The Democratic Times.

SATURDAY,.....APRIL 14, 1874.

Brief Sayings by Josh Billings.

Enny man who will spred a slander iz a sekond-handed liar, mutch meaner, if possible, than the one who originated it.

Menny people are like an old hen with one chicken—a grate deal ov fuss and hurry, but very little dispatch.

All lies, before they become current, pass thru three hands; the fust iz sum very diskreet person, who looks wize, and only hopes that things ain't so and so; the sekund iz a lawless gossip, who haz no dou'bt but what things are so, or even wuss; the third iz a malishus vampyre, who fully endorses the foul blot, and spreds it broadcast thru the land.

Diskreshun iz the smartest thing enny man possesses. If he haz got plenty ov branes with it, he iz a giant; and if he haint got much of enny, he iz a respe'ktable pigmy.

There iz nothing we are more apt to parade before others than our cares and sorrows, and there iz nothing the world kares so little about.

Take affability, good sense, honesty, and good breeding, mix them together, and shake them well and yu have the ingredients for a gentleman.

The good things a man duz are hard to remember, the evil things are dredful easy.

Truth kan stand alone, but a lie haz to lean on something, generally another lie.

A tru friend iz one ain't afrade to tell us ov our faults.

How the Siamese Twins got their Wives.—Much speculation has already been rife as to how the twins courted and finally became joined in the bonds of Hymen. It happened that they were traveling through the South and stopped at the town of Trahill, in Wilkes county, North Carolina. The country in this vicinity being very romantic, and the land good, the twins determined to settle, and accordingly engaged in business in the village, being excellent traders, and their novel condition soon attracted many persons to them; among these, a farmer named Yates, who lived in the immediate vicinity, and who was possessed of two bouncing daughters. Chang and Eng looked upon these women tenderly, and evinced great affection for them, and, like ordinary young folks, made numerous calls at the residence of their bewitchers, and there being a pair of them all around, a match was soon made, and the four were two (or one). These wives always displayed great affection for their liege lords, and manifested the usual jealousies common to the human family. From this double union there were some twenty-two children born. Mrs. Chang presented her husband with some nine or ten, and of these but two were boys, while in the Eng family the daughters were proportionally out numbered. The off-spring, contrary to the general opinion and and proceeding statement, with few exceptions, were healthy robust children.—*Cor. Philadelphia Press.*

Watering Cattle.—There are two seasons of the year in which farmers are very liable to give their cattle an insufficient supply of good water, and these two seasons are midsummer and midwinter. The pasture fields are not supplied with running water, the animals in summer are made to drink from stagnant pools, many times as insufficiently supplied as the wells; and in the winter water is given usually but once a day, and the work of watering left to the hired man, who has not always individual interest or patience enough to give cattle time to take water as slowly as they wish to in very cold weather.

There are but few farms unsupplied with springs or creeks; but a good supply of water may be found by digging, and after the supply is obtained, there should be the individual attention of the owner given to the matter of seeing that the animals are provided with all that they may desire. Surface water is the best, for it is the provision of nature, and if somewhat impregnated with earth is none the worse, and cattle appear to prefer it in this way to the pure. There is a vast difference, however, between roily and stagnant water.—*Ohio Farmer.*

Powdered Coal for Unhealthy Plants.—In a communication, addressed to the *Revue Horticole*, the writer states that he purchased a very fine rosebush, full of buds, and after anxiously waiting for their maturing, was greatly disappointed when this took place, to find the flowers small, insignificant in appearance, and of a dull faded color. Incited by the suggestion of a friend, he then tried the experiment of filling in the top of the pot around the bush, to the depth of half an inch, with finely pulverized stone coal. In the course of a few days he was astonished at seeing the roses assume a beautiful red, as brilliant and lively as he could desire. He tried the same experiment upon a pot of petunias, and soon after all the pale and indefinite ones became of a bright red or lilac, and the white petunia were variegated with beautiful red stripes. Some of the lilac petunias became a fine dark blue. Other flowers experienced similar alterations; those of a yellow color alone remained insensible to the influence of the coal.

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

ADOPTED BY THE DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION AT ALBANY, MARCH 18, 1874.

Resolved, 1. We declare our unfaltering devotion to the Constitution of the United States, and to the Union of the States thereby established, and we affirm that the people of the several States have the sole and exclusive right of governing themselves as free, sovereign and independent States, subject only to the limitations of the Constitution; and that all powers not herein expressly granted to the National Government are accorded to the States respectively; and we deny the right of the Federal Government through the treaty power to permanently domicil Mongolians within any State without the consent of the Legislature thereof.

2. We affirm that the greatest danger with which we are now threatened is the corruption and extravagance which exists in high official places, and we do declare, as the cardinal principles of our future political action, that retrenchment, economy and reform are imperatively demanded in all the Governments of the people, Federal as well as State and municipal; and we hereby proclaim ourselves the uncompromising foes of ring politicians and land monopolists, whoever they may be and wherever they may be found, whether they are in office or out. We appeal to honest men everywhere, without regard to past political affiliations, to join us in branding as they deserve these corrupt leeches on the body politic, and assisting us to purge official stations of their unwholesome and baneful presence.

