

Italy is now exporting oranges from trees grown from seed obtained in California some years ago.

Prairie seems to be enjoying better times than it did a decade ago. In 1888, 109,190 hectares of land were confiscated at auction, while in 1898 the figure was only 66,805 hectares.

The Emperor of Japan seems to be a very prolific poet, for the Japan Mail of Yokohama says: "We told that during the last ten years the poet laureate in Japan has seen more than 25,000 couplets composed by our sovereign. His majesty has penned 2,000 couplets within the last two months."

Schoolmaster—It is most lovely to be married to a newspaper man. You get free tickets to all the theatres and operas do you not?

A Pittsburg evening paper recently came out with a full account of the hanging of a condemned murderer—seen down to the "hush that fell upon the spectators." After the paper was on the street it was discovered that the man was not hanged at all, the execution had been stopped by the clemency of the governor.

An Antwerp correspondent states that the other day more than 500 worn-out horses arrived there from England to be slaughtered in the Antwerp abattoirs. The procession of these animals through the streets is described as a pitiful sight, the poor brutes being, it is alleged, deprived of food from the time they are sold for shipment until they are slaughtered.

The mining interests of eastern Oregon are being developed at a rapid pace to indicate big things for the future of that part of the state. The Alaska craze instead of inspiring the mining plants, that section of the run has been hampered, for the Alaska prospects will probably burst, whereas there is something permanent to the character of the mines of the mountains, and we hope to see the industry extended to this valley.

Growing out of the Durran hanging trouble occurred in the Catholic church of which Edward Davis was pastor, and as a result he has resigned, and it is said he will either lecture or go upon the stage. He probably has more talents for either than for preaching, as there have been few indications of sufficient spirituality for that. On the stage, though he would probably excel, it is the demand at the present time is not for ranting or hair tearing, but for easy and grace and for the following of natural lines. Mr. Davis, though, is unique and interesting, and has an original way of going at things that attracts attention.

As the great majority of country journals are, as a rule, no doubt always the party organ, it is, of course, impossible to avoid controversy at all times; but the most influential editors now resort to it only when it is absolutely necessary. Offensive personalities and abusive epithets, toward political opponents, are fortunately going out of fashion and are now seldom found in any respectable journal. It is a safe rule, one worthy of general adoption, to write nothing for publication in a personal controversy, which you would not say orally to the person concerned. Put the same restraint upon your pen that you would upon your tongue, and you are not likely to transgress the rules of good breeding and courtesy.—Press and Printer.

Washington Letter. From our regular Correspondent. Washington, Jan. 17th, 1898. If the silver forces of the country are thoroughly united, they can win. That has been admitted by anti-silver men. If the silver forces are not united, it will not be the fault of the men who are at the head of the National Committee of the three parties which advocated the free coinage of silver in the last campaign. As a result of a number of conferences between Chairman Jones of the Democratic National Committee; Chairman Butler, of the Populist National Committee and Chairman Towne, of the Republican National Committee, a joint address to the friends of silver has been prepared and will be widely circulated, with a view of securing co-operative action in every Congressional District in which there are organizations of two or more of these parties in this year's campaign. In other words, the object is to secure the election of a silver representative in every Congressional district which has a majority of silver voters. If the spirit of this address is accepted and put into practical effect by the voters, there is no doubt that a majority of the next House will be silver men. The long and determined fight in the Fifty-third congress over the attempt to stop speculating on options may be resumed, as Representative Sullivan, of Mo., has introduced an anti-option bill along about the same lines as the old Hatch bill that was only defeated after a long and costly struggle in which all of the stock and grain exchanges of the country united to fight the bill. Nearly everybody in Congress expects that a crisis will be reached in Cuban matters in a very short time. Those who believe in the annexation of Cuba to the United States will have to watch the government if they continue. The senate has asked Mr. McKinley to inform it what, if any preparations have been made to protect Americans and American interests in Cuba, and if the answer isn't speedy forthcoming or isn't satisfactory, it is likely to be a crisis in the senate. In the House, the consideration of the Diplomatic and Consular Appropriation bill was postponed from last week, when it was ready, for fear that the Cuban speech certain to be made upon it would create so much excitement that the House might get away from the Cuban speech through Morgan's illegitimate resolution through Senator Wolcott's speech would greatly surprise the average Senator had it not been known ever since Senator Chandler stated that it was Mr. McKinley's intention to send that International Bimetallic Commission to Europe again, that the McKinley programme included an attempt to make that international bimetallic commission the coming Congressional Campaign, of course, it was somewhat disappointing to Senator Wolcott's silver friends that he should have let himself be used in this programme, but he has probably been caught by the glitter of patronage, big

