RABBIT ROUND-UPS.

How the California Vineyardists Deal with the Pests.

An Annual Gathering at Which Thousands of Jack Rabbits Are Corralled and Exterminated.

"The people out in Fresno county, Cal., are getting ready for their annual round-up and slaughter of jack rabbits," said a leading vineyardist of Fresno to a New York Sun man recently. "If it wasn't for this early spring systematic raid upon these destructive pests we would have scarcely a vineyard or an orchard left in southern California. On one day in March, generally between the 10th and 15th, the grape and small-fruit growers collect together in their respective districts and beat the country thoroughly to drive the swarming jack rabbits from their hiding places into immense wire inclosed corrals, where they are at the mercy of their pursuers, and are knocked in the head with clubs by the thousand. I have known fifteen thousand jack rabbits to be slaughtered in this way in a few hours. More than that, these rabbits are such prolific breeders that every one killed in March or April means that there will be twenty-five or thirty less than there would have been if the rabbits knocked in the head in the spring had been permitted to live until the fall. These round-ups are the only means we have ever discovered by which the jack rabbit pest has been kept down.

"The rabbits are unusually fond of the young shoots of the grapevines, when they make their appearance in the spring, and of the tender bark of prune, plum and other fruit trees, when the sap starts. I have known twenty acres of vineyard ruined in a single night by the chopping of the shoots by these animals, and whole orchards of valuable bearing trees killed by the rabbits girding them. Poison, traps and guns failed to kill off the rabbits fast enough, and fruit growing in that part of California could necessarily have been to a great extent abandoned if a Fresno county genius hadn't evolved the corralling idea five years ago. The rabbits are driven into the great wire-inclosed pound by hundreds of people—men, women and children—closing in around them and preventing them from going in any other direction, except the one that leads them into the corral. Different districts have different days for setting out on the round-up, and the slaughter goes on through March and April. It is safe to say that one hundred thousand jack rabbits are thus killed every spring in that part of the state. As at that season of the year this big rabbit's flesh is in excellent condition and the animal is highly esteemed as food a two-fold benefit is derived from this great yearly slaughter.

"The California jack rabbit is the biggest rabbit in existence, one five feet long being not uncommon. They are as fleet as the wind, but will sit still on their forms, or by the roadside, until you have almost grabbed them by their mule-like ears, but before you have closed your fingers on them there will be no rabbit there, but if you look thirty or forty yards ahead you will see what you think is another one humped up in a fluffy bunch, waiting for you in the same way. But it won't be another rabbit. It will be the same one. They are swift and sudden as the fleas that swarm on them as soon as the summer comes. These fleas get so thick upon the jack rabbit and are so ravenous that they have actually reduced the long-eared, four-footed jumper to a skeleton by the time the fall rains set in. If it wasn't for these regular fall rains the fleas would be of great service to us in destroying the rabbit pest, for the rabbits could not stand out many days longer against the assaults of the lively parasites. But the fall rains are fatal to the fleas. The water kills them and washes them off the rabbits and the latter pitch in our vineyards and orchards and grain with sharpened appetites."

CELTIC MANIFESTATIONS.

The Joys and Sorrows of the Irish as Expressed in Their Music.

In the Irish dirges and laments there is great similarity to the music of the West Highlands, only the Irish music having been written in most instances for the harp (which has all the notes of the voice) is a music of full and sweet harmonies, and has not the omissions and deficiencies of the pentatonic scale in which all music for the pipes was written. While the melancholy of the Celtic people finds inadequate expression in these laments—plaintive, wailing airs, something between recitative and melody—another and not less characteristic side of the Irish temperament is very truthfully illustrated in their songs of humor.

About these, says the Saturday Review, there is an inimitable raciness, a fresh and sparkling wit, a spontaneous ring of chaff and fun, with a dash of chivalrous sentiment, and an airy lightness which give to them the unmistakable Hibernian accent, and to which there is no exact counterpart in the songs of England or Scotland.

A band of poisoners is believed to be at work on the railways in the Northwest Provinces, says a Bombay paper. There have been during the past few months a large number of deaths in carriages among the native third-class passengers traveling on the East Indian railway. The bodies are handed over by the railway authorities to the police, who dispose of them as expeditiously as possible. In most cases there is little or no property found on the bodies, not even railway tickets, and generally they are found in an empty carriage. These facts do not appear to have awakened the suspicions of the police, or perhaps they have recognized their incompetence to prevent or detect such crimes. As, however, the native passengers contribute over ninety per cent. of coaching receipts, it is high time some efforts were made to afford them protection for their life and property.

