

Bad Luck.

These Oregon Democrats are evidently having a streak of bad luck. Governor Grover's man Friday, Mr. Gilfry, went to Washington in the capacity of supreme swamp land ambassador, and in the process of a little time sent a booming telegram that the title to swamp lands near Klamath Lake had been confirmed. Democracy feasted their hungry souls on that information; their lips smacked in token that it was good; they smiled broadly in self-satisfied complacency; but Attorney General Williams "smudged" the information out effectually, and with it all the smacks and smiles, by telegraphing that Mr. Gilfry's telegram was not true. Democracy's thermometer went down, down. Most speedily did the fraternity feel the stiffening going out of their shirt collars. Miserable luck.

But the campaign document lately brought out by the Legislative Investigating Commission seems to be the most ill-fated of Democratic measures. It was evidently the master stroke of Democratic strategy—the plan was. A Democratic Legislature exhausted its best talent of strategical invention to bring that scheme into existence. Under the specious plea of promoting the public good by exposing errors and crimes committed by former servants of the State, and by auditing public accounts, it covertly aimed to bring out a campaign document, to be paid for by the State, to promote the interests of the Democratic party. Well, this labored production has appeared, said its tremendous, long-winded say, and nobody pays any very particular attention to it, except it may be to smile at the transparency of the trick. Democracy has labored very hard, and a mouse is the result. Most miserable luck. It isn't the first time that too much gabble has killed a project.

Then comes this Sam. E. May matter. What a tremendous fuss and snort and howl they have been making about the "thefts" and "wrongs" which they say he committed; and yet, of the five indictments preferred against him at Salem the other day, their Prosecuting Attorney could not sustain "one on 'em." Democracy's ill luck is most intensely concatenated.

Mrs. J. B. Frost as a Trickster.

Mrs. J. B. Frost, who will be remembered by our readers as the woman who lectured here in opposition to woman suffrage, has lately tricked the people of Victoria most egregiously. She gained their confidence so completely as to buy a goodly stock of dry goods, etc., on time. After she had sufficiently replenished her wardrobe, and contracted numerous other debts, then, on the plea of visiting a sick son, she took a sudden departure for San Francisco, leaving her creditors to whistle for their money. Her agent, Mr. Macking, who passed for her uncle, purchased a city residence in Victoria for \$8,000, and a farm for \$15,000, paying small sums on each, and then left for Puget Sound.

The Difference.

While Albany and vicinity were enjoying a pleasant day on the 17th inst., the people of Maine and New Brunswick were suffering from the effects of a heavy snow storm, attended with a very severe gale. A telegram from Bangor, Maine, states that on the European and North American Railroad the snow had drifted fearfully, some drifts being twelve feet deep.

It is reported that Gen. Sickles has prepared a letter resigning the Spanish Mission, and having taken a partner, will open a law office in New York. They will have the Erie railroad business, which is enormously lucrative.

Our Public Domain.

The Committee on Public Lands of the House of Representatives, at Washington, has reported a bill the provisions of which are designed to obviate many of the evils and abuses of the present system of disposing of our public domain. The present bill provides that public lands can in the future be settled only under the provisions of the Homestead Act, and it does away with all existing pre-emption laws, except in the case of soldiers, who can secure a title without having resided for the stipulated time on their land. This is good so far as it goes. The public lands should be given to actual settlers and to promote public improvements. Too much of the public domain has been thrown into the hands of land speculators. Millions of acres have been squandered in this way, thus encouraging a sort of landed aristocracy. Let the lands be disposed of to actual settlers, who will develop the resources of the country. Let land grants be conferred upon substantial corporations, whose enterprises will develop the conveniences and material resources of the country. Let us have no more squandering of the public lands upon mere speculators.

"Packed."

The New York Sun utters a hopeless sneer when it says that the Philadelphia Convention will be "packed" for Grant. Of course, it would like to see the Convention go for some one else; but as that is hopeless, as it has failed to build up an opposition in the party of sufficient magnitude to "pack" in the interest of "any other man," it vents its disappointment and chagrin in the above insinuation. If the Republicans of this glorious Yankee Nation of ours choose to instruct their delegates to that Convention to vote for General Grant, good for them, and with what consistency can the Sun, or any other opposition journal, or any opposition bi-partisan, complain? They have done all they could, from a sickly sneer to a full-blooded, healthy lie, to prevent it, now let them show their breeding, if they have any, by giving the nails of their chagrin in silence.

Apportionment Bill.

