

Grant not Sincere.

Party zeal and prejudice are just now prompting some of our Democratic editors to commit injustice in charging President Grant with being insincere in his advocacy of the civil reform. They do not bring any positive or substantial testimony to convict the President, of course, for such evidence cannot be adduced; but they try to prove by inference or conjecture, that he is dishonest and hypocritical. Efforts to do this in other directions have been attempted for the past two years; but have most signally failed, from the simple fact that President Grant, with all of his imperfections and failings, is strictly honest in his efforts to administer the Government, and such is the estimate in which he is held by the people. It will not be forgotten that in his first message he gave some intimation of the evils, tending towards corruption, which were the concomitants of the practice of the civil service, and expressed his formal opposition to the practical operations of the system. He is the only President who has earnestly presented in his message the importance of a reform in the civil service. If he were acting insincere in this matter, why has he in so many instances ignored the wishes of the party in appointing men to positions, and in other cases retained men in power whom the party would have turned out? He answers this question in his first message where he says: "There has been no hesitation in changing officials in order to secure an efficient execution of the laws; sometimes, too, when, in a mere party view, undesirable political results were likely to follow. Nor has there been any hesitation in retaining efficient officials against remonstrance wholly political." This has been the spirit which has influenced President Grant from the first—an honest desire to promote the welfare and happiness of the nation, by placing and retaining good men in office. President Grant has shown no inclination to play the hypocrite, or demagogue, but on the contrary, in this civil service matter, especially, has he shown an earnestness and sincerity worthy of the highest commendation.

Schurz in his True Character.

The New York Times is on the track of Carl Schurz. Its detestation of crime and hypocrisy is only equalled by its fearless energy and success in unraveling them. Senator Schurz places himself in the van as a civil service reformer. He charges, if not directly, by implication, at least, that the President has been guilty of mismanagement; but the Times steps in and shows that Senator Schurz is unfit, from a moral and consistent standpoint, to utter any criticism under that head, as he has done more to bring about corruption in the civil service than any other Senator, unless it be Fenton. In the State Department, Schurz has recommended over thirty persons to office; in the Interior Department he has recommended over thirty-six, of whom twelve were appointed, and nine are now in office—three having been removed or resigned. One of these was dismissed for drunkenness. Schurz in all candid assured the Senate that he did not personally interest himself in obtaining the appointment of his brother-in-law, Jussen, to office. The Times says that he did, and proves it by saying that Schurz personally urged this appointment upon the Secretary of the Treasury and also the Secretary of the Interior, besides "indorsing" Jussen's paper. The Times has begun to pick the feathers of deception and hypocrisy from Senator Schurz, and the chances are that this Teutonic game cock will have his bare-bones of depravity pretty thoroughly exposed before the investigation ends.

A Short Platform.

The Salem Mercury heads an article with, "Give us a short platform." That nervous journal don't want "a long, loose string of magniloquent, flabby resolutions," (as we infer has been the case in the past,) but wants them "expressed in a few plain English words," (wants to play "honest Injin" now.) It doesn't care about the resolutions being "original," (joke) but wants those which have the "line of age" upon them. We suggest to the Mercury that the war of the Rebellion destroyed the oldest plank in the Democratic platform—slavery. The "line of age" not only identified that plank, but the line of human gore, which was shed to perpetuate and extend its heartless and tyrannical power. After the destruction of that plank, opposition to the Reconstruction measures and general policy of the Republican party was the Democratic platform, until the "new departure" was taken, and then opposition to Gen. Grant was all that was left. We think we can suggest to the Mercury a "short" platform, which will embody all the principles of modern Democracy. It is this: Resolved, first, last and all the time, that we do all we can, fair and foul, to beat Gen. Grant for the next Presidency.

A Democratic Leader's Letter.