The Pope and the Pilgrims.

ROME, May 20.—[Special.]—Pope Leo received today 800 Catholic pilgrims from Malta.

The great quantity of drift wood about Astoria makes fishing dangerous in the river.

A Southern Pacific train arrived in Portland yesterday consisting of six tourist cars from California, all the occupants of which are bound for the world's fair, via the Canadian Pacific.

The governor has pardoned the following: James McGuire, D. W. Moore and Chas. Pierce, Multnomah county; Frank Bradburn, Umatilla county, restored to citizenship; Sam Horn, sentenced in 1890 to serve ten years for rape from Portland; Chas. T. Michels, sentenced to five years for murder from Clatsop.

An Astoria fisherman, speaking of the small salmon catch assigns as the reason that the immense quantity of water in the river does not compel the salmon to come inside, as they can get all the fresh water they want outside until the eggs are ripe and they are ready to spawn. In addition to this the fish are certainly growing scarcer.

Five hundred more Chinamen have arrived in Portland on the Danube.

'Twas No Loss.

"You never lose anything by being polite to the ladies."

"You don't, eh? Well you're not in it. The proprietor of the new restaurant down town has just purchased a fine soda fountain of Chapman & Co., Madison, Ind., the same I see advertised in the THE CHRONICLE and I was polite enough to ask my lady friends up to take a drink and the soda was so all-fired nice I lost a whole dollar bill before I could get away. Don't lose anything by politeness, eh?

"Well, it depends on whether there is a Chapman & Co. soda fountain around or not." 1tdaw

The president has appointed John M. Jones of Idaho, receiver of public moneys, and John G. Brown of Idaho, register of the land office at Blackfoot, Idaho.

Not Tested Yet.

Laura—What a quiet young man Mr. Timpkins is.

Flora—Have you invited him to dinner?

Laura—No, not yet.

Flora—Then do, and get him to go with us to Harlan's and get him to order a soda fountain of Chapman & Co., Madison, Ind. I see them advertised in the CHRONICLE. We can then draw him out while we drink delicious soda at his expense. They do say that soda is so good that it really makes young men who pay for it pleasant and talkative. 2t-daw

World's Fair.

The Northern Pacific seems to be the favorite route to the world's fair. Their passenger equipment is excellent. The tourist sleeping cars have been upholstered and are very comfortable For rates and other information call at the Regulator office. 2tdewtf.

VERY STRONG WORDS.

Pennoyer Demands the Impeachment of President Cleveland.

Governor Pennoyer, speaking to a Portland reporter in relation to the president's attitude toward the Geary law, said:

"There can be no doubt whatever that a complete registration of the Chinese would have been had if Mr. Cleveland had informed the Chinese minister that he would have obeyed his oath of office by a strict enforcement of the law. Instead of doing so, he entered into a collusion with him to disregard the law. The result is the time for registration is past, and under the law the great bulk of the Chinese are subject to deportation.

"For this state of affairs, Mr. Cleveland is alone responsible. Perhaps the first time in our country's history has dared to violate his sacred oath of office, by refusing to enforce a law of congress.

"If this high crime is permitted to pass unrebuked, the end of constitutional liberty is close at hand. The great question, therefore, whether we are to remain a republic, or become an imperial government, will be decided by the next congress. If no rebuke is given to the president, his action will become a precedent for others and liberty will become lost. If, however, congress will do as it ought to do, impeach and remove him from office for his grave offense, the wholesome lesson will stand for ages yet to come, a notable warning against the repetition of so grave a crime."

John Leggat Succeeds Dimond.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—The announcement of the appointment of W. H. Dimond to be superintendent of the United States mint at San Francisco was incorrect. He is the present incumbent, and has tendered his resignation. His successor was appointed this morning by the president, in the person of John Leggatt of California.

Governor Pennoyer has made the following appointments of delegates from Oregon to represent this state at the anti-trust conference at Chicago, June 5th and 6th: J. B. Eddy, of Portland; J. W. Lewis, of Sparta; E. M. Waite, of Salem; J. J. Daly, of Dallas.—Pendleton Tribune.