The Apportionment Bill, as amended by the Senate Judiciary Committee, makes the following provisions. After the 3d day of March, 1873, the House of Representatives shall be composed of 243 members, to be apportioned among the several States in accordance with the stipulations of the act, as follows: Maine 4, New Hampshire 2, Vermont 2, Massachusetts 9, Rhode Island 1, Connecticut 3, New York 28, New Jersey 6, Pennsylvania 22, Delaware 1, Maryland 5, Virginia 8, North Carolina 7, South Carolina 4, Georgia 8, Alabama 6, Mississippi 5, Louisiana 5, Ohio 17, Kentucky 8, Tennessee 8, Indiana 11, Illinois 16, Missouri 11, Arkansas 3, Michigan 7, Florida 1, Texas 5, Iowa 8, Wisconsin 7, California 4, Minnesota 3, Oregon 1, Kansas 2, West Virginia 3, Nevada 1, Nebraska 1, provided that any new State be admitted into the Union after the passage of this act, the representative, or representatives of such new State shall be added to the number 243. It also stipulates that no new State shall be hereafter admitted into the Union without a large enough population to entitle it to at least one representative, according to the ratio of representation named in the bill. For a State to deny the right to vote to any citizen of lawful age, at any election named in the Constitution, except for rebellion or other crimes, reduces the apportionment of such State in the ratio which such number of male citizens bear to the number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

Cassidy introduced a bill in Congress, by request, proposing to purchase St. Mary's College in San Francisco for the Marine Hospital, at an expenditure not exceeding \$150,000.

Terrible Boiler Explosion.

A terrible boiler explosion occurred on the afternoon of the 18th at Cincinnati in the soap factory of Woods & Garrahan. Two boilers exploded with fearful violence, resulting in the death of two persons instantly, and in the injury of two others slightly. The most terrible result of this explosion was one of the most singular in the records of casualties. On Baymiller street, over half a mile distant by map measurement, in a bee line, three little girls in a front yard were jumping a rope. A section of the boiler was hurled all that distance, over the tops of houses, and fell upon their heads. Two of them were killed instantly, and the third mortally wounded. This piece of boiler was a perfect cylinder, 14 feet 5 inches long, 24 inches in diameter, and weighed a ton. Persons who saw it say that it looked like a stove-pipe sailing in the air. The roofs of buildings were considerably damaged. The cause of the explosion was not known.

Maintaining His Popularity.

It is becoming more evident every day that Gen. Grant is maintaining his popularity throughout the country; and while this is the case, those renegade Republicans who are trying so hard to weaken his influence, are losing theirs. Sumner, by his ill-natured and foolish course, has forfeited the sympathy of that very class of Republicans who stood so staunchly by his side in the San Domingo question.

Reported Decision.

It will be remembered that the Emperor of Germany was selected to act in the capacity of arbitrator on the San Juan boundary line between Washington Territory and British Columbia. It is reported that the Emperor has decided in favor of the claims of the United States, giving to her the island of San Juan, and superior advantages of sea room.

Explosion of Powder Mills.

The powder mills of the Austin Powder Company, situated about five miles south of Cleveland, Ohio, blew up on the afternoon of the 16th with a series of heavy explosions. Three hundred kegs, or about four tons of powder were fired. Two men named Leonard and Sherman, were blown in pieces, fragments of their bodies being thrown hundreds of feet away. These were at work in one of the mills. Three other men at work in the vicinity were more or less injured. The mills were blown to atoms, and the ground for acres around was strewn with fragments. The concussion shook nearly every building in the city and created quite a commotion among the inhabitants. Loss to the powder company is about \$15,000.

Colfax, on the 16th, presented to the Senate the resolutions of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adverse to the grant of Goat Island to the Central Pacific Railroad Company.

If Suscol lands were subject to pre-emption, and the claimants had settled in good faith and fulfilled the requirements of pre-emption laws prior to the act of July 23d, 1866, and their claims were sold against their will under said act, the Commissioners are to award judgment against the Government for value of land and improvements, less \$225 referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

More of Tammany's thefts. A New York dispatch of the 5th says: "The report of the Finance Committee of Alderman last evening shows that during the past three years, sums varying from \$200,000 down to \$80,000 have been paid to Tweed, Sweeney and their deputy collectors of the Assessment Bureau. None of them performed any services for the Bureau. Two of the items are \$65,623 to H. Smith, and \$65,000 to A. D. Barber."

Cincinnati has fourteen hundred tenement houses, inhabited by ten thousand families.

EASTERN NEWS.

The President now has before him for approval Sargent's bill allowing all *bona fide* land pre-emptionists, who have also filed declaratory statements prior to the passage of the act, one year to make proof and payment.

