

ABOUT OURSELVES

In coming before the reading public in the capacity of editor and proprietor of a newspaper, and presuming to occupy ground which has heretofore been monopolized by gentlemen, we feel the responsibility of our position, and realize the necessity of making our work come up practically to the high standard which alone should satisfy the gleaner after truth.

The first nine years of our married life were spent upon a farm, where, surrounded by a growing family, we unhesitatingly performed prodigies of labor, doing anything and everything that came in our way, until health was destroyed and constitution broken.

Already one railroad, stretching away in iron bands from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans, has been completed and proved in every way a success. Two more, one to traverse our Southern and the other our Northern boundaries, are already in process of construction.

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RECORD OF RECENT EVENTS

In France the civil war between the Third Government and the Communists continues, with no prospect apparently of a speedy abatement. It is stated that the German Government has solemnly pledged itself to the maintenance of Versailles a further limited period for the restoration of authority, enforcement of order and fulfillment of the treaty stipulations, after which independent action will be taken to establish law and order.

The Secretary of the Treasury announced today that the Public Debt was reduced during the month of April \$6,326,613. Increase of debt since March 1st, 1911, \$17,135,308.78. Decrease of debt from March 1st, 1910, to March 1st, 1911, \$29,729,415.00. \$40,000,000 gold will be sold during May.

It is reported that Secretary Fish will resign the office of Secretary of State about the 1st of June, being induced by the President, as a personal favor, to continue in office until the Joint High Commission, now in session, completes its labors.

The trial of Mrs. Fair in San Francisco, for the murder of her husband, created considerable interest and excitement in the first degree—some surprise. The public, though generally satisfied with the result, thought that of her guilty partner's former a warning that should be heeded by all who would violate the sanctity of the marriage relation.

The opposition steamer Constantine—Messrs. Hotelmann, Kohl & Co.—will leave San Francisco for Portland on Saturday next, carrying passengers and freight at reduced rates.

Mrs. Stevens' Account of the Fine Imposed upon Her

(From the K. P. Pioneer.)

At the very first it was evident that the Court was not inclined to have the women present. They all seemed to be under more or less constraint. This dislike was manifested in a score of different ways, but easily and readily understood by a sensitive mind. At this time no one present thought the time near to present them. For several days this annoying condition of things continued, till all interested parties of the masculine gender seemed to lose their patience, and with it their self-control. There was, doubtless, a general feeling that something quick, sharp and decisive should be done to bring matters to a crisis—something that should degrade and frighten the women from the trial.

Two of the morning papers were not back and about midday the women in attendance, in a manner to bring them into public contempt, hoping thereby to drive them from the courtroom. A large number who frequent the court-rooms and design to have a good time generally, and to the women of crime, can, cannot comprehend what right a virtuous, dutiful and loving wife or mother, sister or daughter, who knew her proper sphere and designed to confine herself within its prescribed limits, has in that courtroom, the exclusive battle-field of masculine lawyers, judges, jurors and clients, to derange their plans and disturb them in the enjoyment of lascivious chattering and snappy jokes. The bar grew restless and impatient, and evidently the nature of Judge sympathized with his professional brethren in their annoying misfortune, and doubtless concluded that the disturbing element were unsexing themselves, and ought in some way to be properly repressed. These women bring about all changes, came to the attention of the Court. On the 4th day of April, on the 8th day of the trial, Mrs. Fair being on the witness stand, Mr. Good then called to the defendant, put the following question to the witness: "Had you any idea of injuring Mr. Crittenden that night?" The following is her answer and what followed as appeared in the Morning News, April 8th: "Yes, I had. At the time you bought that pistol had you any idea of using it? A—Not the slightest, sir; I had no reason to use it—[hystrically.] I am sure he was the only protector I had in the world; I would never have dreamed of harming him. [Wildly.]—If he had been living, gentlemen, when Mr. Campbell insulted me here yesterday, he would make Mr. Campbell, on his bended knees, apologize for it."

