known that after many years of public service Fenator Voorhees can proudly and honestly say, "I am a poor

THE ROCK SPRINGS INDEMNITY. The Sum Due to the Chinese for Fire and

se and American WASHINGTON, Feb. 9 .- It is probable that the Senate will concur in the House amend-ment of its Chinese Indemnity bill, by which the specific sum of \$147,748,74 has been substituted for the general provision directing the Secretary of State to ascertain the actual losses inflicted by the Wyoming mob, and to draw the

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amount from the Treasury. The fact is that the exact sum now appropriated in the House bill was made up by the former Chinese Minister, Chong Tsao Ju, as long ago as November, 1885, and presented to Mr. Bayard. It had been embodied in the re-port of the Chinese Consuls at New York and San Francisco, who visited Rock Springs, as-certained the names of the twenty-eight persons killed, and took an inventory of the property destroyed in the Chinese huts. The claim for indemnity was based on this single act of violence, so that there is really no ground for the general provision made by the Senate.

It may be suggested that it is wiser to find by a commission of investigation exactly how much damage was done. But to appoint such a Commissi on now, after all the changes that have resulted since the date of the outrage-

a Commission now, after all the changes that have resulted since the date of the outrage— Sept 2, 1885—would not only cause needloss delay, but would probably cost more than it could save. The Chinese villare was burned, and the best evidence now procurable of the amount of the destruction is presumably that which was collected by the two Consuls and inose who assisted them. Considering the haves collected by the two Consuls and inose who assisted them. Considering the propriated by the Chinese Minister and ap-propriated by the Chinese Minister and ap-propriated by the Chinese Minister and ap-propriated by the House is far from excessive. Again, in the year 1858, China paid over the sum estimated by the Chinese Minister and ap-propriated by the House is far from excessive. Again, in the year 1858, China paid over the sum estimated by tolonce. At that time, as inister Cheng Tsano, the meet the private claims of American citizens, mostly founded minister Cheng Tsano, the Bod which disbursed this large sum. The fact was that a great wrong had been done, and it was left to the dowernment, whose subjects had been maid-treated, to declare through its diplonatic rep-resentatives that the claims made had been was the point of honor involved in a statement of that sort by our Government, that when it was subsequently ascertained that the Con-mission had made an overestimate, a balance. — The chinese have not several oxamples in mission had made an overestimate, a balance. — The there the the Then-Tisin riots of 1870. Two others in 1874, in recompense for damages done to mission and a Chi-Thi innally, only the other approved after the large several oxamples in the way of promptly paying indemnity. One occurred after the Ten-Tisin riots of 1870; two others in 1874, in recompense for damages done to mission the function of the merican mission-riots at Ching King. The bill uus passed by contension.

NEWS FROM THE SKY.

There is a big comet in the southern hemisphere, and it was reported a week or so ago that it threatened to switch its portentous tail over the equa-tor. Nothing has been heard of it lately, however. Perhaps it doesn't like the looks of the weather up north. It is suspected of belonging to a famous comet family that within the last forty or fifty years has sent two o that within the last forty of firly years has sent to be three of its reckless members tearing through the co-ronal banners of the sun. They are a race of big fellows, and if their boldness goes much further the sun will either have to stand out of the way or get hit. It is safe to bet that the sun won't stand out of the way.

The great red spot has come back upon Jupiter. It has never entirely disappeared since its first appearance in 1878, but it became so faint a few years ago that most observers regarded it as practically gone. Now it has blazed out again with renewed splendor. If it should become a permanent feature of the giant planet, astron mers might eventually be forced to the conclusion that they have really assisted at the birth of a continent on that far-away and slowly cooling orb. But now they have to admit that they don't know what Jupiter is about

Celestial photography is advancing with astonishing tographs of the heavens are now taken that show stars and strange nebulous objects which no tele-scope has over revealed to the human eye.

When the curtain of clouds that has so long concealed he face of the sky was withdrawn last evening, the the face of the sky was withdrawn last evening the sciential scene revealed must have delighted many be-sides astronomers. The winter firmamentshone, between sundown and the rising of the moon, with its greatest splendor. High in the south was the monarch of con-stellations, Orion, ablace with star-diamonds. In the zenith was Capella, lustrous as a living pearl. Above and to the right of Orion sphered the great Bull, charg-ing down upon his mighty enemy, with the ruby bril-liant, Aldebaran, darting flerce rays from his forehead, reat Bull, charg while the Pleiades shone like sliver armor upon his neck. Down in the southeast, outdazzling them all, was Sirius, the King of Suns; and far above him, well up toward the senith, shone the Twins, and the planet Saturn glowing with a soft golden light near them. If any one wishes to know whether he has a taste for astronomy let him gaze at this sky spectacle.

How Shall Railroad Trains be Heated !