3. That the present Federal Administration, by its utter inability to comprehend the dignity and responsibilities of the duties with which it is charged; by its devotion to personal and partisan interests; by its weak and incompetent management of the National finances; by its unwarranted interference with the local self-government of the people; by its support of the corrupt Governments which it has imposed by its power upon several of the States of the Union; by its complicity with corrupt practices and scandals in various quarters, and by its appointment of notoriously incompetent men to high official positions, has justly brought upon itself the condemnation of the American people.

4. That the persistent interference by Federal officials in local elections in the use of large sums of money to defeat the voice of the people through the ballot, deserves and has our severest condemnation.

5. That corporations are the creations of law; that their franchise and privileges are granted to subserve the public interest, and when those are used to subvert the objects of their creation and for purposes of oppression and extortion, we declare it to be the right and duty of the Legislature to regulate and control such corporations in their dealings with the people, and especially those engaged in the business of common carriers.

6. That we favor a speedy return to specie payments, and favor a just and equal taxation for the support of the Federal and State Governments, and that we are opposed to all discriminations in the assessment of Federal revenue for the purpose of protection.

7. That the free navigation and improvement of the Columbia River, in the construction of a breakwater at Port Orford, the improvement of the Coquille and Willamette Rivers, and the construction of the Portland, Dalles and Salt Lake Railroad, are imperatively demanded by the commercial interests of this State, and that the Federal Government ought by all proper means to assist those measures; that we are in favor of the bill now before Congress generally known as the Portland, Dalles and Salt Lake Railroad bill; and that we also favor the early completion of the Oregon and California Railroad to the southern boundary of the State.

8. That we depreciate all measures in the interest of capitalists and monopolists against labor, believing that distinctions, if distinctions should be made, should be in favor of the laboring class, who constitute the mass of our citizens and the producers of the wealth and property of our country. We therefore approve of the declared principles and sympathize with the avowed object of the organization known as the Patrons of Husbandry, and with those of all other orders having for their object retrenchment and reform in public affairs and the social advancement of the people.

9. That we are opposed to a monopoly in the publication and sale of books used in the common schools of this State, and we are in favor of amending the existing law in relation to such books, so as to take away from the publishers of the Pacific Coast Series of Readers and Spellers the privileges in relation thereto which they now enjoy.

10. That the act relating to the fees of Sheriffs and Clerks ought to be so amended—either by making such offices salaried or by reducing the fees now attached to the same—as shall reduce the compensation received by such officers to a fair remuneration, and nothing more, for the services required of them; that the Constitution ought to be so amended that all printing for the State, after the expiration of the term of the State Printer now in office, shall be provided for by letting the same to the lowest responsible bidder; that the rates for litigant printing should be reduced so as to correspond as nearly as may be with those charged for private advertisements.

11. That the only legitimate object of Government is the protection of its citizens in their lives, liberty, property and the pursuit of happiness; that to accomplish this end direct means only should be resorted to; that the good resulting from a departure from this rule is temporary, the evil lasting. We are therefore opposed to the State engaging in the purchase, leasing or speculating in property of any kind, except such only as is necessary for conducting the ordinary functions of the Government.

12. That we favor the immediate construction of a good and serviceable wagon road along the south bank of the Columbia River, from the mouth of Sandy River to the Dalles.

13. That the compensation of all officers should be only such as will be a just remuneration for their services.

The following amendments were unanimously adopted:

That we are in favor of the repeal of the Litigant Act.

That we are in favor of free trade and direct taxation.

A Startling Statement.—In discussing the subject of popular education in the Lower House of Congress not long since, Hon. Mr. Hoar made the startling statement that "one quarter of all the voters to-day are unable to read and write," and that "for the next ten years thirty Senators and one hundred and four Representatives will be elected by States, one-half of whose voting population have not sufficient knowledge of reading and writing to make it available in the transmission of information."

Pride and anger are closely allied.—*Josh Billings.*

Honesty is the best policy.

AGENTS FOR THE TIMES.

Geo. P. Rowell & Co.....New York.
S. M. Pettingill & Co.....New York.
L. P. Fisher,.....San Francisco.
Thos. Boyce.....San Francisco
Dan. L. Green.....Josephine County.

The Law of Newspapers.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary are considered as wishing to continue their subscriptions.
2. If any subscribers order the discontinuance of their newspapers, the publisher may continue to send them until all arrearages are paid.
3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their newspapers from the offices to which they are directed, the law holds them responsible until they have settled the bills, and ordered them discontinued.
4. If subscribers remove to other places without informing the publisher, and the newspapers are sent to the former direction, they are held responsible.
5. The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers from the office, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is *prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud.
6. The postmaster who neglects to give the legal notice of the neglect of a person to take from the office the newspapers addressed to him, is liable to the publisher for the subscription price.