There is a leading Democrat in the State of Iowa, who is known by the appellation of the Hon. Geo. H. Parker. He has been connected with the Democratic family for over twenty years. His intelligence is undoubted, and his influence in the party has been considerable. Not long since this gentleman wrote a letter to the Chicago Times, in which he declared that the Democratic party had outlived its usefulness, and was in favor of burying the putrid remains of the defunct organization. We think he takes a very correct view of the aspect now presented by the Democratic organization, and we commend the proposition that "the body must be buried, and the stench of its putrid remains be removed from the public nostrils," to the Oregon Democracy, and hope they will acquiesce. Here is the letter:

"Having faithfully served as a member of the Democratic organization for over twenty years, and still having the fullest confidence in the cardinal principles of the party, I am impelled to declare my conviction that the organization has outlived its usefulness, and that it is the duty of Democrats to acknowledge that the Democratic party is dead. All efforts at departure or to galvanize it into life have proved a failure. The prestige of its general policy, or rather a lack of policy, during the war, will cling to it and prevent its success, no matter how much we may become purified by a change of heart. The result of the recent elections is sufficient proof of this fact. We can organize by forming some integral part of a new party, and probably resurrect our principles. But the body must be buried, and the stench of its putrid remains removed from the public nostrils. The present is the proper emergency to test the patriotism of the members of the Democratic party. If we love our country better than we do our party, and abandon the organization and unite with patriots, disregarding political antecedents, we may reasonably hope for a change of administration in 1872, that will protect and guarantee equal rights to all sections of our common country; centralized power will vanish; the war will soon be forgotten, and our country again be peaceful, prosperous and happy.

(Signed) GEO. H. PARKER.

Constitution Protectors.

The Salem Mercury says that "for more than half a century Democracy has been the true and faithful companion and body-guard of the Constitution." These Democrats seem to forget that it wasn't but a few years ago that they were defending that Constitution so valiantly, as to be trying to "destroy it." Body-guard of the Constitution! Heaven deliver the Constitution from any more such body-guards.

Senator Schurz says he will bolt if Grant is renominated.

Olive Logan Gives up Woman Suffrage.

Olive Logan, one of the most eminent and successful female advocates of woman's suffrage, has become disgusted with the measure on account of the repulsive features which have become a part of it, and has renounced the whole thing in toto. Here is what she says in a letter to the New York Tribune:

"The subject of woman's enfranchisement has become so loaded with obnoxious features that what once seemed a fair protest against tyranny and taxation without representation is now becoming a nuisance to audiences. It is also becoming a nuisance to me, and I have resolved to confine myself in the future to that line of remarks which has done more towards winning me such fame and fortune as I possess than anything I have said about suffrage. Unclean hands have been laid upon it; let it go."

The New York police estimate that on an average, fully 500 persons—men, women, and children—go into the streets every pleasant day with the intention of stealing anything they can with safety lay their hands on. These marauders particularly infest the hotels, public offices and crowded shops, and carry off whatever they can steal, from a bundle of dry goods, an umbrella, or a cane to a sheet of paper or a daily newspaper. Many of them are well dressed, have good manners, and would never be suspected by the uninitiated.—N. Y. Observer.

EASTERN NEWS.

A project to sell the desert portion of Texas to the United States for an Indian reservation at fifty cents an acre, is mooted.

William F. Weld, of Boston, is reported to be the wealthiest man in Massachusetts. He is about 70 years old, and is worth about \$18,000,000.

Gov. Washburn of Massachusetts recommends that women be allowed to vote in that State upon the liquor question.

James F. Legate was confirmed Governor of Washington Territory by the Senate on the 26th inst.

As Helen Josephine Mansfield arrived in Boston on the 26th, she was followed by some young men, who hooted and jostled her into the depot, where the hackmen and railroad officers had to rescue her, put her in a carriage and drive her away.

George Boots was hanged in Newark, N. J., on the 25th inst. He seemed to die without pain.

Geo. W. Watson of Williamsburg, New York, was shot dead in his own establishment, on the 25th, by Mrs. Fanny Hyde, aged eighteen years, who says that he has been in the habit of insulting and accusing her of unfaithfulness to her husband.

George Ryder, a prominent young man of Chicago, died last week of hydrophobia, who had never been bitten by a dog rabid or otherwise.

The Grand Jury of the Chicago Criminal Court which adjourned on the 25th inst., found an indictment for bribery against eleven Aldermen and ex-Aldermen, and an indictment against Klemtech, the West Side Tax Collector, for swindling.

The Missouri Democrat favors the nomination of James G. Blaine, Speaker of the House of Representatives, for Vice President on the Republican ticket.