Like every other active and practical railroad official, President Chauncey M. Depew of the New York Central Railroad is daily receiving a rainfall of letters from persons who know how to dispense with stoves as the medium for heating railway cars. Mr. Depew said yesterday that the subject is the constant study of the officials in whose departments the matter directly be longs, and that it is their hope and his that the pr dispense with stoves may be solved. He was asked whether he had read of the declaration of the Railroad Commissioners of Massachusetts in favor of the steam-piping process in use on the elevated roads, and in partial or experimental use on the Boston and Albany Railroad. He replied that he thought it a great question whether this method could be successful adopted on the New York Central Railroad. The el vated lines use trains of three to five cars, running at ten or tweive miles an hour. Trains run on the Hudso River road sometimes are made up of twelve and even fourteen cars, and run at forty five miles an hour. It is a question, first, whether steam supplied from the loconotive will heat the last car or the last two or three cars of such a train, and, second, whether cars run in the cold winds off the Hudson at such a high rate of speed can be warmed in that way. The elevated trains are sheitered by the houses, but in the open country the cold air is fairly driven into the cars when they are making quick time. It is the process of the steam fan or the blow pipe exactly reversed, the cars in this case being forced against the air. But, however that might be, Mr. Depew added, the method of heating by steam does not provide for warm-ing the cars while they stand in the Grand Central depot before the engines are attached; not does it allow for heating detached cars, such as the sleeper that is made up in Albany every night, and waits there with its pas-sengers in bed in its berths two hours or more until the train it is to be attached to in the small hours of the morning comes along. If the steam heating process were adopted on such trains as it could be used with there would have to be two or three more stops for water than at present between this city and Albany, necessitating great reduction in travelling time. The present method heating by stoves is exceedingly expensive. It could be a stored on the store of \$175 to heat a car by that means. Heating by steam from the engine would cost much less were it wholisuited to great railroads, but in Mr. Depew's opi f cost entered but little into the consideration uestion of cos

THE VERMONT RAILBOAD TRAGEDY. A Careful Revision Places the Number of

d at 89-Cause of the Aceident

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, Vt., Feb. 9 .most careful revision, the accuracy of which is indisputable, shows the following estimate of the number of persons on the wrecked train and how accounted for, up to 10 A. M. to-day, which makes the number of killed 32. There were brought to Windsor on the Connecticut River road, 30; to White River Junction on the Boston and Lowell road, 37: taken on at White River Junction, 6; train men, 12; total on train. 85. They are accounted for as follows: In-jured, per surgeon's official list, 36; dead bodies ecovered up to Sunday, surgeon's count, 27; foundon Sunday, 5; known to have gone north on trains, 12; known to have returned home, 5;

found on Sunday, 5; known to have gone north on trains, 12; known to have returned home, 5; total, 85. These figures may be changed by the probable prosence of children without lickets on the train, who have not yet been heard from. A twelve-ineh fragment of rail picked up at the scene of the accident shows that the rail from which it was broken must have been very defective. It was steel plated, of St. Albans make, and weighed 56 pounds to the yard. The ends are broken and ingred, and for a space of about two inches on the ends of the steel is broken off, while a crack which extends nearly the length of the piece shows that the steel is broken off, while a crack which extends meanly the length of the piece which extends meanly the length of the piece who are broken from the from the winde, are strends meanly the length of the piece while was broken from the from the winde, are strends meanly the length of the piece while was broken from the from the winde, are strends meanly the length of the piece who have the total the steel is broken off, while a crack which extends meanly the length of the piece who have the total the steel was not the one of the breaks menitomed, is an indentation, or abrasion as though made by a wheel leaving the rail. The tread of the rail is about two inches wide. The tread of the rail is mort to take any further testimony, at least for the present. They visited the scene of the accident this morning and made a close examination the form isoloners finished their investigation by examining some of the investigation by examining some of the invest point where the first rail broken and the was in the weat at most and streak from the there were a streak of the visit of the cract. It was they are the first was they were the state and streak from the investigation by examining some of the investigation by examining some through the was in the way of the cract. It was they and they weat the state and streak from the state who was in the way of the state and then help made by a streak in the s and some windows were broken. I saw no one pall the bell cord. James Kiley testified: I was in the first passenger car and first noticed the car bob up and down. There was

bell cord. James Kiley testified: I was in the first passenger car and first noticed the car bob up and down. There was an awfoil jar at first. Conductor Sturtevant was about four the rope and missed it. I reached it and gave a jerk and ran for the door. Conductor Sturtevant was about four feet from me, between the door and uyself. He sprang forward and 1 sprang to the car. I opened the door, intending to jump off. We were going fast. I shut the door and got back to where I was first sitting when the erash occurred. I cannot tell how long it was, but I know I hurried. I thought the cars were running on the ties. I think the forward light in my car went out before the car went over the side of the bridge, but don't think the rest of them diffe or that any I remember of only one child in the car, a little boy, who satin the scat alread of me and seemed to be accom-panied by a man. Host my senses when we went over, when I requined consciousness some one told me it had been over five minutes. I kicked my way out. The fire in my car acaubt from a lamp. I went back to the sleeper and heard a lady crying for help. I picked up something, smashed the window, and took her out; my left arm was broken, and i med my right. I think we be read alread the window, and took her out; my left arm was broken, and i med my right. I think we

Joseph E. Jacques gave similar testimony. The Commissioners then went to the Paine House to see two or three more of the injured, but their condition was such that it was thought best to defer questioning them until to more set.

