

### THE TEXED QUESTION.

The vexed question of national finances has been understood by the nation's financiers, but if so, it is so extremely obscure as to defy their efforts to elucidate it with a plainness that enables the ordinary mind to fully understand it. Money, with the ridicule with which it is treated by the nation's financiers, and the laudations that loyal supporters of the government and friends of the middle or working classes attach to it; the silver dollar, deficient in weight, a full dollar only by governmental fiat; the trade dollar, unwieldy, inconvenient and cumbersome, each of these has its supporters, and each faction, though striving with persistent sound and fury to make out a clear case, succeeds in making only a one-sided case for a pet hobby. Either this, or our financial wits have gone daff, leaving us utterly incapable of comprehending terms. We have expressed the opinion that the endorsement by the government, "money of the United States," makes any material which is honored with the stamp just what it claims to be so long as the government is solvent, and gold worshippers have smiled in derision, but have not refuted the statement. The silver dollar, according to the assayer, weighs fifteen cents of being what the fiat of the government says it is, one dollar. So, clearly here is fifteen cents flat money which every opposer thereof purchases with every silver dollar of which he becomes the fortunate possessor. Coin itself is but the fiat money of the world, and but for governmental stamp would not be worth one-third of its present value. It has substance, they tell us; substance and weight and bulk. So also has iron and lead, and for these reasons neither the one metal nor the other is as suitable for purposes of trade as are crisp, light paper bills. The San Jose Mercury has in a recent issue some sensible and tangible ideas upon this subject, which we append: "If the fiat of government can convert fifty cents' worth of bullion into one hundred cents of money, where is the difficulty in the way of making Providence draw the whole load; in other words, doing away with metallic money altogether, if desirable, and making the money of the nation out of whatever material is the most convenient? It is a mere matter of custom and public confidence at best. Gold and silver are all well enough, perhaps, as a measure for money, although their purchasing power has depreciated more than sixty per cent. during the last thirty years, and with increased production must inevitably depreciate still lower. Government is but an aggregate individual. If A, B and C agree, in their dealings with each other, to affix their signatures to a piece of paper, as an evidence of genuineness, and accept and interchange with each other, as a representative of value, and call it money, why then it is money. The government can do the same. Confidence is all that is necessary to make money of anything. The owners of the world's gold naturally oppose 'flat,' for the selfish reason that it enables them the better to speculate on the necessities of those less favored. Hence we find the moneyed class a unit against it."

### MORAL AND LEGAL CLAIMS.

In a lecture on "Society," Mrs. Gault, of Wisconsin, claims that "whatever is immoral should be made illegal, and that all moral claims should be made legal ones, in order to secure their fulfillment from that class for whom the laws are made, i. e., those who need the legal tie to make them respect a moral obligation." This is a view of the matter founded upon knowledge of humanity that social revolutionists will find ever in their path, unanswerable and incontrovertible, until humanity advances to a higher plane. Of course, this question of rendering everything "illegal that is immoral," involves complications of a perplexing nature, inasmuch as men's ideas differ so widely upon questions of this nature, yet, in the main, all agree upon the necessity of preserving, for the safety of society, the institutions that keep it even tolerable in point of morality, and in holding all persons bound by a contract lawfully entered into until lawfully released from it.

### HER DAUGHTERS MAY NOT ASWEE.

Listening to a crowded Boston church the "Church of the Disciples," to a sermon on that subject interdicted to ministers, politics and elections, a writer in the *Woman's Journal*, says: "Sitting there with women whose names are synonymous for strength and purity and nobility of devotion, there came to us a sudden strong sense of the deep injustice, the strangeness of that so-called wisdom that says, while a woman may learn from earliest childhood to

"Speak plain the word 'country'."

While heart and brain may thrill in quick response to brave words and solemn appeals like these—yet when the country asks for the truest service that can be given, her daughters may not answer.

Susan B. Anthony commenced her winter's lecturing tour October 16th, at Perry, New York. Twenty persons drove ten miles to hear her. She lectured in Ohio during November. Elizabeth Cady Stanton commenced her lecture course about the same time in Vermont. Both expect to work until June.

Now is the time to make up clubs.