chucks of which Mr. McKinley has placed at his disposal right along. The opponents of annexation start in the second week of the session, and to the Senate with more to follow. In fact, no conflict are they having votes enough to defeat it, but that they are said to be willing to have a vote taken at any time that the other side may agree upon.

School Work. Some of the lists of questions given at the recent examinations will be of interest to the DEMOCRAT'S readers: 1. GRADE, A, CLASS, U S HISTORY. 2. What were the objects of the early Spanish exploration? The French? The English? 3. Which of the three nations proved to have made the most important discoveries and why? 4. Who were the following and for what were they noted? 1. Sir Thomas Dale, 2. Roger Williams, 3. Menéndez, 4. La Salle, 5. Sir Francis Drake, 6. American "Vespucius". 5. When, where and why was slavery introduced? 6. Give some account of Bacon's Rebellion; 7. Of Claborn's Rebellion. 8. What is a witch? 9. Write twelve lines about witchcraft in New England. 10. Give the dates and names of the first permanent settlement in a. Virginia, b. Rhode Island, c. New York, d. Georgia, e. Maryland; Also state the object of the settlement. 11. Name and give the dates of the later Colonial Wars. What was the general cause of all these wars? 12. Give the names of the French and Indian Wars? 13. What part Washington played in it. c. State the change in the territory of N. A. 13. Do you think the Europeans did right in driving the Indians from America? Write fully and give your reasons. 7th, B, ANTS.

1. Define a Percentage, b Rate, c Base, e Amount, f Difference, g Profit, h Loss, i Commission, j Proceeds, k Dividend. 2. Find the amount of \$685.70, 19 mo, 15 da, at 3 1/2 per cent. 3. What is the net cost of a lot of musical instruments amounting to \$1,375.60 when a discount of 10, 5 and 2 1/2 per cent is allowed? 4. A commission merchant receives \$1,071 to invest in oats after deducting 2 per cent of cost, at 30 cts per bushel does he profit? 5. A house is insured for 2/3 of its value at 3/4 per cent. The annual cost (premium) is \$8.40. What is the value of the house? 6. A merchant imports 300 yds of dress goods, 27 inches wide, costing 30 cts per yard, and sells at 50 per cent of the cost (additional)? 7. A man buys an article \$1.50, and sells it at a discount of 25 per cent on the marked price. If this article cost him 90 cts, what is his gain per cent? 8. A sells his horse for \$198, which is 10 per cent less than his asking price, and the asking price is 10 per cent more than the cost. What did the horse cost him? 9. What is the difference on a bill of \$750 between a discount of 40 per cent, and a discount of 30 and 10 per cent. 10. A person borrows \$3,754.45, being the property of a minor who is 15 years, 3mo, 20 days old. He retains it until the owner is 21 years old. How much money will then be due at 6 per cent.

LITERATURE 8. (1) a Define American Literature b Why are there not many great names among American writers? Name the period of growth of our literature. (2) For what are the following noted: John Eliot, Wm. Bradford, Jonathan Edwards. (3) What has been the effect of the writings of Franklin? In which do you think he did the most good, Literature, Science or Statesmanship? c Give reasons for answer. (4) a What kind of literary men did the Revolutionary Period produce? b Mention four writers of this period with a production of each. (5) a Why was Washington Irving called the "Father of American Literature"? b Name some of his best works. c Which ones of these have you read part or all. (6) a Why was America's first great poet? b Why was he called the "Poet of Nature"? c Name five of his best poems. d Give some quotations from his writings naming the poem from which it is taken. (7) a Who is America's first famous novelist? b Name three of his best known works? c Who is America's greatest novelist? Name five of his greatest productions. (8) a Who was the leader of the Unitarian Movement? What is Transcendentalism? (9) a Who was America's greatest philosopher and essayist? b Three of America's greatest orators. (10) John G. Whittier—Name three titles by which he was called. b Give an outline of "Snowbound" c in what political question was he interested? d Give a quotation from any of his writings.