FLOODS EAST AND WEST.

Homes Invaded, Bridges Swept Away, and Hallroad Trains Blocked.

PALMYRA, N. Y., Feb. 9.-The water continued to rise rapidly last night and this morning, and both the Central and the West Shore tracks were covered to a depth of two feet. Trains were delayed considerably, Railroad men say it is the worst freshet ever known here. BUFFALO, Feb. 9.-Seneca and Elk streets and the Abott road are still covered with water. The water con tinued rising until midnight last night, when the rain having ceased, the water began to subside, but it has fallen only three inches. Despatches from Warsaw, Ba-tavia, Ripley, and Attica report freshets near those places yesterday.

tavia, Ripley, and Attica report treanets near those places yesterday. Pinzeyost, III., Feb. 9.—There have been no trains from the West over the Illinois Central since Monday night in consequence of a bridge at Council Hill being washed away. The northwestern trains from Chleago came via De Kalb, on account of bridges being carried off along the line, and the Milwauke and St. Taul trains passed through here in a roundabout way, there being no track Min the Winh, Feb. 9.—The Fiver Riskin was never so high as it hus been since yesterday. With the water came an ter gorge which swept away the Macomb street bridge, an iron structure valued at \$16.16.0. Many resi-tions have have funded and several neople wrep res

high as it may came an ice going which as a structure valued at \$10 to the bridge, an iron structure valued at \$10 to the denies in diffusion of the structure value of the structure cut with the structure value of the firm says that the factors to the down town office of the firm says that the rise in the river to day has completely flooded the cellars rise in the river to day has completely flooded the cellars of the factory, which is 300 feet from the river bank, Many large manufacturing establishments in the vicinity Many large manufacturing establishments in the vicinity and the state of the state of the state of the state of the rise in the state of the s

er, carrantars, ML, FCR, w. - He on cand overflowed osudenyy this morning, owing to a risk of water from Tweive-Mile Creek, that the people living on its banks had to flee to high ground to save their lives. Every-thing movable about their promises was sweet away. Shicklums shipyard and workshops are several feet un-der water, and all the module their about the estab-leumont has been overside off. The water entered the

ABRETT'S OLD ENEMY, SMITH.

He Appears in Trenton, but He Won't be Able to Make Much Mischlef.

TRENTON, Feb. 9 .- The Assemblymen devoted about half an hour to business this morning and then fied home for the week after the Senators, whose coat-tails disappeared below the horizon yesterday afternoon. No move was made on the United States Senatorial checker-board. Abbett, after a day's hard work, returned to Jersey City, declaring bimself satisfied with the situation. Some un-Simself satisfied with the situation. Some unnecessary alarm has been aroused among the Democrats by the appearance on the scene of ex-Senator Hezekiah B. Smith, who owns a bicrele bactory and the town of Smithville, and better the second of a disagreement over an appointment when Smith was Senator. Smith is an obstinate, gray-bearded man, with much wealth and a knowledge of how to use it in politics, which he acquired by long and expensive experience in getting elected to Congress and the Senato in an overwhelminally Republican elected from the Domocratic district. He swore long ago that Abbett should never be Senator, and kept one promise in that direction by having a Republican elected from the Domocratic districts in the Domocratic district in Surlington county last fall. As the Democratic district and opened a quiet little enduraters. Treplation among the Democrate was the consequence. There is no mistake about Smith's being 'agin Abbett'. But was the consequence. There is no mistake about Smith's being 'agin Abbett'. But was the consequence. There is no mistake about Smith's being 'agin Abbett'. But was the consequence. There is no mistake about Smith's being 'agin Abbett'. But we apparent but Abbett' game, without helping any particular candidate. The result will be that bis efforts will help keep the Democrate vote is tolerably well assured for the ex-Governor. nocessary alarm has been aroused among the

THE RECORDER STOPS MR. FOLEY.

He Refuses to Try Two Triffing Cases

Mr. John Foley went before the Grand Jury last October and persuaded it to indict his former trav-elling salesman, Jerome B. Shaw, for stealing \$10, \$5.50, and \$3.50 from him by overcharges two years and a half ago. The October Grand Jury was the fifth to which Mr. Foley had applied, and he obtained the indictments

after the District Attorney had refused to take the mat

after the District Attorney had refused to take the mat-ter up. Mr. Foley's first indictment was tried on Mon-day, and Jerome B. Shaw was acquited after the jury had been out four minutes. One of the juryers said after-ward they would not have taken so long if he had not he was presented by the statement of the statement S.M. put on the calendar in the General Seesions, and was present to protect the public with his private coun-sel. When one of the cases was called Recorder Smyth refused to try it, saying be had no jurisdiction the alloced theft having occurred in Raitmore. Then the other case was dismissed because the theft was said to have been committed in Hinghanton. "You have no standing in this court," said Recorder "You have no standing in this court," said Recorder "You have no standing in this court, "said Recorder "What the Court, Stid down." "The Recorder's give in during the same from the Recorder's give in during the respective to the same from the Recorder's give in the sent in slence.