### LEGAL DOGMATISM.

We find in the Washington *Post* an account of the manner in which Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood, an attorney-at-law of that city, was treated by a Maryland Judge a while ago, which will be interesting to many of our readers. It appears that Mrs. Lockwood had a case upon the calendar of the circuit court of Prince George's county, Maryland, and being notified of the day of hearing assigned to her, she repaired to Marlborough to attend to it. When, however, she attempted to call the case up before Judge Daniel R. Magruder, he refused to hear her, claiming that she was not a member of the bar. To obviate this, R. B. B. Chew, Esq., proposed her name, and Judge Magruder took a week to consider the matter.

Mrs. Lockwood was not idle this week, but determining to make a test case, carefully prepared a brief, stating that she had been a lawyer in good standing in the city of Washington for five years, and showing that there was nothing in the laws of Maryland which could exclude her from practicing in any court in the State. Returning to hear the decision of the judge, she found it adverse, given in language coarse and rude, heated with passion, and highly denunciatory of woman lawyers in general. She requested the judge to put his objections in writing, and was roughly commanded to "sit down," and was not even allowed to speak as a citizen in her own behalf. After the judge had adjourned the court, she arose to address the members of the bar in defense of her position. The judge again interrupted, saying she should not speak in the court-room. The lawyers then unanimously invited Mrs. Lockwood to address them, which she did on the court-house portico. Her statements were listened to with attention and received hearty applause. At the bar in all the courts of the District of Columbia, Mrs. Lockwood stands upon the same footing, meets with the same courtesies, and wins her full share of the honors of her profession with her brother lawyers. Judge Magruder stigmatized her as a "wandering woman," and enunciated the extremely original doctrine that "God had set a bound for woman." So, also, we imagine, he has set a bound for man, and when man attempts to play the part of vice regent to Jehovah, supplementing his commands with restrictions of his own, he evidently oversteps those bounds, and attempts works of supererogation which militates neither to the glory of God, nor to his own honor or credit. Of course there cannot be two opinions about the arbitrary injustice herein chronicled, and it is especially gratifying to know that Judge Magruder's opinions were not seconded by any member of the bar present.

### INSIST ON YOURSELF.

Ralph Waldo Emerson gives a world of good advice in the words: "Insist on yourself; never imitate. That which each man can do best, none but his Maker can teach him." These words settle beyond all peradventure the question of "sphere," or point the way to its settlement so plainly that he who runs may read. "Insist on yourself," if you would undertake anything with even a possibility of its successful accomplishment. That which you draw from inherent sources, be it much or little, is your own, always at your command, always reliable as far as it goes, and always by use growing stronger and more reliable.

"You like to wash dishes," was remarked to a happy-faced girl who was singing merrily at the task.

"Because I can do it satisfactorily," was the reply.

"Don't you dread to begin the school year?" is asked of a teacher who takes up hat and gloves and starts in response to the chime of the school-bell.

"Not at all," is the cheerful reply; "I know what I can do in the school-room, and I like to do it."

Reverse the occupations of these two young women, and does any one suppose that either would perform her tasks as cheerfully or as well? To insist that all women must, because of their sex, do certain kinds of work, however distasteful to them, is to take from them the right, the duty to insist on themselves, and converts them into mere machines, than which any machine manufactured of iron, steel or wood could perform more acceptable labor. Little else than human machines are they who, forbidding always what others will say, insist not upon their own faculties deciding the question of their life labor for them, but attempt at the behest of others, things repugnant to their feelings and tastes; things for which they have no natural ability, and because of misdirected labor, sum up each day of their lives and mark the result in the catalogue of abortive effort. It is always well enough to harken to the counsel of friends, but when this counsel goes directly opposite to strong personal convictions of what one can do and do the best, then intelligent human beings should insist upon themselves and turn neither to the right hand nor to the left to cater to private whims or public prejudices.

Our correspondent, under the head of "Checkmate," offers first a disclaimer to our views as expressed on the subject under consideration, and then advances arguments to prove, not the disclaimer, but the correctness of the position assumed. It is well. As many "moves" as you like, brother, in this direction. We have no disposition to call "check," but are quite willing the game should proceed.

"Brave Pawns in valiant battle stand; The double 'Castles' guard the wings; The Bishop, bent on distant things, Moves sliding through the light."

There have been no deaths from yellow fever at New Orleans for several days.

### EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR READERS OF THE NEW NORTHWEST:

The undersigned reached Walla Walla on Wednesday of last week, the only thing new worth mentioning connected with the journey from Walla Walla being the new passenger coach on the railroad, which is certainly a grand improvement over the box cars heretofore used for the purpose.

