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The fog has been rather foggy the past week in this section. Fog is really our only objectionable climatic feature.

The first overhead trolley electric street railroad in England is under construction in the suburbs of Leeds by an American company.

NEAL Dow is now 87 years old, and is living in a house in Portland which he built in 1828. He says he is not yet done fighting for prohibition.

The death of Justice Bradley removes from the national councils a great but not brilliant man. He cast the deciding vote in the electoral commission that made Hayes president in 1877.

POLITICS in Benton county is not boiling just yet, but there is a spirit of activity being manifested among politicians, and it will not be long till things will be at fever heat.

OLD Crow is one of the leaders in the Messiah ghost dances. The same "Old Crow" brand of fire-water has been responsible for a good many war dances and ghosts that have never been known to indulge in terpsichorean pastimes.

The democratic national convention goes to Chicago June 21st. This means that Cleveland will be the candidate, that the tariff question will be the issue and that fierce and doubtful conflict will be waged between the two parties this year. It pleases the average republican to see Cleveland's candidacy urged.

EX-PRESIDENT CLEVELAND made some rather sharp remarks on Jackson's Day in New York City, and friends and admirers of Hill think they referred to the senator. It is now generally conceded that neither Cleveland nor Hill can carry New York, as each would materialize a scheme to defeat the other at the polls.

OREGON is excellently adapted to both those pleasant and profitable industries—dairying and fruit raising. They pay better than grain raising, and the next few years should see the dairies and orchards of the state multiplied several times in number. We can supply all Western Washington and British Columbia with fruit, and the importing of dairy products ought to cease at once.—Telegraph.

PARTISANSHIP in the politics of this government is a very great evil, says the Rural Press, and there are times when it appears as if there was no sentiment sufficiently earnest or patriotic to overcome it. But it is gratifying to notice that when anything like a serious national emergency arises, not only the people but the politicians are ready enough to put partisanship aside and remember only the honor of their country. The national capital is now given up largely to Chilean war talk. There is no other question, apparently, in the public mind there. And in all this talk there is not the first hint of partisan spirit, not the first apparent effort to turn the situation to partisan advantage. It is a mistake to believe that the spirit of patriotism is dead or even declining in the American people.

The law that prohibits the use of the United States mails for the carriage of publications containing lewd or obscene matter is a good one, and should be enforced with judgment and good sound sense at its back, says an exchange. But now and then it exposes the shallowness or petty malice of some individual who is able to invoke its application in cases where it should not, and in justice cannot apply. A case in point is that of the postmaster at Dunsuir, Cal., having refused to mail a recent issue of the News, of that place because the paper contained an item in which was briefly chronicled the fact that a woman on a train passing through Dunsuir had made a shameless exhibition of herself by bathing in the wash room of a Pullman coach with the view from the depot platform unobstructed by window blinds. The simple statement of this occurrence as a matter of news was certainly entirely legitimate and proper, and how the postmaster could expect to have his action sustained by the postal law under which he proceeded, it is impossible to conjecture. He concluded, after 24 hours profound judicial cogitation, that the law wasn't penetrating enough to reach to the profound depths of his discrimination, and allowed the paper to be mailed.

THE DISCRIMINATION.

There is certainly "something wrong in the state of Denmark." A county in this state which is pleased to boast of her vast wealth has had her valuation of property raised by over \$13,000,000, and now she is hot about it. That she should have her taxes so increased when her valuation was "not lower relatively than that of many other counties," is outrageous. Does it not seem strange that a board of equalization composed of men of ability should not see this "lack of equity," that her valuation was not relatively lower than that of other counties?

Classically speaking, she has her foot in it. Here she was about to escape paying taxes on \$13,384,675 and has been slipped up. Almost in vain she looks around to find an exit, and at last is trying to crawl out through the knot-hole of unconstitutionality.

From letters received from the most prominent attorneys in that county the court has decided to ignore the work of the state board and let the roll remain as corrected by the county board on the ground of the unconstitutionality of the new assessment made by the state board.

The authorities consulted are undoubtedly men of great legal ability whose opinion is entitled to much weight, and perhaps the law is unconstitutional. If so, it would be expedient to have that decided without delay, before unnecessary litigation results.

She thinks her mortgages have been assessed too high. We suspect that her business men have very little money loaned on real estate, the land thus escaping taxation, that would not sell for enough to pay the amount secured, with interest, attorney's fees, costs and still leave some for the mortgagor. Conservative men seldom loan money on land to the full amount of its cash value.

But that is a digression. Benton is all right so far. The alterations made in her roll have not been of much moment, therefore we cannot sympathize with you, Multnomah. It is a bitter pill and hard to swallow, but you must fight it practically alone.

If our mortgages, and those of other counties as well, are assessed for more than yours are, why should you not pay as much state taxes, proportionately, as we do? Is there not a "lack of equity" there? In justice, it does not matter whether yours are raised to the same rate as ours are or ours reduced to an equality with yours.