FALLING 1.000 FEET.

It Was With a Parachute, and the Man

Touched Bottom Safely.

From the San Francisco Chronicle

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The Measurement of Yachts.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In an ar

territory, went forty miles beyond the then terminus of the road and cut 100,000 tons of hay. The railroad crawled up to his stacks during the fall, and he is now ticle on "Measuring Yachts," published by you some time since, reference is made to the fact that the original measurements of ships were made some hun dreds of years ago in order that the tax gatherers of seiling his hay for \$8 a ton, and will clear over \$100.00 by his enter London might the more easily collect the duties which

-A farmer living near Quincy, Ill., says that wild geese came flying toward his barnyard, and after

circling above him several times lit among the fowls. He caught one of them, whereupon the others attacked him viciously, but he managed to secure a second one, and to

-A bill has been introduced into the Ten-

essee Legislature offering to the United States the Her

mitage farm, famous as the home of Andrew Jackson as an asylum for disabled and invalid solders. The bill

provides that Mrs. Sarah Jackson, the adopted daughte of Old Hickory, shall be allowed a home and maintenano

believe that a citizen of that State has split a hurricane

Seeing it coming straight toward his barn he took two boards, and, holding them with his best hold before the

arn, the ends together so that they formed a sort of

wedge, he spread the hurricane apart, so that it only took

a hand made solid mahogany bureau which has been in his family for more than six generations, and is said to be

nearly 350 years old. It contains four large drawers be

low, and sixteen small ones at the top, one of which is a secret drawer for valuables, so constructed as to deceive the most expert burglar even in these times.

-Some boys who were duck hunting near

Yuba City, Cal., discovered a coon's nest in a hollow

tree. They set fire to the tree, and a procession of coons

appeared at the opening, a few feet from the ground, un-til cleven of these terrors of the henroust were shot. There was one left in tree, being so close to the fire and

-Mrs. B. T. Rogers of Kenosha, Wis,

owns an intelligent collis dog. Two weeks ago Miss Rogers lost a valuable gold watch, and, although large

rewards were offered for its recovery, and many Kenosha people joined in the search, no trace of it couls be found. On Sunday morning the dog walked into the house with the missing article in his mouth. The Rogers

family firmly believe he heard them talking about \$

San Diego recently, who, the Union says, was 125 years old. He was raised by the first missionaries who came in

-An old Indian known as Nevos died at

and looked for it and found it.

-Mr. Alvin Richtmyer of Gilboa, N. Y., has

-A Maine newspaper wants its readers to

other two

upon the farm for life.

off two corners of the barn.

MISSING FIREMAN CONNAUGHTON.

He Leaves his Wife and his Children With out a Farewell or a Cent.

Fireman James Connaughton is missing, and his wife and five children would like to know where he is. He was the engineer of fire steamer No. 54 in West Forty-seventh street, and he lived on the top floor of 410 West Fifty-fifth street. He was last seen by his family on Saturday morn-ing last, when he was at home for breakfast, leaving immediately afterward. He then went to the engine house and drew his pay-\$118-which fell due on that day. He remained around the engine house a few hours and then disappeared and has not been seen since. As he failed to respond to the next alarm of fire, his name was noted to be reported to the Commissioners at their next meeting.

Mrs. Connaughton, with three women friends and three of her little brood of children about her, was found in her home last evening. The oldest child, a boy of 10, is in the hospital ill. She said she had no doubt her husband had eloped with Mrs. Mary Miller. Mrs. Miller is <text><text><text><text> the widow of Fireman William E. Miller,

SUNBEAMS.

-A resident of Chester, Ill., has a pet crov

hat talks quite as well as any parrot. —The three bull fights in Parls have pro-

uced the gross receipts of 205,000 francs. -Hugh Barnett of Edwardsport, Ind., was

amused at a pun made by a neighbor that he laughed

-Miss Elizabeth Atkinson, who recently

died in Burlington, N. J., aged ninety-eight years, had not been out of her room for eighteen years.

-There are said to be over fifty applicants

for the office of President of the Nevada University, in case a \$5,000 salary is voted by the Legislature. —Ice cutting on the Lake of the Woods, in

Illinois, has been abandoned because it was found that the heavy cakes contained many lish that were caught

-The Barnstead, N. H., brass band, which

claims to be the oldest band in the United States now is

-A German paper says that with a funnel

of thick manila paper about sixteen inches long and six to eight inches wide at the mouth, the smaller end being put into the opening of the receiver, one may talk in

whispers through the telephone. --Illinois whiskey is dangerous stuff, even

in the bottle. An Odin physician bought a flask for me dicinal purposes and set it on the table for a moment. If exploded with a bang, the bottle was shattered, and the liquor where it fell on the table cloth burned it like acid.