The Stine House has taken a new departure, having rented out its dining-room on the plan of the St. Charles in Portland. Dinner over, we have time to look about us, and are surprised at the rapidity with which improvements are everywhere going forward.

Houses big and houses little, business houses and churches, are rising everywhere, and yet there is not in all the city a dwelling-house to rent. This is the paradise of doctors. We are told that thirty-four reside here permanently, while many more are transient visitors. The mortality among children is thought to be upon the decrease, though we have seen a funeral procession go by every day since we have been here.

Rev. Mr. Eagan, of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, has built up a large congregation. Rev. Mr. Galvin, of the Unitarian, is doing a splendid work among the people. This latter gentleman is lecturing Sunday evenings upon the woman question, and this subject being the most popular and interesting that can be brought forward, in this era of enlightenment, draws crowded audiences here, as everywhere. Our brother is quite as eloquent as brother Cruzan, and certainly much more logical in his conclusions, for he believes that when God said that he gave men and women joint dominion over the earth, he meant what he said.

We find here Dr. G. H. Davis, formerly of the Willamette Valley, who is building up a thriving practice. Dr. Alexander, formerly of Albany, is also a resident. Our many subscribers in Linu county will be pained to hear of the hopeless illness of his estimable wife.

Our old friend Thomas H. Brents, whom we well remember as a Harderatic school-boy, is bearing his new honors as member of Congress elect, with becoming dignity. Court is in session, and the members of the legal fraternity are especially busy. Prominent among the resident members of the bar are Messrs. Caton, Isham, Anders, Ayres and Kennedy, who seem to have reached a lawyer's heaven, so over-run with business are they. D. H. Ballard, Esq., of Yakima City, is also present as an attorney, and is winning well-deserved laurels. Judge Wigard is making himself very popular among the ladies by his determined stand against houses of gambling and general ill-repute. And the same is true of Mr. Anders, the prosecuting attorney.

Mr. Caton and his estimable family have recently met with an irreparable loss in the death of their darling Bertie, aged fourteen, who was the light and joy of the household. The family have the heartfelt sympathy of the community in their sad bereavement. Time alone can heal the wound; but even time will leave an ineffaceable scar upon the hearts of the devoted and sorrowing parents. The houses are few in Walla Walla where the shadow of the wing of the Death Angel has not fallen some time during the past few years. Some parents have lost their entire group of little ones, and many others have followed more than one tender charge to its long home. Yet, we see no reason why this valley should be sickly. The air is crisp and fresh, and the climate dry and bracing. The mortality cannot depend wholly upon the bad drainage of the city, for the mountain sides and the country farms are as badly afflicted as the city. The recent upturning of such a vast area of virgin soil may have caused malaria, but this is only guess work, so far as we are concerned.

Mr. H. P. Isaacs and family depart presently for California, where they will spend the winter in quest of health. We have just been favored with a look through the flouring mill belonging to Mr. I., and cannot but express surprise at its extent and completeness. This is the only mill north of Central California where the celebrated "new process" flour is manufactured. The object of this process is to extract the farina from the grain without heating, as is the case under the ordinary style of grinding. The machinery for the purpose was exported from Switzerland and consists of a variety of complex arrangements for crushing the wheat and sifting out its impurities, the flour being finally reduced to regulation fineness by being passed through porcelain rollers. Mr. Isaacs claims that his flour possesses all the nutritive qualities of the unground wheat berry. The bread made from it is of a delicious lightness, but has a slight yellow tinge, owing to the uniform presence of bran in fine particles. This flour is in active demand, and the owner of the mill is well pleased with his experiment.

Mr. Vawter, the postmaster, with whose excellent family we are a guest during our sojourn, is occupied almost night and day with the business of the post office. An obliging little lady is stationed at the delivery window, where she answers pleasantly to the incessant demands of a constant stream of newshunting humanity.

We have delivered two lectures since arriving. One on Saturday evening, upon "Women as politicians," and one on Sunday evening upon "The religion of the present and the future." Both lectures were largely attended, and the interest was so great that we much regretted not being able to protract the meeting indefinitely. But we may just as well confess it; we are no longer strong enough to do the work we once accomplished without difficulty. Were we working in any other interests than those of the disfranchised classes, we surely could afford six months of

quiet rest when we so badly need it. A. J. D.

