

The year eighteen hundred and seventy-one is now nearly ended. It has been an eventful year to the world. The unification of the German States, and the dethronement of Louis Napoleon and subjugation of the French Empire by German arms, and the subsequent establishment of the French Republic; the passing away of the temporal power of the Pope as a consequence of the destruction of the Napoleonic dynasty; the transfer of the seat of the Italian Government to Rome, by the King of Italy, and the opening of the Imperial City to the missionary enterprises of the world as a consequence; the general spread of Republican ideas among the masses of the people, elevating them to higher planes of intelligence and political action, are among the most noteworthy political events which have transpired in Europe. In Asia, signs of increased activity have been shown in the direction of attaining to a higher degree of civilization. The Japanese and Chinese are awakening from their sleep of thousands of years, and calling for American railroads, and telegraphs, and machinery, and national banking systems, for the purpose of facilitating their growth, intelligence and prosperity. States of South America have been disturbed by wars, and Cuba and Mexico now groan beneath the scourings of belligerent hosts. While Europe has trembled beneath the shock of bloody battles, and marshalling armies; and Asia has sickened in the atmosphere of a most terrible pestilence and famine; and South America, and Mexico, and Cuba, have run riot with anarchy and blood, and the oceans have engulfed whole fleets beneath their tempest-tossed waves, our own beloved country has passed through a most varied experience of lights and shadows. While she has been exempt from the ravages of war, and general prosperity has crowned the labors of the husbandman and the artisan, and average good health has been enjoyed by the masses of the people, the East and the South have been washed by floods, and withered by pestilence, and the West has experienced horrors from the ravages of fire, the most terrible on record among the world's chronicles of disasters. Politically, our country has prospered in a remarkable degree. The expenses of administering the Government have been largely diminished; the public debt, has been greatly decreased; the legislation has been wise, and the enforcement of the laws, in the main, fair and judicious; the Alabama claims have been equitably adjusted, and peace and good will now exist between the United States and all the important foreign powers. While the general affairs of our Government have thus prospered, we have not been without internal evils. Exposures of corruption, and fraud, and crime, have been most gigantic in the aggregate. While a carnival of petit larcenies, thefts, murders, defalcations, forgeries, abortions, divorces and other evils have run riot throughout our land, the year has witnessed the exposure of a Ring at New York, whose relation to the Democratic party, and the enormous amounts which it stole from the city, render it one of the most astounding instances of baseness and corruption the world has ever seen. The exposure of these frauds, however, and a general demand for the punishment of the criminals, is a healthy indication of the year. In the contest of parties, the Republican party has gained most signal triumphs. Of elections held in twenty-two States, all but seven of them have gone largely Republican. While the Republican party, in spite of the machinations of "sore-heads" and traitors

in the ranks, and the most strenuous efforts of the opposition, has maintained her principles and integrity intact, and has gone on from a fair and open contest to a most glorious victory, the Democratic party has drifted at the mercy of counter currents of opinion, and without any centralization, or head, or settled opinions, has degenerated into a state of vituperative and snarling imbecility. The dawning of the year eighteen hundred and seventy-two, while it is bright with omens of promise to the Republican party, must appear very dark and gloomy to the Democratic.

It is probable that the recently imported Van Cleve, editor of the Albany Register, is a good preacher. If so, a good preacher has been spoiled to make a miserable editor.—Eugene City Guard.

The Bedrock Democrat not long since tried to be facetious at our expense, reading us a homily on what constitutes a true call to the ministry, and advising us to go back into it and "not preach politics." The Democrat thought that our article on the Swamp Land Swindle, etc., was a strong indication that we were not cut out for the editorial-tripod. Now the Guard, published at Eugene, gets off the above extremely personal criticism on our editorial ability. How mortifying to our ambition to be thus invidiously held in the balances of criticism by the editors of these journals! It is true they publish little third or fourth rate country newspapers, and their professional reputations have never extended a great way beyond their small circle of readers—not quite to the moon yet, we guess—and they are both Democrats, which is certainly no great evidence of wisdom or stability, only a strong indication of "possum" ability, which means anything or nothing, this or thus, lean meat or all grease, just as they choose to interpret it, or as the Missouri Republican does it for them; but although these editors, of so little renown, do appear at a disadvantage in the garb of critics, presenting more the appearance of inflated windbags than anything else, and are not worth a moment's uneasiness in that role, yet one likes to be thought well of even by egotistical third or fourth rate Democratic country editors. Everybody knows that even the kick of a goat hurts, and the braying of long-eared animals will keep any kind of a man awake. Bray on, little fellows.

