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A. W. WATERS, Business Manager.
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DISINTERESTED BENEVOLENCE.

A boy only ten years of age is now serving a term of three years in the State Prison. He was sent up recently, having been convicted at the last term of the Circuit Court in Multnomah county. Several Portland gentlemen deemed it unwise to send so young a boy to such a school and moved in the matter of obtaining a pardon. Hon. Hiram Smith happened to meet the boy and was immediately enlisted in his cause; and agreed if a pardon could be obtained to take him home and take care of him. In pursuance of this promise the p ents gave Mr. Smith a legal right to possession of the boy, and the matter now awaits the action of the Governor. In such cases it cannot work many hardships to public safety or public morals to pardon the youthful offender, but may save a youth just starting in crime and make of him a good citizen. Mr. Smith deserves praise for his disinterested action in the matter.

UNBELIEF VS WISDOM.

When Robert Fulton asserted that he could apply steam to a boat and drive it up the Hudson river at the rate of four miles per hour, he was declared insane; when Mr. Morse discovered that he could talk with a friend hundreds of miles away by means of electricity acting upon or through an iron wire he came near being locked up in an insane asylum; and, so it has been in all the important discoveries in the sciences, since the creation. It is not strange that when some one discovers something new in this age that he is denounced as a fraud, and every effort made to crush him.

The medium Jacobs may be a fraud, but it is true that his performances have attracted considerable attention and good talent all over the world is engaged in investigating similar phenomena.

If he has discovered some power hitherto unknown it would be well to utilize it. Should it be cheaper let it be substituted for steam. If it be a humbug let it be exploded and exposed. In order to accomplish either result, our best scientific talent should not only be permitted but should be employed to investigate it and report to the public. It would be a stupid and ignorant people who would suspect that the "Devil is in it," and flee as from evil spirits. If it be legerdemain, let it be exposed lest it be the means of injuring somebody, and if it be some newly discovered motive power, let the world use it.

UNFORTUNATE RESIGNATION.

We are informed that Prof. Crawford has resigned his position as a member of the Faculty of the Willamette University. We regard this most peculiarly unfortunate to both the University and the public. It seems fault was found with him because he chose to attend the spiritual seances of Prof. Jacobs and he did not propose to be hampered by any rules calculated to unfit him for the duties of the position he held and therefore declined to serve the institution further. He regards it as a matter of importance to the students placed under his charge, that he attend the seances and fully investigate the phenomena, and expose the fraud, if any was practiced. The STATESMAN sent a reporter for a similar purpose. Severe tests were made for their benefit and the result, so far as our reporter was concerned, has been laid before our readers.

The conduct of Prof. Crawford was certainly just what an intelligent people would justify. Standing in this community in the character of an educator, he makes use of every possible means to *investigate himself*, in order to be able to teach others, and how any one could object to his conduct in the matter referred to, we cannot understand. If the owners and managers of the Willamette University are prepared to announce that no new discoveries in science can be talked about, and no investigation of scientific subjects permitted on the part of professors or students, it would not damage the cause of civilization for the concern to close its doors and send its pupils to the common schools, where minds are left free to discuss and investigate everything. We cannot believe that any member of the Faculty or intelligent member of the Directory, could have brought about this change, but it is evidently the work of some narrow minded taut finders who have little ideas of what the duties a professor are. Prof. Crawford stands high as an educator, and is a gentleman of irreproachable character, able to command high positions in any part of the world. Our opinion is that the institution and the public are the real sufferers in consequence of this change.

PARDONING CONVICTS.

The State press has been discussing for some time past the question of "pardoning power" placed in the hands of our Governor, and how it has been used. The matter became rather tropical on his head and the Governor entered a Secretary, in the contest, who exhibited a large amount of "nerve" by his *official* signature, and but little judgment, or he would have given *all* the business which was brought in question. The Portland Journal has an extended article on the subject, from which we extract the following paragraphs:

Therefore, since the Governor has been using his Private Secretary toward his own vindication—and in placing his predecessors in a comparatively unfavorable light before the public,—let him require from that very devoted and obedient amenuensis a further statement which will supply the large gap of his own first term, and thus place the whole matter in proper form and rightful manner for all to read and ponder over. If it shall then appear that the average of pardons during Governor Grover's first term of full four years was less than that of either Whiteaker, Gibbs or Woods, everybody will commend while they wonder at the surprising modesty of the present Executive. But, if it shall show quite the reverse, then the people will not so much wonder at the omission now apparent, as they will at the thought that one who fills so exalted a position could have descended to act so unjust and ungenerous to his predecessors in office, and which, when discovered and exposed, would bring upon himself so much of censure if not of scorn and contempt.