-Last summer a Kidder county, Dak., man,

earning the route a new railroad was to take in Tha

during the cold snap and frozen in the ice.

active service under its original organizati brate its fiftieth anniversary on Feb. 22.

derately and fell dead.

stantinople, let them prove their sincerity by standing impartially aloof and exerting a restraining influence upon other European powers, while the plans outlined at San Stefano are pushed at last to full fruition. No other construction can be put on the formulated conditions of a Russo-German alliance which Mr. KATKOFF, after a private interview with the Czar, is permitted to publish in the Pan-Slavic organ and to telegraph abroad.

They who believe in the reputation for truth telling which BISMARCK has sedulously cultivated, and who accordingly suppos him to have meant precisely what he said in the Reichstag, may expect him to accede to the conditions semi-officially defined in the Moscow Gazette, Such confiding persons will look in the spring now close at hand for aggressive movements on the Danube rather than upon the Rhine. It is evident that such an outcome of the present situation is feared at Constantinople and deemed probable at Rome. Hardly are the apprehensions of an early conflict in the west calmed by the publication of the Czar's correspondence with the German Government, than the Porte hastens to promote Russia's designs upon Bulgaria by backing the demand of the conspirator ZANKOFF fo admission to the Sofia Regency, upon terms apt to prove fatal to the anti-Russian party Simultaneously in Italy we learn of the resignation of the DEPRETIS Ministry, for which the Saati disaster, taken by itself, would not account.

A prime cause of the Italian crisis is the dissatisfaction of a strong party headed by CAINOLI in the Chamber of Deputies with the intimate relations maintained by King HUMBERT'S Government with Germany Austria, and England. The late Ministry had made no secret of its willingness to unite with the two powers last named in forcibly upholding the independence of Bulgaria, and even during the debate occasioned by the Saati affair the Premier declared that the appropriation demanded for the reenforcement of Massowah did not imply that Italy might not at any moment be called upon to bear a severer strain on her resources. It was this admission which rendered the necessity of wasting men and money on an island in the Red Sea peculiarly exasperating, for the Czar's interposition a Berlin was held to indicate that an advance upon the Danube would precede a collision on the Rhine, and that accordingly engage ments of the kind acknowledged by DEPRE TIS would have to be immediately kept. Certainly, if Italy were likely to need her soldiers nearer home, she would have reason to regret the Massowah speculation.

The conditions of a Russo-German agree ment insisted upon by Mr. KATROFP are reasonable enough. Turn about is fair play, and Russia has twice rendered BISMARCK inestimable services in consideration of a prospective reward. She has found the German Chancellor a bad paymaster, and, when a new transaction is proposed, desires to see the color of his money before delivering the goods. But who knows whether BISMARCK feels that he can afford to give Russia credit,

The programme of the anniversary celebration of the Army on the 29th of March was not definitively arranged at Tuesday night's meeting; whether there is to be a parade in force or simply a gathering in a hall, where the soldiers of purity will be indistinguishable from the unenlisted. No man ought to feel any hesitation in declaring his obedience to the rule of the Army in the actual conduct of his life, and yet 'we can understand why many should refrain from making an ostentatious display in such a matter. They might be pure in all their relations, and yet they would not care to go about wearing a badge to announce the fact to the world. The trouble about all such organizations as the White Cross Army is that they are apt to draw to them those most odious of creatures, hypocritical young men. They join the ranks in order to put on an appearance of virtue, and, it may be, in order to have the better opportunities for the practise of vice. That is, they are wolves in sheep's clothing. Then again, there are men who are so weak of will that they feel unable to persist in a righteous and cleanly cours unless they are held down to it by a distinct pledge. They must "swear off." Now, such characters are pretty sure to fall away by vielding to temptation at one time or an other, and they therefore bring the whole force into disrepute. When the prop is even momentarily displaced they are less able to hold themselves erect than they were before it was applied.

But let us wait until the anniversary celebration next month, and see what the Army has really accomplished.

A Great Banquet.

The Republican Club of this town will give dinner next Saturday night on the anniversary of the birthday of ABRAHAM LIN-COLN. The Hon. JAMES G. BLAINE will be the most conspicuous guest and speaker, and among the other distinguished Republican politicians who have promised to come to the dinner are Dr. WARNER MILLER, the Hon. LEVI P. MORTON, HENEY CABOT LODGE, the most blooming young man in Massa chusetts; FRANK HISCOCK, the olive branch of New York Republicanism; BENJAMIN HARRISON, whose wild and sustained desire to be struck by lightning has made him famous; J. BENSON FORAKER of Ohio, and

T. B. SHAKESPEARE REED of Maine. With such a company the dinner cannot fail to be an occasion of eloquence and wit; and yet, if the guests would stop to think about it for a minute, they might see that there cannot but be a certain absurdity about the affair. If ABBAHAM LINCOLN were alive, it is pretty safe to say he would not be a Republican or a guest of the Republican Club. But if he were alive and had been able to retain his connection with the Republican party, there is one toast on the programme

an." but it is hardly probable he will feel it a duty always to serve his country at his own expense. Mr. Mc-Donald was fortunate in escaping six years' brilliant drudgery in the Senate, and Mr. Voorhees may refuse the glittering empty bauble again.

