

fices, surveyor's offices and vault and toilet rooms. On the upper floor are a law library room 22 x 34 feet, two witness rooms, court record vault, clerks' offices, and two court rooms, each 39x62 feet in size and each having a jury room, consultation room, judges' chambers and private office in connection with them.

The structure is thoroughly fire proof, its walls being masonry and its floors of steel and cement, sixty-eight tons of steel being used in constructing the floors and partitions. It is certainly a substantial and highly ornamental structure, and from the lofty position it occupies will challenge the attention and admiration of every traveler on Puget sound, even should he fail to stop in the city, which is something of which few travelers are guilty.

#### THE KICKING HORSE NATURAL BRIDGE.

ONE of the famous natural objects of America is the natural bridge of Virginia. Its outlines are familiar to every eye, as it forms one of every collection of engravings of American scenery and adorns a page in every school geography. Equally familiar is the story of the young man who sought to carve his name on its rocky walls higher than the name of any venturesome person who had preceded him, and who was saved from destruction by being drawn up to the top with a rope let down by those who had discovered his perilous position. It is certainly most picturesque and interesting because of the associations that cling about it, but the western portion of the continent contains many natural bridges, some of which far exceed that of Virginia in size and the elements of the picturesque. One such is becoming quite familiar to the tourists who visit the National Park of the Yellowstone, where it forms one of the numerous attractions of that region of marvels. A still larger and more picturesque object of this nature is the great natural bridge on Kicking Horse river, in British Columbia. The Canadian Pacific crosses the Rocky mountains by the Kicking Horse pass, ascending the Bow river from Calgary to the summit of the pass and then descending the Kicking Horse on the western slope to the Columbia.

Not far from the road is the wonderful natural bridge shown in the large two-page engraving in the center of this number. The river, which is a wild mountain torrent, has a considerable fall just before reaching the huge mass of rock through which it finds a passage, its pent-up waters boiling and surging through the narrow aperture with great force, while the sound of falling and dashing water constantly salutes the ear of the spectator. A glance at the engraving will show the peculiar rocky nature of the river's

banks at this point and convey a slight impression of what all who have seen it declare to be one of the most interesting, curious and picturesque scenes to be found in the Rocky mountains, that great region so abounding in natural wonders.

The *Chronicle* defends the action of the San Francisco chamber of commerce in withdrawing from the new Pacific coast organization on the ground that the interests of the city and other portions of the coast are not identical. Does the *Chronicle* mean to say that San Francisco considers herself in a position hostile to the Pacific coast generally, and that her prosperity is to be promoted by opposing the general good of all? Such seems to be the situation, and San Francisco will not gain much in friendship and commercial good will by taking such a selfish and unwise position. The hint that the movement is in the interest of the Central and Southern Pacific is hardly worthy of notice, as the *Chronicle* is a fanatic on that subject and may be indulged in a little canter with its pet hobby.

It is certainly to be regretted that Vice President Morton should feel so lightly the dignity of the position to which he was elevated by the American people as to embark in the hotel business, or any other for that matter, during his term of office, the more so that he is abundantly able to live in comfort and even luxury without the revenue to be derived from such a source. All good citizens of either party feel that the dignity of the office has been lowered. The absurd feature of the whole affair is the mock zeal for temperance and the crocodile tears of the democrats, who lift up their voices in unison with the ladies of the W. C. T. U. in expressions of horror. Politics develop funny situations sometimes.

A hint comes from Germany that she may seek to get a slice of Brazil, during the troublous times expected to follow the change in the form of government. It is possible that Germany has not fully digested the meaning of the pan-American congress now in session, but if not, her digestion will be aided by a few suggestions from various American governments when she attempts to put her hint into action.

The Federal Steel Co. has been incorporated as a gigantic trust of the wire, barbed wire and wire nail industries. This is the first time one of these robber combinations has had the candor to declare its object in its title. The Co-operative Highway Robbery & Burglary Association may be expected to put in an early appearance.