The Congressional Special Committee to investigate Louisiana troubles left for New Orleans on the 24th.

A special from Columbia states that Byas, a colored member of the Legislature, attempted to cowhide Tomlinson, a correspondent of the Charleston News, for something he had written, when Tomlinson shot his assailant, whose recovery is believed to be impossible.

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate on the 24th inst: Edward P. Johnson, U. S. Attorney for Wyoming; Addison C. Gitts, U. S. Attorney for Oregon.

Mrs. Conway is the contractor to build a section of the Western Maryland Railroad.

PACIFIC COAST NEWS.

Land-jumping is becoming fashionable in Los Angeles, Cal. Sacramento shipped 795,839 pounds of wool last year.

The Nevada City Post office received \$24,242 20 for money orders during 1871.

Thirty-three marriage licenses were issued in San Francisco in one week recently.

People of Washington county are excited about the Portland plank road.

In 1870 there were 4,427 persons in Oregon over ten years of age who could not read or write. 1,685 citizens over twenty-one are illiterate.

A recent survey shows that California lacks some 22,000,000 acres of being as large as she has heretofore thought herself.

Willamette University, professors, tutors and pupils to the number of two hundred, went skating in a body on Wednesday of last week.

Money orders amounting to \$15,410, 55 were issued at the Jacksonville Post office last year.

It is reported that Upton, late of the Salem Mercury, who has started some half dozen papers, more or less, in the Willamette valley, is now going to Grand Ronde, Union county, to start another.

Collections of Internal Revenue in Oregon for the year ending June 30, 1871, were \$151,432 32. The cost of assessment was \$11,301 31; of collections, \$8,209 10. Total cost of assessing and collecting, \$19,000 41.

The Jacksonville Times (Dem.) makes fun of Gov. Grover's "Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary," as the Times calls him, to Washington. Quite a number of journals are desirous of knowing whether the State foots Mr. Gilroy's expenses.

John C. Hileman has been confirmed Register of the Land Office at Vancouver.

Seattle is pronounced the liveliest town on the Sound, in thrift and growth.

On the 15th inst., William Garman shot a man named Farmer dead in a saloon at Whatcom, Bellingham Bay. Lipnor was the cause.

The ship Elizabeth Kimball made the run recently, between San Francisco and Port Madison, Puget Sound, in four days and seven hours—the shortest time by two days ever known.

A postoffice has been established at Woodburn, Marion county, A. Mathiot, Postmaster.

Washington county farmers say that wheat is badly damaged by the freezing weather.

Olives are ripening in Santa Barbara, Cal., has four daily newspapers.

A valuable deposit of plumbago has been found near Visalia, Cal.

Santa Clara county, Cal., produced 25,000 gallons of wine last year.

The average depth of the snow on the summit of the Sierra Nevada, where the railroad crosses, is about eight feet.

Ripe strawberries were presented to the editor of the Los Angeles, Cal., News, on the 22d ult.

During the late storms the loss of cattle in Texas is said to have been enormous. Hundreds of them froze to death huddled together in ravines. It is thought that of those in the western part of the State which survived the storm, the majority will be totally lost before spring.

Senator Wilson's friends at Washington are reported enraged against Colfax and Blaine; against the first for insincerity, and the second for playing into Colfax's hands.

The new Roman Catholic Mission to the Southern colored people will have its headquarters at Baltimore.

LINCOLN'S APPREHENSIONS.—In a late copy of the Philadelphia Press we find this:

In a recent conversation respecting Abraham Lincoln, Dr. Draper stated that shortly before the assassination of the President he said: "I do not think I shall live to see the end of my term. I try to shake off the vision, but it still keeps haunting me." He began to receive threatening letters soon after his nomination. He kept them by themselves, labelled "Letters on Assassination." After his death one was found among them connected with the plot which had succeeded.

A STRANGE CASE.—Mr. E. Chambers, a station agent at the Millford branch of the Boston and Maine Railroad, died a few days since from the bite of his little daughter, a mere child. She had been suffering a short time with diphtheria, and the father for some reason not stated, put his hand in her mouth; which she seized and bit with just force enough to break the skin. The virus from the child's teeth penetrated the wound and was diffused through the system. After a week's illness, during which time the body of Mr. Chambers became much swollen, he died.