Walla Walla, November 27, 1878.  
P. S.—We know the chirography of the undersigned is like crow tracks, but for all that we winced under typographical blunders that mean nonsense. How the earth "has hidden his darkened canopy to give forth torrents of tears," we do not know, yet by the types we are made to say it, when *hidden* was the word intended. Then, we are made to say, "the mountains and ever-varying sameness is always new," making bad grammar, and spoiling the paradox. "Monotonous," we wrote, and not "mountains." Again, those were terribly "weeping skies" that in the same sentence "wiped their weeping eyes." We wrote "misty skies." We were also made to say "the captain works past," for "works fast." The red lights of the Umatilla wharfbait is made to read, "two Umatilla wharfbaites." The wild scates across the Columbia are called "wild waters across the Columbia"—and—we don't dare to criticize any further for fear we'll get into a frenzy and sing in sheer distraction.

"The world is all a fleeting show."

Speaking of postscripts, let us not omit saying, in our summing up of personalities, what should have gone into the body of this letter, viz: the newspapers, *Union* and *Watchman*, are doing well. Especially do the citizens of Walla Walla seem pleased with the *Watchman*, which, under the control of Mr. Bessner, is having a successful run. And old Mr. Newell, of the *Statesman*, is dead. Peace to his ashes. As a public speaker he had few superiors, and as a journalist he was both feared and hated. But he has gone the way of all the earth, and his newspaper slumbers in the court of the administrator. But the P. S. of this letter will be big enough to wag the first edition of it if we don't cut short its growing proportions. Adieu.

### A WELL-FOUNDED PLAINT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW NORTHWEST:

This is an age of progress. The commodious steamship speeds its direct course across the trackless deep in defiance of wind and wave; the electric current is made to proclaim the doings of the hour from one end of the earth to the other, with the velocity of thought; the spectroscopic mirrors to the eye of the scientist the particular elements of which distant worlds are composed; the sun is trained to paint with far greater facility and precision than ever did Raphael or a Muralist; physicians have bowed to the dictates of reason and the instinct of humanity; school teachers have discovered progress in their studies, although their epidermis remains intact, and even lawyers have made some advancements, in that they have learned that witnesses are not called to the witness-stand solely to afford them an opportunity to display their impertinences and wit. But I shall not attempt to enumerate the thousand advancements that have been made in almost every direction tending to the general diffusion of knowledge, and the promotion of happiness. But there is one prominent relic of the barbarous ages that clings to the living present with all the tenacity of custom, and which, if eliminated, would make at least one heart lighter, and I doubt not, many heartbeats brighter. I allude to the use (abuse) of the inevitable drum in all our modern bands of music. It is, in this age, altogether out of place, for in what respect does the noise of the drum add to the music it accompanies? Just as the stamping of the plantation darkey's foot embellishes the music produced upon his gourd fiddle. How must the composer feel to hear a tune he has spent toilsome hours arranging in accordance with the laws of harmony so that no ear-splitting jangle may mar its beauties, completely overborne by the meaningless din of a barbarous drum? For it is impossible for any one listening to a modern band to hear any of the harmonies, all are drowned completely by the jarring thumps of the inevitable drum. A man must be a model of modesty indeed to spend years in acquiring a knowledge of the science and art of music, and then never be allowed to hear his own instrument from being hushed into eternal stillness by a noise that is about as deafening as the crash of artillery, and as musical as the notes of a pig.

"O, Lord, how long!"

A SUFFERER.

A correspondent at Seattle writes: "Our honorable Judge Lewis, of the third judicial district, in a speech at the open temperance meeting in this city, recently acknowledged himself a believer in and advocate of Woman Suffrage." He stated further that he "believed with the success of that cause, the evils of intemperance, if not wiped out, would be very materially lessened; that the preachers, school teachers and women could do this, but it would require the aid of woman before the balance of political power could be wrested from the hands of saloon-keepers." The comment closes with the query: "How is this for a judge?" and we reply, "good." The logic of events makes all sensible persons see the need of a new element in politics, but few comparatively have the courage to record their convictions as Judge Lewis has.

"O, Lord, how long!"

A SUFFERER.

A Berlin professor applying the test to six hundred and eleven women, found only one in one hundred and twenty-two color-blind among men is one in every twenty; Dr. Jeffries found but one color-blind girl among three hundred and two students at Wellesley College, while among the students and professors at Harvard and Amherst the proportion of color-blind was one in twenty-two; or to put it in another way, among one thousand and twenty-one college and high school-girls, only one deficient in the chromatic sense.