Beck Could Prosper if Democrats Had

From the Battimore Sun. A friend of Senator Beck walked into his nittee room a few days ago and to his surprise cound the Kentucky statesman in a towering rage, gaz-ing at a letter he held in his hand. "What do you think of this ar an insult ?" he exclaimed, after greeting his friend. "I don't know what

some of my constituents take me for. This letter is from a young man who lives near my home, and he has the cheek to offer me ten per cent. of his salary for the first year if I secure him an appointment in the railway mes-senger service. This is a sample of some of the letters we get. I have received a lot of such offers, and might make a fair salary if a Democrat had any show, but he hasn't."

Negro Pages in Washington.

From the Savannah Neue. New York girls are hard to beat when it es to a question of new wrinkles, but the Washingto girls are fully capable of keeping up their end of the pro-cession. The bill to provide every member of Congres with a clerk seems to have imbued every girl in Wash ington with the idea that it would be quite the proper thing to have a young negro boy for a page to answer the door bell, run errands, and follow her on her shopping tours like a dismounted outrider. The idea ha caught the popular fancy, and black pages in full livery are all the rage. Clothed in gay colors, with crests or initials on the large buttons, the little darkies are now to be seen everywhere about the city, following their mistresses on their shopping tours or when they go calling, and on reception days stand at the door with a silver waiter for the reception of cards. It is very hard, however, to discipline them, and on one or two occasions they have made statements to visitor which caused a great deal of trouble, especially at the house of a Brigadier General, where the visitor was told after waiting some time : "I can't find missus, though she was here just now, but I guess she must have see. you coming, and slipped out the back way."

A Conundrum.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal. How long will it take with Republican examiners, a Republican Chief Examiner, and a Board of ra who cannot by any means be calle scrats, to even up the civil service of the Gover tically speaking ! Could it be done between nent, po now and the year 10017

Swash from Swashville. From the World.

Goy. Hill is too much of a partisan.

Let It Roll. From the Pittaburgh Times.

It should surprise no one if, in bringing on William T. Coleman, the great San Francisco mercha for President, Tax SUS had set a ball in motion that and to roll to an astonishing distance It Was The Sun's Plan that Won in 1884

From the Shelbyville Daily Democrat.

It begins to look very much like the Dem cratic party was rapidly coming around to get on the plat form erected some time ago by Taz Svs. If the Demo rats succeed in 'ssi it will be done on Tax Sus's plan 'Turn the rescals out.'

Take the Tax Of. From the National Republican.

Tobacco is the only product of the American arm that is taxed.

The ablest condemnation of socialism as orking system, it may surprise some people to learn, by the popular tribune of modern times, Charles

Mr. Cleveland's Social Duties, From the Waterbury American.

"People here in Washington talk about the President's dialike of attending public gatherings, and especially of his horror of being stared at." said a gen-tleman from western New York, who knew Mr. Cleveand all through his Buffalo career. "Those who re-member him in his old Buffalo days wonder at the way ie goes about here, and the patience and apparen sure with which he endures the social rout White House. To his old acquaintances this causes mor wonder than anything else he does. When he was bachelor in Buffalo he was absolutely unknown social Iy. Why, you couldn't drag him to any kind of a society entertainment. He was noted for his deep detestation of everything of that sort. Not that he was by any means unsocial in his habits among the few inmates that he used to have with him in his old quarters in the Weed block, and among whom he spent nearly all his time out of business hours. With these friends he was a jolly companion, but his life was wholly devoid of anything approaching a social or domestic side. So you can understand that those who knew hin then are puzzled and amazed at the record as a society man he is making in the White House, and are not prepared to agree with people who seem to think him stiff and unsocial. Of course his wife's inducence ac-counts for much of the change in him in the last year. and, doubtless, if he had not married, the society side of the Administration would have been vastly different from what it actually is. Probably he dislikes the big dimers and receptions and balls he is compelled to take part in now as much as over he did, but he found them in essential part of his duties in his new office, and mad up his mind to go through with them as he has had to go through with other disacteable duties. That this is so is shown by the way he spends his vacations, away up in the Adirondacks with a few friends, away from th rds and formalities and hollow ociety.

Nothing Like It.