ANOTHER ENOCH ARDEN IN POLK COUNTY.—The Salem Statesman has found in Polk county an Enoch Arden case. A couple married, quarreled, parted—the husband going East. A year elapsed, and a letter came to the wife. It said her husband was dead. She met another male destiny and married him. Soon after her first husband came along, some person having told a lie about his being dead. Agitation, trouble. The second husband returned the lady to her father. She immediately applied for a divorce from husband number one—was granted at the next session of court. She then prepared another marriage, with number two, and with "hearts full of glee," no doubt, they were re-"joined," and like the Democratic party, are now in favor of being "passive."

WARM TIMES COMING.—The Republican State Central Committee is called upon to meet at Salem on Thursday, February 1st, 1872. The Democratic State Central Committee is called to meet in Portland on the 8th day of January, 1872. This indicates that the political cauldron will soon be boiling.

GOOD FOR BROWN.—Beriah Brown, of the Seattle Dispatch, says of the newly appointed Attorney General: We are very glad of the appointment of Geo. H. Williams, of Oregon, as Attorney General of the United States. President Grant has strengthened his Cabinet by the appointment, and it is particularly grateful to the people of this coast.

The Salem Mercury will don its new dress next week.

Meeting of the Republican State Central Committee.

There will be a meeting of the Republican State Central Committee of Oregon, at Salem, on the 1st day of February, 1872, for the purpose of fixing the time and place of holding the next State Convention, and transacting other business. The personal attendance of each member of the Committee is requested.

T. B. ODENEAL, Ch.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

C. M. Foster..... Baker.
F. O. McCown..... Clackamas.
James Welch..... Clatsop.
Denn Blanchard..... Columbia.
S. S. Mann..... Coos.
T. W. Crooks..... Curry.
David Bushey..... Douglas.
W. M. Wilson..... Grant.
W. M. Turner..... Jackson.
W. M. Gibbons..... Josephine.
John Barrows..... Lane.
W. H. Hales..... Linn.
T. W. Davidson..... Marion.
C. P. Crandall..... Multnomah.
B. F. Nichols..... Polk.
J. C. Franklin..... Umatilla.
W. J. Snodgrass..... Union.
T. B. Cornelius..... Washington.
Z. F. Moody..... Wasco.
J. W. Watts..... Yamhill.
T. B. Odeneal..... Benton.
Deceased!

POORLY PROVIDED FOR.—It is announced that the Prince of Wales has only thirty-two dollars to look after him during his illness! No wonder his recovery is deemed miraculous.

A barkeeper in a Philadelphia saloon, not long since a boot-black of New York, has fallen heir to \$23,922 by the death of his Grandmother, in Ireland.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The Commissioners of Arbitration on the Alabama Claims met at Geneva, on the 18th inst., chose Count Sclopis, Italian, President, and then adjourned until January 15th.

Republicans of the Left, and Union Republicans, held meetings in Paris on the 17th inst., in opposition to the entry of the Orleans Princes into the Assembly. Gambetta was the chief speaker of the meeting of the latter.

The London Times denies that Prince Deruss was assaulted by the Prussian representative at St. Petersburg. It also approves of President Grant's proposition for incorporating the telegraph with the Postal Department, the establishment of postal saving banks, and for the modification of the civil service for reform.

Bleggs, the groom of the Prince of Wales, died on the 18th inst., of typhoid fever, contracted about the same time with the Prince.

In Japan the Buddhist temples have been closed, and the priests have received orders either to join the army or become farm laborers—in fact, to work for an honest livelihood. Nor is the sweeping hand of reform stayed here. All officials are forbidden to squat on mats in public, but hereafter are required to furnish at least two rooms in European style, and adopt the foreign dress at an early date. Their efforts are certainly worthy of our warmest sympathy.

The Japanese mint is now issuing coins identical in shape, size and value with those of the United States.

Letters mailed in the U. S. for France, if prepaid ten cents and marked on envelope "via London" reach their destination without extra charge; the single rate to France is one-third of an ounce.

The British flag was lowered from the citadel of Quebec on the 8th of Nov., and the "Gibraltar of America" is handed over to the care of the Dominion of Canada.