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### "CHECKMATE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW NORTHWEST:

Assuming that I am the "friend" alluded to under the above heading in your issue of last week, I feel disposed to contend for my right to "move" once more at least, for I am convinced that you were premature in your exultation, and not even entitled to exclaim "check." Let us see. But in the first place I did not "take issue with you" when the question of the justice of allowing a jury of women to try a woman charged with crime, but referring to your leader of the 14th ult., I took a position that the denying of accused women the right of trial by a jury of their sex was no hardship, but really a kindness, since men are so constituted that they invariably show women more mercy than they would a man in like situation, and more than women themselves would; and that as a plea in support of the assumption that women are sufferers from want of a proper recognition of their rights by our laws, it is altogether empty. Now, this is the position I maintain, and I ask, may I not with propriety "point to the late case at Salem in proof of the correctness of my position?" And while I believe thus, I shall not deny that there is a principle involved in this question of vital importance, yet it seems to me, to be one, the recognition of which by our laws would cause an unjust discrimination against women, instead of insuring them justice. Hence, I think women should not complain if the law, in this respect, should never be changed. I know you intimate that women, if held amenable to man-made laws, should not be favored on account of their sex, and while I admit that the principle is sound and may, with propriety, be advocated by those who are free from the meshes of criminal law, it is certainly one that a woman arraigned at the bar of her country charged with a grave crime would not demand as a right or feel aggrieved if it were not insisted upon by her attorney.

I know if I were a woman and indicted for murder, I should not contend for the right to be hanged with pertinacity, even tho' I were convinced that a man in my situation would be allowed that distinction.

It seems to be a law of our being, whether right or wrong, that men are more disposed to be merciful to the erring women than women are themselves, and were I a woman charged with any grade of crime or impropriety, and conscious of my innocence, I should have no greater fears of conviction at the hands of a jury of men than by a jury of women, and if guilty, not half so great. But you contend that this fact demonstrates that men are disqualified to sit as jurors in such cases. Perhaps it does, but the fact still stands that women are not riskings as much in being judged by them as by their own sex, and hence have no just ground for complaint. But if men are liable to be "swayed from justice by feelings of compassion because of woman's sex," as I verily believe they are, I agree with you that they are incompetent to judge a woman, they cannot be depended upon in such cases to vindicate the law, and if women are disposed to deal too severely with one of their sex who is believed to have swerved from the path of rectitude, and as I firmly believe they are, they would not act as just and impartial jurors where a woman was the defendant. Do you ask, then, what is the solution of this important problem? I can find it only in mixed juries. There, while the too exacting spirit of the one sex holds the accused to a strict accountability, the merciful impulses of the other will prevent the erring one from being dealt with unjustly. Men and women are made the complements of each other, and in cases where, owing to their inherent characteristics, either alone is unequal to the task of harmonizing conflicting conditions, a union of effort by both will generally accomplish it if within the range of possibilities. Nor do I think mutual co-operation more necessary in rearing and educating the family, or in moulding the rules and conventionalities of society, than in administering the laws. Nor until woman's peculiar talents are called into requisition do I expect to live under a system of laws adequate to the equal protection of all. The world is full of jarring and discord, and before perfect harmony succeeds, the harrowing base and tenor of the dominant sex must be modulated to blend as nature intended it should, with the soprano and alto of the other.

Portland, December 2, 1878.

### LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW NORTHWEST:

While dead millionaires are being carted away under the mask of night, and dead millionaires' wills are being argued *ad libitum* before the surrogate, the world moves merrily, after the wonted fashion. The November elections are over, and we breathe again, for Tammany is crushed and Edward Cooper has vanquished John Kelly's hollow shell. "Leave but my hollow shell for other men," the poet sings, "and give thee with my life and love, my soul." So New York sang on Tuesday, which was a pleasanter day than we went to have for elections. It was cold, but it was clear; the mellow atmosphere that is one of the attributes of early winter when autumn seems reluctant, giving animation to the crowd that clustered about the headquarters of the contending parties, and to that great one that bled to Jerome Park to witness the special day's race; for, after depositing his vote, the sagacious citizen enlisted under the banner of the American Jockey Club, mindful of the fact that it was a legal holiday, and that it was his privilege to enjoy himself.