What is the prevailing vice and desire of bald men? To put on 'air.

Oregon's Legal Rights as to Swamp Lands.

The Herald is constantly asserting that the State will realize a million dollars out of swamp lands, if the efforts of the OREGONIAN and its party confederates "to defeat the measure by not successful." The OREGONIAN and its party confederates "are powerless to defeat any just and legal rights which the State may have in swamp lands, and would not defeat those if they could. Those rights are of a character which the courts will enforce, and the State cannot be deprived of any lands to which it is legally entitled. But the OREGONIAN trusts that it and its "confederates" will be able to defeat a great scheme of public robbery. Like those which have been practiced in other States under this swamp land act, whereby vast areas of lands not swamp and overflowed have passed into the hands of speculators to the detriment of the State respectively. This is the scheme which the Herald fears we will defeat. Here is the rub. It knows that nobody can deprive the State of the lands actually granted by the act of Congress, because the Courts will enforce the legal rights of the State or of claimants under its authority. All this talk, therefore, about defeating the just claims of the State is moonshine. The fear is that claims not just may be defeated. Oregon contains a small proportion of lands of really a swampy character. Perhaps no State in the Union contains a proportion so small. They who want to create a belief that there are one million acres of swamp lands in the State are pursuing a deep game. One million acres would make about 1,600 square miles, or one-sixtieth of the area of the State. Take the State through, and one square mile in sixty is not swamp or overflowed. The proportion of sodden lands is not nearly so high. Behind the attempt to create an impression that it is, there must be some design of a questionable sort which, at least, it will do no harm to watch vigilantly.—Oregonian.

ALEXIS INQUIRING ABOUT OUR WORKINGMEN.

During the Grand Duke Alexis' walks through the Bridgeport cartridge factory the other day, he pointed to several workmen and inquired of Gov. Jewell, "Are these men what you call the common people?" The Governor replied that they were a fair specimen of the working classes in this country. "But do you mean to say that these get into official positions?" further asked the imperial son. "Perhaps any of these men," rejoined Governor Jewell, "but men of their class do; they are educated men, most of them—that is, they can all read and write and most of them take and read the newspapers." "Do you know of any cases where such men have actually been elected to office?" again queried the curious Alexis. "Oh, certainly," the Governor said; "I myself worked in the shop as a tanner till I was twenty years of age," and the announcement seemed to puzzle the Duke a good deal. Here was the Governor of a State, as well dressed and as well appearing as himself, who had actually worked in a shop, and this man was welcoming him in behalf of a hundred thousand voters; it was more of an enigma than the boy had ciphered on previously; but as he goes through the country he will ascertain, upon inquiring, that many of the public men here have come direct from the workshop. In Massachusetts, where he is now visiting, Governor Claflin was a shoemaker, Senator Wilson was a cobbler also, and General Banks was a machinist. In every State just such self-made men can be found. They fill the highest places. President Grant was a tanner, and Vice President Colfax a printer. President Lincoln split rails for a living. There is no end to these examples of promotion. And the Duke may, if he chooses, gather facts enough to make a very interesting narrative, showing the beautiful working of a Republican system of government, to be recited to his most august parent, when the old gentleman shall ask him on his return to sum up the experiences of his journey.—Hartford Courant.

An unprecedented case of somnambulism occurred a few nights ago in New Haven, the subject being a little child three years old that went out in a storm twice in a single evening to meet its parents, and was brought back each time and put to bed without being awakened. A child of this sort must be an unhandy bit of furniture to have about a house.

A flash of lightning rushes through space at such a rate that it might go from the earth to the moon in one second. Consequently no time is allowed a man's nerves to transmit to the brain the impression of a stroke of lightning, and what time has the brain to understand such a crash? Absolutely none! The flash occurs, and in silence and darkness a life is cut off.

A speculative traveler, telling how his own beard, silky in London, became curly in Africa, declares that such being the case temporarily with his hair, he believes that the atmosphere alone is responsible for the curly locks of Ethiopia.

It is said that an effort will be made to license gambling-houses. If gambling is right and proper, why interfere with it, and if wrong, why license it?