A Cape newspaper states that the discoveries at the diamond fields are on the increase, and estimates their value at not less than \$5,000 a day, or £1,500,000 a year.

Coal has been discovered in the island of Andoe, off the coast of Norway, province of Nordland.

The Princess Thyra of Denmark, to whom the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia is engaged to be married, is a blond with very light hair, exceedingly regular features, and high forehead, indicating considerable intellectual capacity. The young Princess is an even better linguist than her future husband, she being

familiar with no less than six languages.

The Sultan is in sore trouble on account of the undutiful conduct of his only son. The lad recently ran away to Tunis, and refused to return to Constantinople until his father had promised to pay his debts.

The Sultan, on the occasion of his birthday, has granted an amnesty to all Turkish subjects who have been banished for political offenses.

Another link has been added to the telegraphic girdle that one day will completely surround the globe. A cable has been successfully laid from Batavia, Java, to Port Darwin, Australia, and in a few days the tariff of messages from New York to Australia will be announced.

Gambling has been prohibited by law in the German Empire.

T. Berthiaume, of the Montreal *Minerve*, set 2,794 "ems" in two hours, and won the silver smoking stick offered to the champion type setter of the Dominion.

EASTERN NEWS.

The Fourth National Bank of Philadelphia has suspended and its affairs are being wound up.

Battler of Massachusetts has introduced a resolution in Congress declaring the right of women to vote under the Fourteenth Amendment.

The last Tammany thief exposed is Starkweather, Collector of Assessments, who has pocketed \$500,000 in four years. He was appointed by Tweed in 1867.

Stevenson of Ohio has introduced in Congress a bill to prevent the appointment of dishonest and incompetent Government officials, making the officers appointing and the members of Congress recommending them responsible for their misconduct.

The Brooklynites fear that the small pox has become as prevalent there as it has in Philadelphia. The disease is spreading in Jersey City, Hoboken, Newark and Trenton, and special hospitals for patients are being assigned in those places.

Thos. McCreery, late United States Senator from Kentucky, has been re-elected to that position to succeed garrulous Garrett Davis, whose term will soon expire.

Blair of Michigan has introduced in Congress a bill to legalize polygamous marriages in Utah, and dismiss all the criminal proceedings instituted against the polygamists. The house adopted a resolution directing a committee to inquire into the whole subject connected with Utah, and fix a day for a general debate.

A bill has been introduced in Congress which incorporates John P. Miller, William G. Fargo, Paul Shafford, Percy McDowell and others, as Commissioners of two ocean telegraphs, one from the western coast of the United States to China and Japan, and the other from the Atlantic coast to Europe by way of the Bermudas and the Azores, or by any other way that may be approved by the President. The stock of the Atlantic company is fixed at \$12,000,000, and the Pacific at \$8,000,000.

The Salt Lake *Review* (Gentile) has this paragraph: The Mormon leaders want Utah admitted as a State. We have no desire, under the present unsettled state of affairs, Utah needs considerable reconstruction before it should take its place as a State. The Ku Klux of the South are good citizens compared with the lawless leaders of the Priesthood in this country. Their antagonism to our laws and free institutions is too apparent, both by words and deeds, to be misconstrued. First let them learn the duty of loyal citizens, and then it will be time enough to admit them as a State.

Cameron is the oldest Senator, and Spencer, of Alabama, the youngest.

In Taunton, Mass., a man was fined six dollars for spitting on a church carpet.

MORTALITY AMONG MORMON CHILDREN.—The mortality among Mormon children is said to be very great. Of sixty deaths in Salt Lake City in one month, forty-four were children. Heber Kimball is reported to have buried forty-eight children out of sixty-three in his family. One Bishop had lost twenty children; another twenty-eight; another seventeen. It seems they do not properly care for their progeny.

Five persons in each house is the average in Great Britain. In New York City the average is twenty-one.

POLITICAL.

The Cincinnati *Enquirer* is indignant because the Republicans do not appear to be willing to meet the Democracy half way in the organization of a new party.

"Sunset" Cox, in reply to a question touching the future policy of the Democratic party, says that he is still for the "new departure," the result of the late elections not having shaken his faith in it, as he is sorry to see they have that of some of the leading men of the party. It was no easy matter for the Democrats to break away from the traditions of years, but they will have to come to it in the end, and he is in favor of anything that will take them out of the ruts and put them en rapport with the spirit of the times.