The sciences of the crackmen develop with other professions, and is becoming a fine field for talent; while the art itself is rapidly progressing, with the advantage of fine minds to do the higher

parts of organization. Divided into two branches, the administrative and the executive, the executive now inspires to greater achievements than ever before. To cut a purse was once the acme of a highwayman's ambition, but to carry off a whole bank is now a common night's work; preserving, however, the dash of the typical Claude Duvals, the rogue leaves on the scent of the adventure the remnants of a supper and a playful *billet doux* for the bankers.

To carry off a millionaire's corpse is another new branch of the business; and if we may judge by the success of the New York police, the whole town will be kidnapped next and nobody ever find out who did it.

Mrs. Stewart, although in advanced life, is being engaged in a pious way in carrying out many of her husband's intentions, and an immense portion of her care is taken from her by a thoughtful provision of Mr. Stewart in giving Judge Hilton a large sum of money in full to handle the estate. The city taxes only on A. T. Stewart's property in New York will amount to \$300,000 during the present year. Add to this the taxes in the State, in other States and in foreign countries on the mills, warehouses, etc., of the firm, and the taxes for 1878 will rise to \$400,000. During Mr. Stewart's life, he at one time paid an internal revenue tax of \$450,000, and other taxes brought the whole up to \$2,000,000. Three doors from Mrs. Stewart resides Judge Hilton. Right opposite lives Wm. B. Astor and brother, and Wm. Vanderbilt lives six or seven squares further up Broadway, and can be seen through his front window in his home office almost every day before 4 o'clock.

I heard a queer story two or three nights ago, on good authority. After the New York *Tribune* became possessed of the cipher dispatches, and found itself with an elephant on hand, attempts were made to get at the key, and Mr. Hazard and others progressed sufficiently well to make a partial translation. It was a slow matter, however, and Whitelaw Reid in person, who had a previous acquaintance with Governor Tilden, went to Saratoga and said to him: "Governor, you have the key to these ciphers, or can control the persons who can give it to me. We mean to translate these dispatches anyhow, and it will be but a question of a few weeks. The best show you can make before the public of your innocence in that matter is to give me an order for this key." That advice was good. Had Tilden taken it, the country might have remarked: "He gave the best proof that he knew nothing about any guilty work when he gave them the key." The old man, however, steeped in guile and secrecy, declined to save himself. It might be said, Scripturally, that he went away sorrowfully, for he had great possessions—in villainy. AUGUST.

### RECENT EVENTS.

Indian depredations are reported in Nebraska.

The wine interests of California represent \$60,000.

The progress of the Marquis of Lorne has been a complete ovation.

One of the "Pomerania's" boats has been recovered with a bag containing \$25,000. The owner of the money is saved.

Louis A. Godey, founder of *Godey's Ladies' Book*, died suddenly at Philadelphia on Saturday night, aged 75 years.

The treasury recently purchased between 300,000 and 400,000 ounces of silver at a fraction below the London quotations.

The new legislature of South Carolina stands: Senate, Republicans 5; Democrats 29. House, Republicans 3; Democrats 121.

The total number of missing from the steamship "Pomerania" sunk in the English Channel, is 37 passengers and 11 of the crew.

A resolution excommunicating Mrs. Tilton from Beecher's Church was first adopted Saturday evening, after the prayer meeting.

The Marquis of Lorne, governor-general of Canada, and his wife, the Princess Louise, arrived at Halifax on the 26th, and were accorded a royal reception.

About one hundred nominations, some of which failed of confirmation last session of Congress, but most of them re-selected appointments, will be next week sent to the Senate for confirmation.

Congress convened on the 21st. The roll-call of the House showed 229 members present. Fourteen Senators were absent. The President's message was received, read and ordered printed.

John M. Muller, contractor for furnishing stone for the Chicago custom-house, has been charged with unlawfully and feloniously conspiring with others to defraud the government. Bail, \$5,000.

Indications are that the Virginia poll tax of \$1, which is made conditional on voting, and which caused 42 per cent. decrease in the vote in the late election as compared with a year ago, will be repealed.

Democratic members of Congress uniformly declare themselves opposed to any efforts to compel the calling of a special session next March. They express a disposition to pass the usual necessary bills and do little else.

Senator Beck's bill regarding the trade duties provides that for a period of twelve months after the passage of the act, outstanding trade dollars shall be receivable as a legal tender for all debts and demands, including customs dues of the United States.

The debt statement shows an increase of \$3,214,242. Amount of coin in treasury, \$223,564,750; currency, \$14,680,820, including \$10,000,000 held for the redemption of fractional currency. Special deposit held for the redemption of certificates of deposit, \$37,080,000.