There is no other such compendium of news, or mirror f contemporary history as Tas Wassaly Sus. 51 a year.

lishment has been carried off. The water entered the dry dock, in which were the steamers Persia and Ocean, undergoing repairs, and the two vessels had to be sent-tled to save them. The water is one tier deep in Norris's large warehouse, where an immense quantity of four is stored, and his loss will be heavy. Lyors, Feb. 9.—The melting snow and rain on Monday and Tuesday have caused a high flood in this neighbor-hood. The water began rising last evening and before davilight to day was serveral feeld deep in the dooryards and streets on the flats in Lyons. Many persons are an able to get to their houses even have high more all feet of water, and the grounds of the Arricellural Society and the street solutions of acress of land are under several feet of water, and the grounds of the Arricellural Society and the caused has caused damage to the amount of thousands of dollars to the motor bound private resi-dences. The water has been rising all day and this evening.

Gen. Butler Deprived of His Dry Smoke. From the Boston Globe.

The dignity which surrounds the United States Supreme Court is something appalling. No one is permitted to wear an overcoat within the bar of the ourt. Not books are also prohibited, and the attorney r spectator who attempts to make an abstract of the or spec proceedings is quickly notified to desist. Benjamin P. Butler of Massachusetts was guilty of an infraction of the rules the other day, which those who sat near enough to overhear the colloquy that ensued enjoyed Don M. Dickinson of Michigan was speaking when

Gen. Butler entered. The General immediately dropped into the vacant chair. Then drawing a cigar from hi pocket he proceeded to enjoy what is known as h "dry unoke." His action threw the vigilant court officials into a state of terror, from which they have not yet re covered. Marshal Nicholay immediately rushed for ward, and, seizing Gen. Butler by the arm, exclaimed "Remove your cigar at once, sir."

The General's eyes twinkled maliclously as he placed his hand to his car and said, "Speak louder."

"You cannot smoke here. It's against the rules," repeated Mr. Nicholay, emphatically,

"I'm not smoking," growled Gen. Butler, still holding the cigar in his teeth.

"I know you're not smoking." was the Marshal's reply, but you must not keep that cigar in your mouth Gen. Butler replied that he had a bad cold, and that i always relieved him to take a dry smoke, but the Mar shal insisted so vigorously that either the General or the cigar must go, that he finally submitted to the inevitable and threw the cigar from him with such force that it hit awyer Storrow on the leg and broke into a half a dozen pieces

Canadian Volunteers to Stay at Home.

MONTREAL, Feb. 9.-Excitement was cause nere by a private despatch from Ottawa to the military authorities saying that the Dominion Government has definitely decided that volunteer regiments cannot visi England this year. Speculation is rife as to the reason England this year. Speculation is rife as to the reason of the dovernments decision, but it is believed to be actuated by a desire to have the full minitis strength in the contry's should any serious difficultive arise with the United brates. It is an open secret that the recent action of the Senate in passing the bull for coast definites, navai armor, and arithments is causing great uncasi-ments to the authorities here, who expect that at any moment they may be called upon to graphe with a far-inore serious difficulty than any that has there or arisen. The leading organs of public opinion, however, reputing the idea of any beligerent intentions on the part of the United States.

A Woman Frozen to Death.

DEVIL'S LAKE, Dak., Feb. 9.-The body of Mrs. Edward Walters, who disappeared a few days ago, has seen found near Devil's Lake. Mr. Walters came here from his farm on last Friday, and the storm became so severe that he could not return. It is wife became alarmed at his proionged absence, and started to go to her mearest neighbors. Her body was discovered a short distance from the road upon the open prairie, partly covered by snow, and only about a quarter of a mile from her own door. The snow about the spin where she hay indicated that she had walked about in a small cir-cle for a long time. The blockard last week was the severest of the roughest whiter known for many years, and reports are conting in every day of lives lost upon the prairies in the storm. from his farm on last Friday, and the storm became a

Cholera Spreading in South America.

PANAMA, Jan. 31.-After having caused many PANAMA. Juli. 31.—Article Intering contact many deaths in the Argentine Republic, choiera has passed the Cordilleras and is now in the interior of Chill. It has not yet reached the Parific coast, but it is summer certain that it will pass there, and thence it will quickly reach. Pan anna and from Panma it will extend throughout the re-public if the Government of Panama does not set in anticipation of it with increased centry and close that port against all vessels arriving from suspotted ports in the same manner as Peru has already done.

sed on every bushel of coal brought within that tity assessed on every bushel of coal brought within the city limits. It may not be uninteresting to note that this vurious tax on internal commerce is still enforced, although this repeat is now hence strongly advocated. The tax is is, id, on every ton of coal that enters London, whether by rail or water. The tax has been levied ever since 1680, when after the great fire, it was laid to ob-tain money to rebuild St. Faul's Cathedrail. The duty has been as high as 12s, sid, per chaldroin, but since 1830 it has remained at the present rate. The chief argument of those opposed to the removing of the duty is that to remove the tax would be to make a present of £125,000 a year to the gas companies who light the city. Q. hat city asse

The Proposed Retailatory Legislation.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9. - Several Democratic members of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs had an interview with the President to day in connecion with the retaliatory fisheries legislation now pend ng in Congress. The interview was strictly o The President sought to impress upon the mem that The President songht to impress upon the mem-bers of the committee the necessity of making very clear and free from ambiguity any measure relating to the subject of the fisheries which foragress might pass. If there was to be any legislation on the subject, he said, it should state definitely whether railroads and all other carriers were to be included in the problem while the President did not commit himself to any legislation on the subject, the genuenen present rath-favored the Home bill, for the roason that it is more ex-plicit and mandatory in its character.