Gov. Grover is known to have remarked a full year ago that he had ascertained that Sara May was a defaulter. When asked why he didn't press the matter and try to recover the money for the State, he answered that his policy was to postpone action so as to have some capital for the next political campaign, then nearly two years distant. If he should take action at once, May would be caught, the money would be recovered from the sureties and the whole affair would be wound up long before the election would come on. And then his party, which is very scarce of principles, would have nothing to work upon.—*Oregonian*.

WHAT U. S. GRANT HAS SETTLED:

- First of all, the rebellion.
- Second, the fate of the Democratic party for some years to come.
- Third, the Alabama claims.
- Fourth, General Butler's fishery war.
- Fifth, that we can pay the national debt.
- Sixth, that we can and must have an honest government.
- Seventh, that Ku-Kluxism must be put down.
- Eighth, that Polygamy must disappear.
- Ninth, that law and order must be maintained.
- Tenth, the Indian question.
- Eleventh, the reform of the civil service.
- Twelfth, that the Republican party cannot be broken up by Mr. Schurz.
- Thirteenth, the next Presidency.

The New York *Tribune*, after reviewing all the Cataceay correspondence, believes that the charges made against him are sustained.

THREE NEW STATES.—Colorado, New Mexico and Utah will, says the *Bulletin*, during the present session of Congress, apply for admission as States into the Federal Union. Each of them has now the requisite population. Colorado failed three years ago to be admitted on account of the small number of actual inhabitants. No formidable objections are now anticipated to the admission of Colorado and New Mexico. But before Utah is admitted, the question of polygamy must be settled. A polygamist State will never be recognized. If Utah were to incorporate a provision into its constitution forbidding forever afterwards polygamic marriages, and disposing equitably of such cases as have already occurred, the way would be reasonably clear for admission. The "Gentile" element will very soon outnumber the Mormons, and would control the Legislature of the State. There is also a project to establish another Territory, to be called Rembina, and to include the rich agricultural valleys of Northern Dakota.

JUDGE WILLIAMS.—The New York *Tribune*, of the 7th inst., said of ex-Senator Williams.

His appointment to the position of Attorney-General would be highly creditable to the Administration. Mr. Williams, as Senator and jurist, has achieved a wide and enviable reputation. His judgment is singularly cool and dispassionate, and his mental powers are vigorous and admirably trained. Few men in the country possess in so eminent a degree all the qualifications for the office in connection with which the name of Judge Williams has been mentioned.

Bragging on the Olden Time.

Some one having been telling of "Mr. Lodez," in London, who died lately, leaving a fortune of \$75,000,000, and of the marble monument of the Rhode Island Sprigues, which is to cost \$100,000, and of the wondrous wealth and profusion of Tweed and Stewart, and other shoddy magnates and millionaires, the Richmond *Enquirer* tells us how people had big fortunes, and built fine houses, and gave fine dinners, and drank fine wines, and spent money in fine ways, in the olden times ere Lodez

were, or Stewart named. Thus it is that the *Enquirer* takes the shine out of the Nineteenth century:

Why, what is Tweed, or Stewart, or Mr. Lodez, or Belmont, or the Rothschilds, or the Marquis of Westminster, or Ptolemy Philadelphus, of Egypt, who amassed a little property of \$860,000,000. And which of our extravagant young ladies, in these boasted times, ever gave her lover, as Cleopatra did, a pearl, dissolved in vinegar (or milder-soured) worth \$400,000? That's half the expense of Miss Tweed's wedding at a dash, and would dress one of our Washington or Baltimore belles for forty years. Then there was Paulina, one of the ton in Rome, who used to wear jewels when she returned her visits, worth \$800,000. Well, they boast of Mr. Stewart's "marble palace" upon 34th street and Fifth avenue. We do not suppose this house, which is about the best they have in New York, cost more than half-a-million dollars. Well, Cicero, who was a poor man, gave \$150,000 for his house, and Cicius paid \$650,000 for his establishment on the Palatine; while Messala gave \$2,000,000 for the house of Antony. Seneca—who was just a plain philosopher like Mr. Greeley—was worth \$12,000,000 or \$13,000,000. Tiberius left a property of nearly \$120,000,000. Why, they talk about a man's falling in New York for a million as if it was a big thing. Caesar, before he entered on any office—when he was a young gentleman in private life—owned \$13,000,000, and he purchased the friendship of Quosor for \$2,500,000. Mark Antony owned a million and a half on the Isles of March, and he paid it before the Kalends of April. This was nothing—he squandered \$720,000,000 of the public money—Major Lodge's declaration being for the contemptible sum of \$450,000.

