

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A Cincinnati court has decided that to say damn is not swearing. And yet there are people who profess to believe that Ohio is not becoming Democratic.

The Legislatures of twenty five states are now in session. But then this is a great country and our national resources will no doubt, enable us to survive the strain.

Last week the steamship Cimbra sank in the German Ocean and over four hundred lives were lost. Three hundred of them were German emigrants from East Prussia bound for America.

It is said that Henri Watterson of the "Courier-Journal" wants to be mayor of Louisville. He would no doubt make a good mayor, but it would be a great pity to run the risk of spoiling so good a journalist for so small an office.

The San Francisco "Journal of Commerce" estimates the deficiency in the hop crop in the United States for 1882 at 3,750,000 lb. According to this, hop raising will be a profitable industry the coming year. The deficiency in the beer crop has not been estimated.

Terrible tales of famine and distress come from Ireland. There was only a partial crop last year and the potatoes on hand are all rotting. The gaunt wolf howls on many an humble hearth, and hands that are willing to work hang helpless in the presence of starvation. When the rotting of potatoes brings famine, something more than mere temporary aid is necessary to reach the real evil.

Advices from all parts of the east announce unusually cold weather. Trains are delayed, stock is suffering severely, and many people have been frozen to death. At Chicago the mercury fell to twenty three degrees below zero, while in Minnesota it is reported as low as thirty degrees. The oldest inhabitants throughout the country brush up their recollections and declare they never saw any thing like it.

If "Portland's new paper" will pardon a suggestion from a country exchange in this end of the state, we beg leave to remark, that that "tuffy" column might be profitably devoted to other purposes now. Of course it was well enough at first, and the flattering notices with which it is filled are, no doubt, still pleasing to that paper; but its readers are ready to concede it to be a first-class paper which would be still better, if it talked just a little less about itself.

A terrible explosion occurred at the Giant Powder Works, situated three or four miles from Berkeley, California last Sunday. There were 125 men most of whom were Chinamen employed at the works at the time of the explosion. It is impossible from latest advices, to determine with certainty the number killed, but the best estimate places it at between forty and fifty Chinamen and two or three white men. The shock of the explosion was distinctly felt at San Francisco.

It is fashionable in some of the Eastern cities for young ladies to wear red cheeks, and many of them hold lumps of ice in their mouths to procure the proper degree of color. Of course, those naughty girls are being pretty severely criticised, for thus incurring the risk of neuralgia and colds for so trifling a matter, but while we are finding so much fault with the girls, let us not forget the young men who are pouring a certain fiery liquid into their stomachs to procure a similar color on the ends of noses.

There is a rhymester up at Astoria, who has been courting the Muses in interests of the "Daily News." The result was a wheezy, rickety jumble of words, so arranged as to produce a sort of jingle. It was all about the "Daily News," and was a whole tub full of taffy for that Journal. The literary editor of the new daily would have done an act of simple justice to his readers, by consigning this pretended poem to the seclusion of his wastebasket. The "News" is a good paper, but a liberal absence of such effusions would add to its attractions.

The Tilden faction in New York, having caused the circulation of a report that John Kelly was going to retire from politics, that statesman steps into the ring and assures the Democracy of New York and the country at large, that he has no such intentions. He says he is in good health and fine spirits, and never more enjoyed the honor or felt more deeply the responsibility of his political leadership, than at this time. When John Kelly retires from politics, he will retire to the silence and seclusion of the tomb, and Uncle Sammy might as well make up his mind to this fact, first as last.

Mexico is beginning to feel more keenly the necessity of stimulating trade and of introducing new factors in the development of her resources. With the increase of railroad facilities, comes a desire to see and be seen and this leads to the organization of expositions. An exposition is announced to take place on the 12th. of April, at Toluca which, promises to be the most extensive affair of this kind yet undertaken in that country. American merchants and manufacturers are especially invited to participate. The invitation will no doubt be accepted by many of our enterprising tradesmen.

Dominic Hoffman J. P. of Dubuque Iowa deserves a gold medal if such common trumpery would be a proper tribute to the most modest man of the age. He was a Justice of the Peace with a salary of \$2000 per year, and in his official capacity was called on to perform a marriage ceremony for a couple of his neighbors. Though he finally succeeded, it was with so much blundering and embarrassment, that he was convinced of his unfitness for the office and resigned at once. A man who can be frightened out of a \$2000 office, by the blushes of a bride and the awkward blighting of a groom, has no business fooling with politics.

Colonel Marshal T. Polk, the man who avindled the State of Tennessee out of nearly half a million dollars, is a nephew of James K. Polk. He is a man whose whole life has been attended with unusual advantages. He is a graduate of West Point, and a gentleman of superior ability and fine education. His social position has heretofore been at the very top of the ladder, and he has always been an honored and trusted member of society whose name was above the slightest hint of suspicion. Yet notwithstanding all this, he has deliberately robbed the people who loved and trusted him, of a half million dollars of money, and has drawn the dark mantle of disgrace over his innocent family. This is a case worthy the study of moralists.

A recent address of Professor Summer of Yale college, delivered before the Civil Service Reform Association of Rochester N. Y. contains a pointed answer to the argument that the proposed reform is "undemocratic." He says: "They who allege this, proceed on the sentimental notion that all men are absolutely equal. But the fact is, that all men are only equal 'before the law'—our free government theory requires only that all men have the same opportunity; but their differences in natural capacity will inevitably result in their varying successes. Therefore, the government has the right to protect itself and secure the best talent possible for its civil service, by applying tests to which all may subject themselves, but which will in the long run sift out the most capable for appointment."