He Survives with a Bullet in his Brain.

MIDDLETOWN, N. Y., Feb. 9.-On Jan. 20 last Nicholas Clements, an Erie Railway engineer living in Port Jervis, in a fit of melancholy stood before a looking glass and fired four shots from a revolver into his head Two of the buildts made severe scalp wounds without penetrating the skull, a third lodged in the bony tissue penetrating the skull, a third lodged in the bony tissue of the cranium, and the fourth entered the cranial cavity and lodged in the brain. Three of the buildes were removed without serious difficulty, but the fourth is beyond the reach of the probe. He has gradually re-gained a stood degree of physical health and strength and activity. Mentally, however, he suffers from sui-chial mania, with symptoms of paralysis of the brain, and he was to day precised for treatment by the State home-opathe Assimum for the Insane in this lown. The surgeous who have attended him say that his is one of the most remarkable cases on record.

POUGHEEEPSIE, Feb. 9.-Up to this time 2.000. 000 feet of timber have been received for the Pough keepsie bridge. Submarine divers arrived to day from the East to inspect the ground at the bottom of the piers. The work of building the east anchorage pier at the upper landing has commenced, and the pier is to be completed in twenty days.

The Cleveland Boom.

With the throats of fifty millions sound the glad and heartfelt song:

- Hum it, howl it, sing it, roar it, loud and high and deep and long: There's a Cleveland boom a booming which is swift
- and bright and strong; If you see it, brother Grover, pray don't apprehend it
- wrong-

N. B .- It's the Mrs. Cleveland boom!

- Though for you the good old party grieves in very dole-Though you fall a prey to bunco games steered by the
- sinug Mugwumps; Though you dote upon the silly schemes of Anglo-
- Chinese chumps: Still, there's a Cleveland boom for which itself the nation humps-
- N. B .- It's a Mrs. Cleveland boom!
- Though in the stall the Destinies some fleeter horse may
- groom: Though Luck, gone wrong in eighty-eight, should fill your eyes with rheum:
- ugh the Mugwump mills grind idly by the dull Esto-
- nian flume. Despair not, for there still will be a glorious Cleveland

N. B .-- A Mrs. Cleveland boom!

- Yea, though Renomination's row be mighty hard to hoe Though you go back, a private man, to wind swept Buffalo
- Your goin and crown of life will still as brightly gleam
- and glow, And still the Cleveland boom will not have lost the snap and go-
 - N. B .- The Mrs. Cleveland booms

Lower California, and was brought by them to San Die gd. He was for many years stone blind, but always ro-fused to go to the poorhouse. He worked right along un-til within a short time of his death. He would cut wood

wash clothes, hos corn and beans, but never, although be couldn't see, was he known to hurt a hill of beans. ...The only curiosities brought to light by the dredge since the work was begun on the Cape Cod Canal have been a strange collection of about fifty fig-ures carved in oak, which are supposed to have remained under the sand and water of the marsh for the past century or more. The story goes that the artist who executed them was a poor demented fellow by the name of Nye, whose fondness for a Sandwich belle by the name of liester Tupper, led him to seek employment for his leisure time by carving her effigy and various cabalistic signs upon pieces of oak and hiding them in the ditches of water which furrowed the marsh.

-" I was riding on one of the old stage coaches running to the Black Hills, and one of my fellow passengers was an old Englishman. We had reached a dell in the road when one of the leaders of our four-inhand team became restless. The driver swung his whip out, and, as the horse full the crack and steadied down, but, and as the norm into the crack and scenario users, the driver exclaimed. 'There, blank, blank you, take that'' immediately the voice resounded in echo from the hill beyond. 'There, blank, blank you, take that'' The Encilsman looked up quickly and said to me: 'If he had said 'field bless you,' instead of the language he used, his God bless you would as certainly have back to him from yonder hill." This story was recently told, not by a Sunday school superintendent, but by Pat Sheedy, once one of Chicago's boss gamblers, and now

John L. Sullivan's manager.

smoke that it was suffocated and burned, making twelve coons in one tree. -In 1863 William Cooper of Yell county, Arkansas, enlisted in the Southern army. In 1863 he was captured and was sent to fillnois. He escaped and went back to Yell county, but could not find his wife. Then he became a tramp until a few days ago, when he found his wife at Shiloh, Ark. She had married an buried two husbands and separated from a third, an was mighty glad to see William.

The Poughkeepsic Bridge.