In Paris the call of a new acquaintance must be returned within three days.

Railroad from Portland to Salt Lake City.

Senator Corbett has introduced a bill granting twenty sections of land per mile to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from Portland, by way of Dalles City, to some suitable point on the Union Pacific or Central Railroad, in the vicinity of Salt Lake, not further east than Green river, with a branch from a suitable point west of the Blue Mountains to Walla Walla Valley. The Company is named as having been organized under the laws of Oregon, on the 20th of March, 1871. The bill contains a proviso that the lands granted to the Company shall be sold by the United States only to actual settlers, as other lands, by settlement and preemption, at the price of \$2 50 per acre. It is required that work on the road shall be commenced within one year from the approval of the Act; that twenty miles shall be constructed yearly, and that the whole line shall be completed by July 4, 1878. A very good provision is added, that the Company in laying off towns at any of the stations, shall donate to the proper authorities at least two blocks for the location and use of free schools. In presenting a corroborative measure of Henry Failing, W. S. Ladd, L. White & Co., C. H. Lewis, R. S. Thompson, Jacob Mayer and nine hundred others, citizens of Portland, praying Congress to aid the construction of the road, Mr. Corbett said: "I will state that this memorial is signed by a very large number of the most respectable citizens of Oregon, and the only excuse they have in presenting it, while the country appears to have decided against subsidies, is the entire impracticability of the settlement of the country without some Government aid for the development of a railroad system. This projected railroad will develop a country 588 miles in length, which is now excluded from agricultural pursuits." The bill and memorial were referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. Corbett has brought forward a measure which he believes is calculated to hasten the return to specie payments, requiring the National Banks to have fifteen per cent. of their reserves in gold coin, on the first of July, and increase the proportion three per cent. semi-annually thereafter.

Henry Melgs, the great South American railroad builder, has received a contract to build a road from Honduras to Chimboto, at a cost of \$20,000,000. Mr. Melgs is, we believe, a native of New York, but has spent the last twenty years of his life on the Pacific coast. His first business project of note was the building of the Melgs' Wharf at San Francisco. Becoming involved in financial embarrassments by that undertaking, he left California and his creditors precipitately; but, to his credit be said, he has since settled most, if not all, of his old indebtedness. He has done wonders in the way of internal improvements in Peru, and has the reputation of being the wealthiest man on the West coast of South America.

It is stated that the Cuban leaders who have been in this country seeking to induce the Government to recognize the Cuban Republic as a belligerent power, are beginning to despair of success. They will bring their efforts to bear on Congress now. The recent landing of 25,000 coolies and several cargoes of slaves on the island are used as arguments against the Spanish rule.

It is said that the President, his Cabinet and all of the leading politicians agree that the Vice Presidency should fall east of the Alleghanies.

An Iowa girl has contracted to cut and clear 320 acres of timber land this winter.

The city charter of Memphis permits women taxpayers to vote.

ANECDOTE OF THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS.

The Emperor's third son, Alexis, is in the naval service. Somewhat more than a year ago, when holding the rank of midshipman, the flag-ship in which he was serving was wrecked on the coast of Denmark. The Admiral ordered the boats to be lowered, and directed Alexis to take charge of the first boat. The royal midshipman declined to obey the order. It was peremptorily repeated: "I, your commanding officer, order you into the boat." "Admiral; I cannot obey you," said the young Prince. "It would not become the Emperor to be the first to leave the ship. I shall remain with you to the last." "But I shall put you under arrest for disobedience of orders as soon as circumstances will allow me to do so." "I mean no disobedience, but I cannot obey," replied the youthful hero. In due time almost the entire crew reached the shore in safety, only some four or five having perished in the transit from the ship. Among the last to land were the Admiral and the Grand Duke Alexis. Tents were hastily erected from the spars and sails from the wreck, and the rigid discipline of ship-life was promptly resumed. The young Prince was placed under arrest for his previous disobedience of orders. As soon as possible the Russian Minister at Copenhagen was informed of the facts and telegraphed them to the Emperor, from whom he received the following reply: "I approve of the act of the Admiral in placing the midshipman under arrest for disobedience of orders, and I bless and kiss my son for disobeying them."—Lippincott's Magazine.