This bit of play was rendered with a fine dramatic effect, and served to bring down the house. Cheers and stamping issued from the lobby, and a number of ladies inside the bar joined in the applause. [The Alta California of the same date, gives an account of the affair, has the following and the correct version of the affair, which was general all over the courtroom: "The last sentence of Mrs. Fair was delivered in an emphatic manner, and was followed by a boisterous applause by the audience."]

The Court—Mr. Sheriff, bring those parties forward who applauded—bring them every one forward, and have them sworn.

The Sheriff went on a prospecting tour among the spectators, and inquired of a great many if they had applauded. But he could find no one to say "yes." He spent about ten minutes in this research, and returned, telling the Judge he had found no one who had.

The Court—Well, bring them all forward, and let them be sworn to answer questions.

Mrs. Fair—Judge, perhaps I was to blame. I should not have said what I did. It was not my fault, and I am sorry. You are not to blame for what they did.

The Sheriff fastened onto, and brought forward an unlucky wight, who trembled like an aspen leaf, and whose face was as white as a sheet. He was sworn, and gave the name of Francis M. Hughes.

The Court—Did you applaud? A. No, Sir.

Q.—Did you see any one who did applaud? A.—No, Sir, I did not.

The Court—[To Sheriff] Go and bring some one who did see some one applaud. The Sheriff whispered to the Judge.

The Sheriff then advanced to where Mrs. Emily Pitts Stevens was seated taking notes for the Pioneer. He asked her if she applauded. She was loth to reply. Several bystanders asserted that they saw her applaud, upon which she rose to her feet, and advancing towards the bench, said, "Yes, Judge, I did applaud; I did not know it was against the rules of the Court."

The Court—What is your name, madam? A.—Emily Pitts Stevens; I will pay my fine.

The Court—What did you do? A.—I said "good," and slapped my hand down on the table; I did not know that I must not do it.

The Court—Will you fine me \$25. Mrs. Fair [promptly]—I will pay it. Mrs. Stevens—Thank you. Another lady here jumped up from the side of Mrs. Stevens and said: "Judge, I applauded, too. I stamped my feet."

The Court—What is your name? A.—Mrs. Booth.

The Court—Will you fine me \$25. Mrs. Fair—I will pay it. Mrs. Booth—Thank you. The Court [to Mrs. Fair]—You will have a good bill to pay if you pay them all.

Mrs. Fair—I don't think these ladies understood it, Judge.

not to maintain order, or for exacting proper obedience to authority; but if looked to be then, and it has the same aspect still, that Judge Dwinelle was happy in being offered an opportunity to rebuke the women in attendance on the trial, and, if possible, discourage their further presence. The day, previous there was applause, but neither rebukes nor fines followed.

In this particular instance the applause was general, both within the lobby and within the bar. The men who applauded had neither the countenance nor the honor to step forward and acknowledge their participation in the applause. Two women owned up, and were fined. The honesty here manifested would be a valuable auxiliary in legislative, judicial and executive departments of the Government.

There is another curious fact about this fining the women, and that is, that the Judge, when he could not help noticing that the applause was general, had a hat crowded with only thirty-seven women present, should satisfy his conscience and sense of justice, by fining two members of the proscribed and non-voting class, and allow all of his masculine violators to go unrebuked and unpunished.

Here is another important fact in this case, and that is, that the Judge should impose a fine on two women who frankly acknowledged their offence, but plead ignorance of the countenance they had borne to a criminal trial, and expressed regret that they had been betrayed into the act. It looked to us as though the Judge, for the moment, sunk the gentlemen in the tyrant.