THE M'YOR'S MESSAGE. GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMON COUNCIL.—The charter of the city requires that a mayor shall report annually to the council at the beginning of the year, a general statement of the financial condition of the corporation, together with an estimate of the probable revenues and expenditures for the ensuing year, and to make such recommendations and suggestions for your consideration as he may deem proper for the general government of the city. The conditions of the city financially on the first of the year I find upon investigation of the reports of the recorder and treasurer for the past year to be as follows: Bonded debt, maturing in 1911 drawing 6 per cent..... \$ 75,000.00 Bonded debt maturing in 1915 drawing 6 per cent..... 20,000.00 Outstanding bridge warrants..... 9,073.98 Warrant drawn in favor of Linn county..... 1,200.00 Other outstanding warrants on January 1, 1898..... 9,272.76 Total..... \$ 108,546.74

Less cash in the treasury as follows: Bond fund of 1896 on hand..... \$ 7,203.94 General fund on hand first of the year..... 320.14 Total..... \$ 7,524.08 Total indebted Jan 1, '98..... \$100,992.66 The indebtedness would be increased about \$4500, provided the bridge company should prevail in a suit now before

the supreme court of the state, in which they are claiming interest at the rate of eight per cent per annum on the warrants which they hold, this case will not be determined for some time during the summer. The amount of delinquent taxes for 1897 is unusually large, the amount being \$3175. The amount of the 1897 tax collected up to the first of the year was only \$5737.05, which is fully \$2000 less than has been collected of any one year's tax for the last five years. This is a measure of the increase of the indebtedness over 1896. The total expenses incurred in maintaining the city government for each of the five years next preceding January 1, 1898, as shown by the comparative statement furnished the council by the recorder from the records of his office is as follows: In 1892 the expenses were..... \$14,517.43 In 1893..... 14,259.29 In 1894..... 14,335.13 In 1895..... 15,155.96 In 1897..... 14,310.74 The interest on the bonded debt for the years 1893 and 1894 was \$4500, respectively; for 1895 was \$100 and for 1896 and 1897, \$5700 each year, while the revenues for the past two years from taxes and licenses is fully \$2500 short of any one year in the past five years. The estimated amount required to meet the current expenses of the city for the opening year is about as follows: City office and police department..... \$5000.00 Fire department..... 1000.00 Street lights..... 1600.00 Sewer work..... 200.00 Printing and stationery..... 150.00 Repairs of city jail..... 250.00 Meals, prisoners and vagrants..... 100.00 Water rent..... 125.00 Other sundry expenses..... 1075.00 Interest on bonded debt..... \$700.00 Total..... \$15700.00

The revenues for the same period is estimated as follows: Tax of 8 mills on the assessable property is about..... \$ 8000.00 Delinquent taxes that are collectable about the first of Jan..... 2500.00 Receipts from licenses and other sources..... 4000.00 Total..... \$14500.00 The delinquent tax for 1898 will in all probability amount to a great sum as that of 1897. It will necessarily follow that the greatest economy must be practiced in all the departments of the city, and the greatest effort should be made to reduce the expense by the estimate as given you in this message. At the session of the legislature in 1898, the charter was so amended as to make the recorder the assessor of the city. For the past two years the assessor has been made under this law, which has added yearly expense of about \$500, not in making the assessment alone, but in the advertising and collecting the delinquent taxes. Under the former law, the assessment was made by the county assessor and the taxes collected by the sheriff, thereby saving to the city nearly the sum of \$300 each year. I can see no reason why this law should not prevail at this time. In other cities of the state this law is in force, and it works quite well with them, I see no reason why the charter of this city should not be so changed, thereby saving to the city the amount required to make the assessment and the collection of the taxes. I would therefore recommend to the council that at the next session of the legislature they take steps necessary to have the charter so amended that the assessor of the city should be the recorder, and the taxes collected by the sheriff, thereby saving to the city nearly the sum of \$300 each year. I can see no reason why this law should not prevail at this time. In other cities of the state this law is in force, and it works quite well with them, I see no reason why the charter of this city should not be so changed, thereby saving to the city the amount required to make the assessment and the collection of the taxes. I would therefore recommend to the council that at the next session of the legislature they take steps necessary to have the charter so amended that the assessor of the city should be the recorder, and the taxes collected by the sheriff, thereby saving to the city nearly the sum of \$300 each year.