Also, the Mormon delegate (Hooper) introduced a bill granting Brigham Young's Utah Central Railroad Company the right of way for railroads to Southern Utah.

A conflicting bill was likewise introduced by Cole, granting similar rights to Alexander R. Baldwin, Louis Goldstein and other Californian and European capitalists, with permission to build northward.

Cogdlin's bill for Commissioners to arbitrate between Suscol ranch claimants against the United States, proposes arbitration at Vallejo in the month of August.

It is rumored from South Carolina that Henry Berry of the Lowry gang has recently shot himself accidentally, or that he has fled the country.

A desperate fight occurred at President's Island, Tenn., March 17th. Deputy Sheriff Rodegan went there for the purpose of arresting a negro named John White, who for some time has been a terror to the negroes living there. Rodegan was met by a large body of armed negroes, who proposed to assist in making the arrest, but stated that White had barricaded his cabin and would make a desperate fight. Rodegan approached the cabin and demanded the surrender of White, who refused, saying that he would be murdered by the negroes if he did. After a further parley one negro approached the cabin and was shot dead by White, who rushed out, secured his gun, and in a few minutes shot another. He was wounded as he retreated to his cabin, from which he opened a sharp fire, wounding four others. Rodegan, seeing that it was impossible to dislodge him, sent to the city for assistance. Deputy Sheriff Cohen summoned a posse, who went over and proceeded to take measures to burn White's cabin. On seeing this, White surrendered. After his arrest it was with the greatest difficulty that the negroes were kept from shooting the villain—even threatening to shoot the officer if he was not delivered to them. White was brought to the city jail.

The earnings of the Erie Railroad from November, 1871, to date, 15th, are reported to be \$21,000,000, against \$17,000,000 for the previous year.

There is much disappointment among merchants in New York at the failure of Collector Arthur, of the Custom House, to inaugurate reform in the general order business. The police of New York arrested Dr. Charles Manches, Rice & Co., and others, for dealing in immoral articles, on the 16th.

During the performance of a play at Newark on the 15th, in which many little boys and girls participated, the dresses of two of the little girls caught fire from the stage lights. Wild excitement ensued for a time; but the fire was extinguished, and but one seriously burned.

It was confidently reported that Charles Sumner would attend the Cincinnati Convention and preside over its deliberations, but has since been denied. Sumner says he will not.

The Republican State Central Committee of Illinois has determined to call a State Convention to be held May 22d.

Harvard school house at Charleston, Mass., was burned on the 15th. Loss, \$40,000. At the time the building took fire there were 320 children in it, but by the presence of mind of the teachers, all escaped, though some were badly injured.

Rear Admiral Rogers Taylor has received preparatory orders to take command of the North Atlantic fleet.

Some officers who were dismissed during the war without trial, have applied to the Secretary of the Navy to be reinstated under the provisions of the act of March 3, 1865. In case they are reinstated, they will be entitled to back pay for the whole time suspended.

A majority of the Massachusetts Legislative Committee have reported a resolution amending the constitutional law so as to allow women to vote and hold office.

American circles in Paris are excited by the following scandal: A well known citizen of New York, famous for the fortune he made by the sale of patent medicines, was in Paris. He is addicted to gambling. He returned to his room in Paris one morning about 2 o'clock. His wife was not in their lodging room, but he knew where she was to be found. So he went to the house of Mrs. B., and found that lady, his wife and two men playing cards. The New Yorker flew into a towering rage and upbraided his wife. Next morning the wife obtained a certificate of two or three French physicians, who had never seen her husband, vouching that he was insane and should be placed in the insane asylum. Armed with this she went to Mr. Washburne and through his intervention made the police arrest the husband and lodge him in the madhouse. Meanwhile Mr. Washburne grew uneasy at the thought of the responsibility he had assumed, and next day sent an American doctor to see him. The doctor discovered that he was sane and he was liberated.

The Internationals of Chicago held a meeting at the Globe Theater on the 17th inst. Some 400 persons, mostly French, Germans and Scandinavians were present.

The election of State Senator in the 5th District, Philadelphia, on the 15th, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Stevens, resulted in the return of Waddell, Republican, by 500 majority.

Swiss capitalists are about to construct a railway to the summit of Mount Vesuvius, similar to that at Mount Washington.

J. R. Dillon, Secretary of the Society for the Suppression of Obscene Literature, is in Washington for the purpose of having the law regarding this subject amended, so as to have penalties more severe.