Call for a Pacific Slope Woman's Suffrage Convention

To the friends of woman suffrage residing in the States and Territories of the Pacific Slope:

The California Woman's Suffrage Association, at its annual meeting, impressed with the great importance of securing the leading friends of an efficient instrumentality to improve her industrial and educational, moral and social condition, and at the same time obtain for the State the benefit of her harmonizing, refining and purifying presence and influence, has earnestly urged, denouncing and corrupting tendencies of party politics may be arrested, and legislative, judicial and executive integrity be established; and feeling that the time has arrived and the cause at hand such a general and important one that the friends of progress in this western section of the Federal Republic should meet for consultation, mutual understanding and organization, and for the adoption of a plan for future operations, they have decided to convene a Ballot movement in different parts of the Pacific Slope, to secure their advice and co-operation in calling and holding a Pacific Slope Woman's Suffrage Convention, the undersigned, therefore, members of said Ballot movement, and names are herewith annexed, unite in inviting the friends of Woman's Political Emancipation in all the States and Territories of the Pacific Slope, to meet in convention at the Hotel California Theatre Building, Bush Street, in the city of San Francisco, California, on Tuesday morning, May 16th proximo, to remain in session for three days, or longer if the occasion shall so require.

Woman Suffrage Societies are respectfully invited to send delegates, and individuals, favorable to the object which this Convention is designed to promote, residing in a locality where no working organization exists, are earnestly invited to be present and participate in its proceedings.

Distinguished advocates of Woman Suffrage, both in the Atlantic States and Europe, have been invited to be present to assist in the deliberations of the Convention.

Signed by John A. Collins, President; Mrs. Sophia E. Walsh, Vice-President; Mrs. E. A. H. De Wolf, Corresponding Secretary; Wm. M. Rider, Recording Secretary; M. O. Sailer, Treasurer; Mrs. S. E. White, M. C.; Society of J. Collins; Mrs. Mary F. Snow; Mrs. Carrie H. Spear, San Francisco Officers and Members of the Board of Control.

Mrs. E. Pitts Stevens, President California Woman Suffrage Association; Mrs. S. E. Coulburn, M. C.; Society of Sarah Wallis, Pres. 8th Clara Co. W. Suff. Society; Mrs. Angles, Denio, Pres. Solano Co. W. Suff. Society; Mrs. Jane C. Smith, Pres. Contra Costa Co. W. Suff. Society; Mrs. C. M. Palmer, Pres. Nevada Co. W. Suff. Society; Mrs. C. H. Sprague, Pres. Yolo Co. W. Suff. Society; Mrs. E. M. Wallace, Pres. San Bernardino Co. W. Suff. Society; Mrs. Berwin, Pres. Marin Co. W. Suff. Society; John Lewellyn, Pres. Napa Co. W. Suff. Society; Ex-Officio Members of the Board of Control.

Mrs. S. Clark Smith, San Bernardino Co.; Mrs. M. F. Snow, San Francisco Co.; Hon. C. H. De Wolf, Solano Co.; Judge W. H. McGeorge, Butte Co.; Mr. J. Eager, Alameda Co.; Judge E. B. Palmer, Nevada Co.; Geo. W. Kinball, Contra Costa Co.; Mrs. R. R. Emery; Mrs. Eunice S. Sleeper, S. Clara Co.; Mrs. S. E. Coulburn, S. Yuba Co.; Vice-President of the California Woman Suffrage Association.

Gov. J. A. Campbell, Wyoming Territory; Hon. J. W. Kingman, Associate Justice U. S. Court, Wyoming Territory; Hon. E. D. Baker, U. S. Court, Nevada Territory; Hon. C. A. Tread, Associate Justice U. S. Court, Arizona Territory; Mrs. Harriet K. Clapp, Carson City, Vice-Pres. Ormsby county, Nevada; Mrs. E. G. Baker, Virginia City, Vice-Pres. Humboldt county, Nevada; Hon. S. M. Bondfield, Unionville, Nevada; Hon. T. V. Julian, Winnemucca, Nevada; Hon. C. J. Hillery, Virginia City, Nevada; Hon. G. W. Lawson, Secretary Oregon W. S. Society, Salem, Oregon; Mr. A. J. Dunaway, Portland, Oregon; Mr. M. F. Brown, Olympia, Washington Territory; Mrs. A. D. Wiggins, Seattle, Washington Territory; Gov. Wood, Great Salt Lake City, Utah Territory; Hon. J. H. Hensley, Idaho Territory; Mrs. Laura De Foley, Jordan, President Nevada W. Suff. Society.

