

\$200,000.

In improvements will be made in Independence and vicinity during the year.

VOL. VIII.

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NO. 1.

THE INDEPENDENCE

West

Side

An Independent Paper

Devoted to the best interests of Polk County.

THE WEST SIDE.

S. G. PENTLAND, PUBLISHER.

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A general banking and exchange business transacted.

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Cashier, I. C. POWELL.

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Deposits, \$25,000.

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A general banking business transacted.

Office: Cor. Main and Monmouth Sts.

Capital: National: Bank

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To persons on whom and other mercantile concerns, secured or unsecured, in private residences or public warehouses.

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The Celebrated French Cure.

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DR. WOOD'S LIVER REGULATOR

PREPARED FROM PURELY VEGETABLE PRINCIPLES.

DISPERSIA - JAUNDICE - CHILLS & FEVER - DISORDERED DIGESTION - SICK HEADACHE - GENERAL DEBILITY.

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A BARRIER BETWEEN THEM.

Hostile Neighbors in Africa Who Have Established a No Man's Land.

A little British expedition recently steamed far up the Senegal branch of the Niger river in a small steam launch, and finally entered a tributary of the Benue and explored a region which no white man has ever visited before.

The most interesting thing about their journey was the curious experience they had with the natives.

They had been passing for a good while through a region that was inhabited by Moslem blacks, tribes of the rather severe methods of conversion employed by the Arab invaders of the Soudan.

The country was very fertile, and the people were numerous; but all of a sudden, though the country still was apparently rich, population entirely ceased.

For a stretch of twenty miles not a hut was to be seen, nor was a single sign of human life anywhere observed.

The expedition wondered at this remarkable state of affairs, for the country was certainly inviting, and they could not imagine why it had no inhabitants.

All at once, however, as they rounded a bend in the river they saw big crowds of natives running down the slopes of the hill to the bank.

They brandished their spears at the white men on the little boat, and told them to go back, for they wanted no Moslems in their country.

There was an interpreter on the vessel, who succeeded in convincing the natives that the visitors were not Moslems, and thereupon the people became quite friendly.

Then the reason for this curious lack of population was ascertained. When the tribes who had been converted to Islam found the natives who had been converted to Christianity, they fled to the hills, and the only reason is that the people who are neighbors there cannot live on friendly terms, and, having tired of fighting, have put this barrier between them.

—Boston Herald.

THE RESULTS.

HOW "ZERO" WAS ADOPTED.

Fahrenheit Discovered, as He Thought, the Extreme of Cold and Named It "Zero" is the part of every thermometer that is most watched and dreaded in this changeable climate of ours.

The word is from the Spanish, and means empty, hence nothing. It was first used by Fahrenheit in 1709 by a Prussian merchant named Fahrenheit.

From a boy he was a close observer of nature, and when only 19 years old, in the remarkably cold winter of 1709, he experimented by putting snow and salt together and noticed that it produced a degree of cold equal to the coldest day of the year.

And that day was the coldest day that the oldest inhabitant could remember. Gabriel was the more struck with the coincidence of his little scientific discovery, and hastily concluded that he had found the lowest degree of temperature known in the world, either natural or artificial.

He called the degree zero, and constructed a thermometer, or rude weather glass, with a scale graduating up from zero to boiling point, which he numbered 32, and the freezing point 0, because, as he thought, mercury contracted at the zero point, and when cooled down from the temperature of freezing water to zero, and expanded one hundred and eightieth on being heated from the freezing to the boiling point.

Time showed that the arrangement instead of being truly scientific was an arbitrary scale, and the division of the Bible into verses and chapters; and the two points no more represented the real extremes of temperature than from "Dan to Beersheba" expressed the exact extent of Palestine.

But Fahrenheit's thermometer had been widely adopted, and with its convenient scale and some thought of any better until his name became an authority, for Fahrenheit finally abandoned trade and gave himself up to science. Then habit made people cling to the established scale, as habit made the English cling to the old system of cumbersome fractional money.

The three countries which use Fahrenheit are England, Holland and America. Russia and Germany use Reaumur's thermometer, in which the boiling point is counted 80 degrees above the freezing point. France uses the centigrade thermometer, so called because it makes the boiling point 100 degrees from freezing point.

On many accounts the centigrade system is the best, and the triumph of convenience will be attained when zero is made the freezing point, and when the boiling point is put 100 or 1,000 degrees from it, and all the sub-divisions are fixed decimal.

If Fahrenheit had done this at first, or even if he had made it one of his many improvements after the public adopted his error, the luck of opportunity, which was really his, would have secured to his invention the patronage of the world.

—New York World.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Mexico has negotiated a \$2,000,000 loan.

Sueci is already showing the effect of his fast.

Gen. McKibben, U. S. A., died at Washington.

Shreveport, La., suffered a loss of \$300,000.

The government of Peru has imposed a tax on imported land.

Ex-Governor Gen. E. A. O'Neal of Alabama died at Montgomery.

San Francisco used 5,211,048 dozens of eggs during the past ten months.

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The Swiss undernash has refused to reply to the inquiry addressed to it by the University of Wisconsin asking how Europe would accept the complete prohibition of immigration similar to that enforced against the Chinese.

The Chattanooga, Tenn., Times states that H. Clay Evans, who was defeated for congress in that district, will succeed Secretary Tracy in President Harrison's cabinet. Mr. Tracy will be transferred to the supreme bench.

Archdean Farrar, who has been appointed chaplain of parliament, preached a sermon in Westminster Abbey in honor of Gen. Booth's scheme for the relief of London's submerged tenth. The Prince of Wales has also approved the scheme.

The total liability of the Union Pacific road to the government is \$31,717,562; that of the Central Pacific, \$38,326,765; that of the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad company, \$3,611,464, and that of the Central Branch of the Union Pacific, \$3,388,103.

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The treasury department has ruled that the provisions of the new tariff law for books and pamphlets specially imported for educational institutions is substantially the same as the old law, and provides that books are only exempt from duty when they are specially imported for use in colleges.

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The last of the inland furniture from A. T. Stewart's mansion was sold at auction in New York. It included bedsteads, bureaus and screens. The highest price received was \$300 for the Gen. Grant bedroom furniture. None of the other pieces, which originally cost from \$2,000 to \$3,000 each, brought more than \$200.

There has just been completed at the Pullman Car works, at Pullman, Ill., a novel creation, the only church on wheels in the world. It is constructed according to the ideas of Right Reverend William D. Walker, bishop of the diocese of North Dakota, and is intended for use in the small villages along the railroads in that section of the country.

Panama Hats. The best known palm leaf hats are the Panama ones, made from the finely plaited fiber of the leaves of a South American species of palm. The tree occurs only on the slopes of the Andes. About 300,000 dozens of these hats are made in Ecuador and different states of South America, and they are distributed from all others by consisting only of a single piece and by their lightness and flexibility. They may be rolled up and put in the pocket without injury. The plaiting in the hats is very tedious and troublesome. The coarse ones may be finished in two or three days, but the fine ones take as many months to plait. They vary in price, according to fineness and quality, from \$5 to \$100.

Bonoleuca was asked which he considered his best play. "The one I am going to write next," he said after a moment of profound thought.

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