The following is the number of Presidential electors for 1884, according to the new apportionment:

Alabama.....10	Missouri.....16
Arkansas.....7	Nebraska.....5
California.....8	Nevada.....3
Colorado.....3	New Hampshire.....4
Connecticut.....6	New Jersey.....9
Delaware.....3	New York.....36
Florida.....4	North Carolina.....11
Georgia.....12	Ohio.....23
Illinois.....22	Oregon.....3
Indiana.....15	Pennsylvania.....30
Iowa.....13	Rhode Island.....4
Kansas.....9	South Carolina.....7
Kentucky.....13	Tennessee.....12
Louisiana.....8	Texas.....13
Maine.....6	Vermont.....4
Maryland.....8	Virginia.....12
Massachusetts.....14	West Virginia.....6
Michigan.....13	Wisconsin.....11
Minnesota.....7	
Mississippi.....9	Total.....411

We feel like plucking a very small feather out of the western wing of the American Eagle, and placing it in the official cap of Secretary Folger. He says he does not approve of the Attorney-General's recent Chinese "may pass" decision. It appears that it is he, and not the Secretary of State, who is charged with the preparation of rules and regulations to prevent the Celestials from jumping the track and anchoring amongst us. He owns that the task is beset with a host of most perplexing difficulties, and solicits suggestions from people of the Pacific Coast, as well as assistance from their Representatives. About the only rule which would block up this breach in the law, would be one requiring a detachment of regular soldiers to escort them, and to keep them corralled until they are safely out of the country. But suppose, after all the rules that may be made by the Secretary have been applied toward the solution of this new problem, a Chinaman should step from the platform of the car upon the soil of any State in the Union, and openly refuse to return or to resume the journey, where is the power in the whole system of our law to compel him to leave the country? Once here, is there any law that will deny him the privilege of remaining?

Last year there were 2,410 deeds for real estate in Multnomah county entered for record. These deeds represented property of the value of \$6, 237,938. Most of this was Portland property. There has been, for the past year unusual activity in the real estate market of Portland and so far it shows no abatement. It keeps on steadily increasing in activity despite the gloomy predictions of a great many people. We are glad to see our metropolis multiplying its great resources by the all important factors of individual enterprise and commercial activity. It is growing very rapidly but the growth is firm and healthy and is deeply rooted in the richest soil. The heights and depths of Portland's possibilities are yet far in the future and, notwithstanding her present rate of progress, are likely to remain so for fully another generation.

When the Atlantic express train on the Central Pacific railroad reached Odenton, a station 166 miles west of Odenton, last Monday, it was met by a band of robbers who covered the engineer and conductor with revolvers and compelled them to side track the train. They then broke into the express car, but instead of walking off with the treasures, as is usual in such cases, were accorded so warm a reception by Wells Fargo & Co.'s pulkey messenger that they were compelled to retire in disorder. Several shots were exchanged and Ross, the messenger, was slightly wounded in the side. The robbers renewed the attack upon the car but were finally driven off without capturing any booty. If Wells Fargo & Co. don't show their appreciation of the bravery of that messenger in some thing more substantial than mere words, they don't deserve the services of such men.

The present Congress ends, by limitation of law, on the 4th. of next March. Representative Gibson, of Louisiana, has introduced in the House a bill providing that the forty-eighth Congress shall assemble on the 5th of March. No explanation of the reasons for introducing the bill was offered but it is believed that it was done to provide for the possible failure of the present tariff bill. If the present Congress should effect no reform in the tariff, this bill is to be brought up so that the next Congress may meet at once, and thus secure the credit of unusual activity in the matter of tariff reform. There may be however, another and more powerful reason for this bill. When the present Congress adjourns, there will be no President of the Senate and therefore, no acting Vice President of the United States, and no one to succeed to the office of President in the event of the death or inability of the present incumbent. It is certainly not advisable to leave the country in this condition, and unless some such bill as the one proposed shall be passed, the President should call an extra session.

The figures presented in Secretary Teller's report of the exports and imports in our trade with the Hawaiian Islands is the very strongest argument in favor of the abrogation of our present treaty with those islands. According to this report, the value of our exports to the Islands during last year was \$3,350,775 and the imports from them amounted to \$7,646,294. If the sugar imported had been subject to duty, it would have yielded \$3,405,406 to this government. Under the present treaty, this money went into the pockets of the San Francisco sugar ring. The prime object of the treaty was to benefit the consumers of sugar. Instead of doing this, it has enriched a few individuals and increased the price of sugar. It has taken money out of the pockets of the poor and added to the bank account of the rich. Some of the Eastern journals, with their accustomed stupidity when discussing Pacific coast matters argue that if the treaty is abrogated and the tax restored, it will only result in adding that much more to the present price, and will thereby aggravate instead of relieve the present difficulty. In this, they overlook the fact that the present monopoly cannot be continued, except upon the basis of very large profits. If the tax were restored this income would according to the Secretary's report, be reduced over three million dollars a year. Such a shrinkage in profits would disorganize the monopolists to such an extent, as to render fair promise of reducing the sugar trade to its normal condition, and making it subject to the laws of trade. But upon the very face of the question is shown sufficient reason to insure the abrogation of a dozen such treaties, if they affected some of the Atlantic, instead of the Pacific States. The treaty was made primarily to secure cheap sugar to the Pacific Coast. It has failed to do this. Instead, it has increased the price of sugar. Having failed of its purpose to the extreme extent of magnifying the evil it was intended to mitigate, this treaty should be abrogated.

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Stock Farm for Sale. The undersigned offers 400 acres of land for sale. 150 acres are under fence, and a good dwelling and two barns will be found on the farm. The place is also well wooded and supplied with plenty living water. For particulars enquire at this office or at Phoenix of P. W. Orwell, J. CARLAGHAN, Jacksonville, June 24th, 1882.

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