HEMATION FROM THE PRESS.—We heartily endorse the following judicious article from the San Francisco Golden Era concerning the Press and the Fair tragedy:

"The course of the daily press, with one or two exceptions, was simply disgraceful. The publication of the details of an interesting event, the most important to a full understanding of the case. There is no more excuse for the publication of the letters of Mrs. Fair and of Mr. Crittenden, than there would be for a flash sheet like the dead *Nepheza* to appear in the *Golden Era* and *Chronicle* and *Examiner* of its class. For three weeks there was but one daily paper in this city fit to put in the hands of a respectable woman. The *Examiner* declined to publish full court proceedings, giving a synopsis of the chief points of evidence, and rulings of the court. The *Alta* refrained from the publication of the anonymous letters of the guilty couple, but the *Bulletin*, *4th* and the *Chronicle* gave their readers everything indecent that came in their way. Sometime within a week or two we may look for editorials from each of these papers."

The Northern Pacific Railroad

(By Hon. Schuyler Colfax, in the New York Independent.)

Midway across the continent—the head of twelve hundred miles of lake navigation—between the Gulf of Mexico, the western terminus of the Erie Canal, and as near to it by water as Chicago—a hundred miles west of the long city of St. Louis or Galena—is the young city of Duluth, the initial point of the Northern Pacific Railroad. That great work, so magnificently endowed by the Government, is already being pushed rapidly westward, under its energetic controllers; and before the snow flies next fall it will be completed to the western line of Minnesota, where it crosses the Red River of the North—which runs northward to Lake Winnipeg—and one-eighth of its distance to the Pacific Ocean will have been accomplished. Connecting, too, this season on its southern line, the westward and eastward from both directions, and long projected the nation celebrates its Centennial Anniversary.

Under current in the Mediterranean—It has long been known that a current in the Mediterranean Sea and from the Atlantic, beside the numerous rivers pouring in always abundantly, and the question has often been asked: "How is it that the great mid-latitude sea is constantly overflowing? The answer is: 'Because, while the surface stream flows in through the strait of Gibraltar, a stream deep down is constantly flowing out; and the existence of this under current is said to have been proved by a captain who sank a basket of stones, by a rope, to a considerable depth, where, being acted upon by a strong stream, it towed the boat out against the surface current.' Nevertheless, the existence of the under current has been often questioned. Dr. Carpenter, however, who has recently returned from a dredging cruise in the Mediterranean, states that he took much pains to investigate this question, and that in a short time he will publish an account of the operations by which he ascertained that the out-flowing under current does really exist."

adversary of independence the lakes will be snuffed by poor hands with that Mediterranean of our Northwest, Puget Sound.

Of the auspicious influence of this enterprise, which but a few years ago would have been considered as daring, the most sanguine of its friends have scarcely yet a full realization. Even taking Chicago as the starting point, it will be (via St. Paul, where an arm of the Northern Pacific Railroad is reached) two hundred miles to Duluth, and from Duluth to San Francisco. Beside this, a vessel from the Golden Gate to China sail on what is called the grand circle, instead of in a straight line; and any one testing this by a string on a globe will be surprised at the result, if they have not previously studied the effect of the rotundity of the earth, and its diminished protruberance as you go northward toward the Pole. Hence, from San Francisco, they are only one hundred miles from the strait of Fuca, and from there this striking fact shows the advantages this route will have in commanding the through traffic of Asia with our Atlantic States, or that portion of it which will pass over the soil of this nation on its road to Europe.

Nor is this all. Development is the great duty of the Republic, after all its recent trials. Resources are the gift of the Creator. Developing them depends upon the will of man. Along the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, as it follows up the water courses, the Missouri and Yellowstone on this side, and descends by the valley of the Columbia on the other, a vast body of agricultural land is waiting to be tilled. The climate is almost exactly the same as that of New York, except that, with less snow, cattle, in the larger portion of it, can subsist on the open range in winter. Here, if climate and fertility of soil produce natural wealth, the isolated region to settlement, will soon be seen waving grain fields, and happy homes, and growing towns; while ultimately a cordon of prosperous States