But there is another quite important consideration which enters into this matter of the average of pardons. It is that of the character and crime and quality of the convict and his sentence. The people would with more forbearance or patience and with less disapprobation view the exercise of Executive clemency in the cases of any five who might be under short sentences for light offences than they would its exercise in the case of a murderer whose incarceration was actually essential to the peace and safety of the community and whose restoration to liberty might impose upon citizens a sharper vigilance against the probabilities of peril of life or limb. And we earnestly hope in the next statement—which is now needed in connection with the imperfect one already put before the public—that attention will be paid to this particular and important feature of the subject. But, at all events, let us have the figures and average of the Governor's first term of office.

THE Republicans have re-nominated Mayor Cobb of Boston.

ANOTHER REPUBLICAN VICTORY.

Capt. N. B. Humphrey was elected Mayor of Albany at the election held on Monday. The Captain is a Republican in whom there is no guile, and as good a fellow as ever handled a sword in defense of his country.

THE FIRST ALBANY GUN.

The Albany Democrat called upon its friends to rally at the late city election, stating that it would be considered the "first gun of the campaign in 1876." The result is a kind of boomerang for that paper, and is like throwing ice water on the new Daily Democrat.

DR. JOHNSON, when in the fullness of years and knowledge, said: "I never take up a newspaper without finding something I would have deemed it a loss not to have seen; never without deriving from it instruction and amusement." The newspapers in Johnson's time were meagre enough compared with those of to-day. Now a yearly newspaper volume is a perfect encyclopedia.

FRUITLESS CONTEST.

The Democrats in the lower house of Congress are having a great scramble over the empty honor of Speakership. It is a matter of little importance to the public, as that house will stand alone except as it takes some advance steps in political economy and comes somewhere near the broad views of a Republican Executive and Republican Senate.

CITY ELECTION.

The following gentlemen were elected to the City Council yesterday:

First Ward—W. H. McCully.
Second Ward—J. M. Scott.
Third Ward—H. M. Thatcher.
Fourth Ward—J. A. Baker.

Three out of the four successful candidates were regular Republican nominees. The vote was very light—there being but little interest taken in the matter. This leaves the City Government in the hands of the Republicans by an overwhelming majority.

"UNPLEASANTNESS."

We regret exceedingly that such a little misunderstanding should occur as is now agitating the Willamette University. That great institution should be at peace with all the world and probably is in that condition, except its internal broils. Two physicians are now advertised as "Dean of the Medical Faculty," and which one will actually officiate remains to be seen. It would be much more pleasant if those in charge of the matter would move in such a manner that the outside world would be constrained to say, "See how these brethren love."

"RING MANAGERS."

The organ of the Penitentiary ring, the Mercury, asserts that a Republican "city ring" is already setting up a job to control our municipal affairs. The manner in which this "job" is being set up, is an open call to the people to meet in open conventions and select those they desire as servants in the City Council. In mass conventions each voter has a voice, and no "ring" can control such meetings; but, when a mere handfull of the unwashed meet in the rooms of John F. Miller, at a saddle and harness shop or at the Penitentiary the night before the election, fix up a ticket and then send Gov. Watkinds—with a d—to publish reports of regular conventions, then it does savor of "ring" management. Republicans will meet openly and fairly nominate good men, while some back room caucus will put up a Democratic ticket. The people will vote for Republican candidates and elect good men. Let all Republicans turn out and attend the ward conventions.

SALEM INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTIONS.

Pork Packing.

We visited the slaughter and pork packing houses of D. & A. A. McCully yesterday and found a squad of men busily engaged in the work. They have about thirty acres of land well timbered and watered, which they use in connection with the business. Several buildings are grouped together, surrounded by lots and corrals built for the purpose and of course made convenient for the purposes for which they were intended. One of the buildings is designed and used exclusively for slaughtering; another for scalding and dressing hogs; a warehouse for packing; a room with furnace for rendering lard; and extensive barn room which contains feed for both hogs and cattle. Nearly five hundred hogs have already been stowed away and large lots constantly arriving. The meats look very fine and the packers assure us that the hogs coming will compare favorably with those raised anywhere in the Union. The lard department is in the hands of experienced men and the article is put up in first-class style. This firm is paying six dollars per hundred for dressed pork, and are doing a good trade. They design holding a large quantity of both pork and lard for the retail trade of this city during the coming year. This enterprise is scattering a large amount of money among our farmers and stock growers.