Probably the state board of equalization was created for the purpose of bringing this equality around. If we were you we would not squeal about the equity. The complaint is all on the other side. It is really too bad, and we feel sorry for you.

THE CHILEAN DIFFICULTY.

The trouble with Chile is still unsettled, and on account of the varied and conflicting reports from Valparaiso it is impossible to say what will be the final outcome.

The anxiously expected message of President Harrison concerning the affair, in which he sets forth the facts of the case and defines his position accordingly, has been laid before congress. The conclusion reached in the message is that Chile must apologize for her insolent behavior towards the United States and make reparation for the losses sustained by us at her hands. In the event of a refusal on her part to comply with these demands, war seems inevitable. If Chile should manifest an apologetic spirit the differences could be amicably adjusted; but whether she is disposed to make the necessary amends remains to be seen.

The president's action in regard to the Chilean affair has aroused a spirit of partisanship among democratic politicians who are actuated with presidential aspirations. The democratic press of the country, it will be observed, generally speak in condemnatory terms of the message, and the English journals across the sea offer similar expressions of disapproval.

POLITICAL PROVERBS.

Most congressmen would rather be promoted to the United States senate than to heaven.

I ain't never been able to understand exactly why a man that says he kin make \$5,000 a year in his business is so doggon anxious to get a \$2,000 government job.

Some good statesmen ain't good poker players and visy versy.

I have never knowed a candidate that wouldn't trim some.

Whisky is the unpardonable sin of politicians.

Frap G. Washington never told a lie, but then George had a way of keepin' his mouth shet.

The trouble with some statesmen is that they talk when they haven't got anything to say.

A million dollars is a power in politicians.

It's mighty easy to humbug Uncle Sam in his own family.

Heaven aint made up of politicians.

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ROYAL BAKING POWDER
Strongest, Purest, Most Economical.

Certain baking powder makers are publishing falsified extracts from the Government reports, with pretended analyses and certificates, wherein an attempt is made to compare their baking powders with the "Royal," or making bogus tests from house to house, their obvious purpose being to counteract the recent exposures of the inferiority of their own goods arising from their impurity, low strength, and lack of keeping qualities as shown by the Government chemists and others.

As to whether any of these baking powders are equal to the "Royal," the official tests clearly determine. When samples of various baking powders were purchased from the grocers, and analyzed by the United States Government Chemists and the Chemists of State and City Boards of Health, the reports revealed the fact that the "Royal" contained from 28 per cent. to 60 per cent. more leavening strength than any other cream of tartar baking powder, and also that it was more perfectly made, of purer ingredients, and altogether wholesome.



As these powders are sold to consumers at the same price, by the use of the Royal Baking Powder there is an average saving of over one third, besides the advantage of assured purity and wholesomeness of food, and of bread, biscuit, and cake made perfectly light, sweet, and palatable—advantages not to be had in the use of the low-grade, cheaply made baking powders that contain lime, alum, and other impurities.

PARSIMONY AND THE NAVY.

No branch of the government service will feel more severely than the navy the effect of the parsimonious spirit which pervades the democratic house of representatives.

The progress made in the construction of a modern navy during the past five years has been remarkable. Some of the best war vessels in existence are now sailing under the American flag or nearing completion in American shipyards. With a continuance of liberal appropriations for naval construction, the United States would soon possess a navy that would be an object of pride to the people.

But democratic parsimony will interfere sadly with the building of the navy. It is doubtful whether appropriations will be allowed to carry on the work on the vessels now under construction. It is certain that no new vessels will be begun.

It is too bad, but people always take such chances when they elect a democratic congress.

HONOR AMONG THE DISHONEST.

The republicans of Louisiana have declared in manly language against the lottery infamy and in favor of upholding the honor of their state.

And yet the democrats, who are battling in favor of the lottery, would have us believe that all the rascality of Louisiana is to be found in the republican party, and that their state would go down in dishonored ruin if the republicans should ever secure control of it.

Evidently, if the tales which the democrats tell are true, here is a case in which honor is to be found among the dishonest, while the truly good are wedded to infamy and shame.

Senator Dolph, of Oregon, not long since gave a dinner to Senator Hill, of New York, at which were many prominent gentlemen of both political parties. This event caused some grumbling among a few straight-laced republicans, but it was silenced, however, when it was learned that Hill and Dolph were school boys together, and have maintained intact the friendship thus formed in early life. Dolph came west, to the shores of the Pacific, and returned to the United States senate. Hill remained at home, and goes to Washington to represent the Empire state in the same body, where he finds his old playmate as a colleague. People in the back districts have little conception of the amenities, social and otherwise, that exist between distinguished politicians at the capital of the nation. The popular idea is that they glare at each other like savages, on opposite sides of the senate chamber, ready to fly at each other's throats on the first opportunity.—Statesman.