Rev. Dr. Eddy entered the pulpit of the Metropolitan Church on the 17th, succeeding Dr. Newman. The Japanese Embassy were present during the morning service seated near the seats occupied by the President and Vice President and their families. Sentiments from the speaker in reference to their progress and mission were interpreted to them in a low tone.

The New Orleans special committee will not be ready to make their report for some weeks yet.

It is stated that fully twelve millions of Erie stock is now under the control of Jay Gould. Half of it is said to be his own private property. He is reported to have retired from the Board merely to be enabled to renew the fight.

Several members of the Missouri Legislature have been indicted for playing "Kew."

The famous copper mines of Gramby, Connecticut, are shortly to be reopened. They have been closed for several years.

One thousand men are employed by Lewis, Oliver & Phillips, Pittsburgh, in the manufacture of wagon and agricultural machines, hardware, wrought hinges, etc., 1,600 tons of which are produced daily. They have in store over two millions of these articles in tons, sets and kegs—as, for instance, enough end rods for 25,000 wagons. It is an enterprising firm, with trade all over the United States.

The Pennsylvania Legislature orders that the Constitutional Convention shall be elected in October, and consist of 133 members—each House district to elect one, and the State to elect 33 at large.

The Clinton House, principal hotel of Iowa City, was burned on the morning of the 19th. The Ole Bull concert troupe were in the house, and they with others escaped with difficulty. Ole Bull himself escaped attired only in night clothes and with a fiddle. Loss, \$25,000; insurance \$15,000.

Wm. T. Reed accidentally shot his wife in New York on the 18th, killing her instantly. He became a raving maniac.

Another delegation from the Committee of Seventy, New York, have gone to Albany to effect the passage of the new charter.

Last Sunday, at Lockland, Ohio, a negro, in a fit of jealousy, beat his wife's brains out with an axe.

The entire business portion of Lowell, Ind., was burned on the night of the 18th. Both hotels and the printing office were destroyed, and the jail and other houses damaged. Fifteen houses were burned besides a number of stables and out houses. The loss is estimated at about \$150,000.

The Internationalists celebrated the uprising of the Commune in New York on the night of the 18th. Victoria Woodhull delivered an address, declaring that they were rapidly spreading in America.

Dr. Goshorn, Postmaster of Decatur, Tenn., has absconded with four thousand dollars of Government funds. How! Democrats.

Jos. Nelson, near Sedalia, Mo., shot and killed his wife on the 17th, because she refused to remain with him and submit to his drunken treatment. He also shot himself dangerously.

FOREIGN NEWS.

St. Patrick's anniversary was observed throughout Ireland. No disturbances reported.

The London Times argues, against State railways, that the discovery of some contrivance, such as passenger balloons or electric engines, may supersede them, and thus ruin the country that owns them.

The public debt in Canada is rapidly increasing, and when the present projected improvements have been carried out, will amount, it is stated, to \$45 a head, while the national debt of the United States amounts to only \$60 a head, and is rapidly diminished.

A meeting was to be held in London, Eng., at St. George's Hall, to commemorate the anniversary of the Communist uprising in Paris.

A coal train ran off the track on the 16th near Cardiff, Eng., killing a railway guard, wrecking thirty cars and demolishing a cottage near the road.

The London Observer states that at a meeting of the Cabinet on the 16th, the American reply to Lord Granville's note was received and discussed; that it produced a favorable impression.

A telegraph cable between Cuba and Mexico will be laid probably in April.

The Fenians were to make a grand demonstration throughout Ireland in favor of general amnesty, on St. Patrick's Day.

The Archbishop of Cologne has excommunicated Professors Hilgers, Knoodt, Teggen and Rush, of the University of Bonn, for their rejection of the dogma of Pajal infallibility.

A special from Matamoros, Mexico, dated the 16th, says General Migra, Mexican Minister of War, telegraphs the capture of Zacatecas on the 14th. He had received an official telegram from General Rocho, dated in Zacatecas. On approaching the city, Rocho encountered the rebels under Trevino on the hills in the vicinity of the city, and routed them, capturing all their infantry, artillery train and a great number of prisoners. Their cavalry escaped. The Government forces were in pursuit.

The Difference.—The crime of being poor is well exemplified to-day in New York City, where a notorious murderer, confined in the Tombs has his cell carpeted with a fine Brussels fabric, takes his ablutions in Florida Bay water, writes his own bill of fare, and is served daily with choice viands and delicious beverages. A small boy who committed the crime of seeing the murder, thus enabling the people to get evidence upon which the assassin may be hanged, lies in a dismal dungeon in Leonard street, in the House of Detention.