And as a further matter of economy I would recommend that the charter also be amended that the city election be held every two years instead of annually as now provided by law, and that all elective officers be for the term of two years, except the recorder, who should be for one year. I can see no reason why the marshal and the clerk should not hold their offices for the same period as the other elective officers. By making this change in the charter, the yearly expenditure of the city could be reduced considerably, and at the same time the efficiency of the service would in no wise be impaired, but on the other hand I believe the service would be improved. There is one other matter in the charter that I think should be amended; that is the price per day fixed for road work within the city limits. In my opinion the law should be so changed as to conform with the state law regulating the wages for county road work. In my message two years ago, and again last year, I called the attention of the council to the bad condition of the streets in the business portion of the city, and asked them to take some steps in the near future looking toward the permanent improvement of that portion of the streets with some kind of pavement. It is a well known fact that no permanent road can be made by the graveling process. Especially is that the case where there is the amount of heavy wearing as will be done on the business portions of First and Second streets. I would therefore recommend that the committee on streets and public property, make investigations as to the best and cheapest kind of pavement to report to the council at no distant day their findings in the matter. The recommendations and suggestions which I have made I leave to your good judgment as to whether or not they are worthy of your serious consideration. The management of the affairs of the city has been entrusted to your care and keeping, and you should administer them at all times; that your every action will merit the approval of your fellow citizens. I shall, gentlemen of the council, to the best of my ability, perform the duties devolved upon me as your presiding officer. And I sincerely trust that I may have your assistance and co-operation in all that may be to the best interest and welfare of the city. C. G. BURKHART.

THE DEMOCRAT admits with joy to a job. The Solo paper told how the bowler knocked down the two corner pins on one bowl, the ball bounding from one corner to the other, as absolute impossibility with the common ball, as every bowler knows. It transpires that the Solo has a new ball, one that easily bounces from one corner to the other, and the paper so stated in another and obscure part of the page.

One man who came out from Dawson said that next spring over \$20,000,000 would be brought in gold dust to the Klondike. Mr. Smith of Oakville writing from there says the amount will be about \$100,000. The Smiths may be depended upon. The DEMOCRAT is confident the amount will not exceed \$50,000,000. It looks very much now as if the Klondike liar will succeed the fisher.

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It felt should go up again to a respectable figure for many farmers would sell before it fell again. Raise your hands. A Salem lady recently became so excited over an Indian game of base ball that she demolished the chair in which she had been sitting. A Dawson woman makes \$4,000 or \$7,000 a year in interest on a loan. Incidentally she owns a claim which is reported to be worth \$200,000.

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What Women Now Need. More Red Corpuscles in Their Blood. ---Paine's Celery Compound



Miss Francis E. W. W. has been attending the world's convention of the W. C. T. U. says that better health for women is today a more urgent matter than for men. She says: "But women at present most need a better supply of red corpuscles. From every section of the country, from Maine to California, come well tested reports of women, bloodless, nervous, weakly run down, and in many cases as weak as to be bedridden, who have been enabled to resume their places in the busy circle of social life, healthy, ready, well equipped, by the aid of Paine's Celery Compound. Mrs. M. E. Ward is one of these fortunate women from Paine's Celery Compound saved from an illness which would have been fatal to her. She writes: 'I was in a very weak condition, as her letter shows: 213 Michigan Ave. Mason City, Ia. Sept 15, 1897. Wells & Richardson Co. (Children) My greatest trouble seems to be a general weakness and all over tired feeling. I am 65 years of age and I did not expect to get over strong again, but used four bottles of Paine's Celery Compound and was greatly strengthened and my strength returned. I am now able to do my usual work and feel as well as I have ever felt. I am very respectfully yours, MRS. E. A. WARD. Persons of large experience among nervous women who, as a rule, are thin and lack of red corpuscles in their blood."

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