WAGES are so low in India that men may be hired for \$2 a month to do household work. A dollar is a great sum to them and one meal a day the rule.

The largest stock of men's and boys' clothing in this section at Nolan's, all at reduced prices to make room for spring stock.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18, '92.

Apologize or fight, represents in three words the present status of the Chilean affair. The time for negotiation has passed. Two weeks ago the president would have sent all the correspondences and his proclamation to congress had it not been for representations made by Senator Montt, the Chilean minister. It is not believed that Senator Montt, who is thought to be sincerely in favor of peace, actually misrepresented the intentions of his government, but there is now little doubt that he allowed his hopes to influence his statements to a degree not warranted by what he must have known the feeling of Chile to be towards the United States.

It is now fully settled that the proclamation, which is all ready, and the correspondence will go to congress just as soon as the report of Judge Advocate General Remy, who took the deposition of the sailors of the Baltimore, is received, and that is expected this week. There can be no doubt that congress will respond by an immediate declaration of war and a sufficient appropriation to rush it to a successful conclusion. Every preparation that can possibly be made in advance of the actual declaration of war is being carefully looked after by the administration, although no details are being made public, as it is not desired that Chile shall know what we are doing.

Ex-Speaker Reed is proving that he is as much of a thorn in the flesh of the democrats of the house, now making a pitiable exhibition of their incapacity to control national legislation, on the floor of the house as he was when in the speaker's chair. So far he has only given them a little humorous nagging. Later he will sting.

The democratic party is always loud in its clamoring for economy, as shown by the adoption of the Holman clap-trap resolution by the house, but it was hardly twenty-four hours after the adoption of the demagogic manifesto before the democrats of the house gave the country a practical demonstration of their insincerity by refusing to curtail the number of committee clerks employed by the house, notwithstanding the statement of honorable gentlemen, members of the committee on accounts, that a number of the minor committees had no real need for clerks. The democrats are always willing to reduce any appropriation which is expended by republicans, no matter how much it may injure the public interest, but when it comes to reducing the patronage controlled by them selves they always fly the track and refuse to do it, as in this case, where they authorize the paying of a number of sinecures for no other purpose than the bestowal of the patronage upon the chairman of a number of unimportant committees, who are democrats.

The senate judiciary committee, at the request of Senator Turpin, has postponed consideration of the nomination of Judge Woods of Indiana, until the return of Senator Voorhees, who is expected this week. This is merely a courtesy,

by no means unusual, extended to the democratic senators from Indiana who are bitterly opposed to Judge Woods' confirmation, and indicates no unfriendliness towards Judge Woods, whose confirmation is regarded as among the certainities.

Senators Aldridge, Allison, Hiram, Carlisle and Harris, composing the sub-committee of the senate finance committee, have gone to New York to complete their investigation, began last summer, of the effect of the McKinley tariff law upon the trade and commerce of the country. Representative Boutelle, of Maine, made the most humorous speech of the session, taking for his subject the present ludicrous aspect of the democratic party. From the beginning, when he said: "What a comical old humbug the democratic party is," to the end, when he said: "The people of this great country are going to have a happy and prosperous New Year in spite of the democratic party, the gentleman from Indiana (Holman) and his nickel-in-the-slot machine," the house was in an almost continuous roar of laughter, in which most of the democrats good-naturedly joined. Mr. Boutelle's lampooning of Representatives Holman, Dockery and Wheeler, although entirely free from ill-natured personalities, must have been galling in the extreme to these gentlemen but neither of them have attempted to reply, although Wheeler says he will.

Oh no, Tammany does not boss the democratic party. It was merely by accident that the other twelve strongly backed applicants for the house restaurant privileges which, owing to the large democratic majority are much more valuable than usual, were turned down, and the plum given to Tammany's man. It is also a slander, probably to charge that Tammany will control the decision of the national democratic committee, which meets here this week, as to where the nominating convention shall be held, and yet intelligent men, democrats, are making the charge.

The lawyers in Honolulu are wrangling over a very important law point. In the Robinson will case which is now exciting much attention on the islands, the lawyers for the widow maintain that the English common law prevails in Hawaii when not opposed by the statutes, while the opposing counsel contend that Hawaiian law is based only upon such rules and principles as are "founded in justice." The question is certainly a peculiar one, and if the court should decide that English common law does prevail in Hawaii, it ought to tell the world how it got there and when it went into force.

Among men noted for wonderful memories were Milton, who was said to be able to repeat Homer; Prof. Dawson, who boasted that he could repeat the whole of the Bible except a few verses; Lord Macaulay, who made the same boast of "Pilgrim's Progress" and "Paradise Lost; Dr. Lerdin, a friend of Sir Walter Scott, who could repeat an act of parliament on hearing it read but once; and a London reporter, who took no notes, but could write an unexpected debate verbatim.

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