And these fellows lived well. Escopus, who was a play-actor, paid \$400,000 for a single dish. Calgulla spent \$400,000 on a supper. Their wines were often kept for two ages, and some of them sold for \$20 an ounce. They roasted hogs at their banquets. They were fond of ram's-head pie, and nasty stuffs with nuts and raisins. Dishes were made with gold and silver, set with precious stones. The beds of Heribogabatus were of solid silver, his tables and plates of pure gold, and his mattresses, covered with carpets of cloth of gold, were stuffed with down from under the wing of the partridge.

It took \$80,000 a year to keep up the dignity of a Roman Senator—and some of them spent \$5,000,000 a year. Cicero and Pompey "dropped in" one day at Lucullus'—nobody at home but the family—and that family dinner cost over \$4,000.

But we talk about population. We boast of London and New York. Rome had a population of between three and four millions. The wooden theatre of Scourus contained eighty thousand seats; the coliseum, built of stone, would seat 87,000, and afforded standing space for 22,000 more. The Circus Maximus (think of it, Old John Brisson!) would hold 335,000 spectators. There was in the city 9,000 public baths—those of Diocletian alone accommodating 3,200 bathers. Even in the sixth century, after Rome had been sacked and plundered by the Goths and Vandals, Zachariah, a traveler, asserts that there were three hundred and eighty-four spacious streets; eight golden statues of the gods; forty-six thousand and three hundred houses; seventeen thousand and ninety-seven palaces; thirteen thousand and fifty-two fountains; three thousand seven hundred and eighty-five bronze statues of the emperors and generals; twenty-two great herms in bronze; two colossal; two spiral columns; thirty-one theatres; eleven amphitheatres; nine thousand and twenty-six baths; two thousand three hundred shops of perfumers; two thousand and ninety-one prisons.

As a set-off to Mr. Sprague's "monumental tombstone," we may merely mention the Mausoleum of Augustus in the northern part of the Campus Martius, consisting of a large column of earth, raised on a lofty basement of white marble, and covered on the summit with evergreens in the manner of a hanging-garden—the whole surmounted by a bronze statue of Augustus. At the entrance were two Egyptian obelisks, fifty feet high, and all around was an extensive grove divided into walks and terraces.

We have not space to speak of the Forum Bonianum, the Forum Julium, the Theatre of Pompey, the Temple of Apollo, the Theatre of Marcellus, the Pantheon, the Palace of Nero, (entirely overlaid with gold and adorned with jewels and mother-of-pearl), the Claudian Aqueduct, the Flavian Amphitheater, the Coliseum, the Arch of Titus, the Villa of Hadrian, the Baths of Caracalla—nor the great Roman roads, straight as an arrow, paved like the streets of a city divided by mile-stones, and having houses for travelers every five or six miles—affording uninterrupted communication from the Wall of Antoninus through York, London, Sandwich, Boulogne, Rheims, Lyons, Milan, Rome, Brundisium, Dyrrachium, Byzantium, Ancyra, Tarsus, Antioch, Tyre, Jerusalem—a distance of 3,740 miles.

Nor have we space to refer to Thebes in Egypt (which had a population of 2,500,000), and that noble palace with its grand colonnades, whose cornice were inlaid with ivory mouldings, or sheathed with beaten gold—nor Alexandria, whose annual port dues were \$5,000,000 and whose library, in an age when books were rare, contained 700,000 volumes—nor to Capua, the second city of Italy—nor to Rhodes and its 3,000 statues, and 103 colossal. (one of them, one of the seven wonders of the world, costing \$3,000,000)—nor to Antioch, with a street four miles long, perfectly level, and double colonnades through its whole length—nor to Athens; and the Parthenon, and the Theatre of Bacchus, the most beautiful in the world, seated 30,000 persons—nor to Corinth and its pictures—nor to Syracuse, and its fortress, one mile long by half a mile in breadth—nor to Tyre, and Carthage, and Babylon, and Bagdad, and Memphis, and Plesus, and Byzantium, and a hundred more.

The Chief Engineer's estimates are \$9,930,200 river and harbor improvement for the next fiscal year.