### NEWS ITEMS.

STATE AND TERRITORIAL.

Ashtland is taking measures to open a public library.

Wheat is selling at 74 cents at Willburt, Douglas county.

A dairy with 150 cows will be started at Creswell next spring.

P. H. D'Arcy has been appointed clerk of the Supreme Court.

A Baptist Church has just been completed at Pendleton, at a cost of about \$5,000.

The cold, frosty weather has retarded mining operations in Southern Oregon somewhat.

D. A. Malone, of Wasco county, has raised a 25-pound turnip of the White German variety.

The population of Lake county is about 2,000. It contains an area of 13,380 square miles.

The vote of Washington Territory on delegates to Congress at the election held last month, was 12,641.

A massive vault for the safe-keeping of county records is being placed in the Yamhill county court-house.

The Oregon City *Enterprise* is said to have changed hands, Messrs. Edwards & Woods being the new proprietors.

A Good Templars' lodge has been organized at Stoughton, Polk county. There are four liquor saloons in the precinct.

About 4,000 boxes of pears and apples have been shipped up the Columbia en route to Boise City during the past few weeks.

The county judge of Wasco calls for the arms which were distributed among the citizens last year during the Indian outbreak.

Military companies for common defense in case of an Indian war next season are now being organized in Eastern Oregon.

The citizens of Alder Creek, Klamath county, W. T., are taking time to the forelock, erecting a fort against possible Indian troubles next year.

The Plummer fruit dryers give light and remunerative employment to children, over 200 being employed in that occupation in different parts of the State.

A number of boys ranging in age from 10 to 16 years were in a state of helpless intoxication on the streets of Jacksonville on Sunday. Yet we have a law against furnishing minors with liquor.

The new grist mill of H. McAllister & Sons, on Pudding River, eight miles east of Salem, was started on Thursday. The mill contains a run of burrs and a chopper. It will grind 250 bushels of wheat per day, and chop 30 bushels per hour.

At the recent municipal election in Salem, Professor T. M. Gatch was elected mayor; C. W. Rowle, recorder; J. W. Minto, marshal; M. L. Chamberlain, treasurer; Gaines Fisher, J. Coffey, S. C. Adams and S. F. Mathews, councilmen.

### FOREIGN NEWS.

The wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury is dead.

The Russian budget for 1877 shows that the revenues have been 540,000,000 rubles and expenditures 1,014,000,000 rubles, nearly half of which was on the army.

In committee recently Count Andrassy said that the occupation of Bosnia became inevitable unless Austria intended to abdicate the position of a great power.

The condition of the iron and coal trades in the South Staffordshire district is growing worse, and the closing of works and reduction of wages are noticed.

Twenty-nine vessels have arrived at Constantinople, mostly from the United States, with large cargoes of rifles and cannon. Turkish troops are now well furnished with arms before the war.

The Russians will evacuate Bulgaria and Roonia conformably with the treaty of Berlin, but she will continue to hold Adrianople and Thrace pending the Paris's acceptance of a definite treaty.

A meeting of operatives in Oldham, Saturday, over 30,000 being present, it was unanimously resolved not to submit to a reduction. A meeting of the masters on Friday was equally determined. There are now fifteen thousand persons idle.

A fiendish murder with sickening details was committed in the Wasco county jail, at The Dalles, on Sunday afternoon. Both the murderer and his victim were under sentence of seven years in the penitentiary for burglary. Craig, the murdered man, had given evidence that led to the arrest of his accomplice, Cook, and the latter took this means of wreaking a terrible vengeance. The instrument used was a razor, supposed to have been given Cook by the Indian woman with whom he had been living, and who had visited him a few hours previously.

Craig's aged mother and other relatives live at The Dalles, and are overwhelmed with grief at the terrible tragedy. He was but twenty-two years of age. Cook awaits his certain doom in a solitary cell.

WELL DONE.—Mrs. A. S. Dunway gave a lecture last Saturday night at the City Hall, on the "Woman Politician of the Present and the Future," in which she acquitted herself admirably. Last Sunday night she lectured on the "Religion of the Present and Future," which was listened to with marked interest. Mrs. Dunway, in spite of all sneers and oppositions, is indefatigable in her mission, and steadily gaining ground upon the hearts of the public.—*Walla Walla Watchman*.

A man of fashion can make up his mind to be called a libertine, a spendthrift, a gambler—anything but a coward. A woman of fashion can