They are trying an experiment in preparing "sugar-cured hams," which it is supposed is superior to any method now in use. If this experiment proves satisfactory they will make the business extensive another season.

There are other packing houses near the city which we have not yet visited.

FROM DOUGLAS COUNTY.

OAKLAND, Dec. 4, 1875.

ED. STATESMAN:—This section of the moral vineyard is almost deluged with freshets and it has been raining the historical forty days and nights. A newspaper will be published here 1st of January, by Wm. B. Sterling, Esq., and will be entitled The Centennial. It will be independent in politics.

The warm rains and absence of frost is proving a benefit to stock, as grasses are everywhere growing luxuriantly and a prosperous year ensuing is anticipated. This town is occupied now in praiseworthy attentions. Church meetings are nightly held and lectures also delivered. Hon. C. H. Davis, once a useful member of the legislative assembly from your county, in 1866, and now professor of physiology and phrenology, and science of the human mind, is also here doing much good, and will deliver a course of instructive lectures on these sciences. OCCASIONAL.

The matrimonial market in Polk Co., says the Dallas Itemizer, during the month just past has not been as good, when compared to that of October. During the latter month seventeen marriage licenses and only two in November.

SUNDAY READING.

Heavy "mists" falling—roads muddy.

Eighty-nine deaths in San Francisco last week.

Song service at the Congregational Church, to-night.

Carpets are bought by the yard and worn by the foot.

Sheriff Shaw is not a Superintendent, but a Sabbath School student.

Young ladies of Oregon City who wear striped stockings, kick the gate open.

The outgoing steamer carried away a good list of passengers and a large amount of freight.

The Holidays are approaching and all desiring fancy goods should call on liberal advertisers.

An Irish doctor lately sent his bill to a lady as follows: "To curing your husband till he died."

Ignorant Mexico is inaugerating a public school system. They have been base idolators long enough.

A deaf and dumb magician is giving startling performances at the museum of Rev. Mr. Wood, in Portland.

A stock dealer of this city whose grounds are mostly under water, says he has no trouble in watering stock.

The good people of California engaged in a little shaking up in the way of a second class earthquake a few days since.

Several "light draft" boats will be started out through the valley in a few days, if the water in the river continues to rise.

G. W. Roberts has sold his interest in the Corvallis Democrat to his former partner, G. W. Quivey, who is now sole proprietor.

Cotton is President of the Memphis base ball club. Now we shall have the new role of Cotton batting.—New York Express.

For full information concerning churches and Sabbath Schools, look over the columns of the STATESMAN, the only religious daily on the Coast.

Two old crows which perch on a tree in Dudley, Mass., every afternoon, and caw until hundreds of others are collected, are called Moody and Sankey.

Bishop Hennessey, of Burlington, Iowa, has struck a blow at that pious fraud, the Church Fair. He prohibits his people from holding any more of 'em.

John A. Johns, Esq., is controlling the wheat market at Marion. He is an active and reliable grain dealer, but his ideas of theology will not do to bet on.

Stanley, in tracing up the sources of the Nile, has come upon an African household of 300 women, and he thinks the sources of the Nile are not very far off.

Mrs. Partington desires to know why the Captain of a vessel can't keep a memorandum of the weight of his anchor, instead of weighing it every time he leaves port.

Aunt Nancy, Brigham's "old woman," a big, raw-boned female known to every one in Mormondom, has returned to Salt Lake. Brigham calls her his Big-bohe Nancy.

If any man in Salem is writing leading editorials for Portland papers, he should sign his name to them, and if he is not the State Department should not charge it against him.

Clarke's biography of McComas is again coming into notice. McComas insists that some trifling mistakes occur. We will correct the errors, with the consent of the author of the work.

An exchange says: "Delaney, a New York man who is to be executed next month, refuses to recognize his father or mother." It is singular how stuck up and airy people sometimes become.

Tilton says: "God's chief pleasure is not the enjoyment of love, but the forgiveness of sin." Then if God forgives Theodore Tilton, He's got fun ahead for the next 1,000 years.—Chicago Times.

It is carrying a thing a little too far when an English firm advertises itself as "pipe makers to Her Majesty the Queen." No one ever saw her sit down in the wood-shed for a good old fashioned smoke.

When you go "shopping" next week take a copy of the STATESMAN and deal with liberal advertisers. That class of business men are most reliable. Remember this and govern yourselves accordingly.

Earl Russel is about to become a pamphleteer. He will publish next month an essay upon the question whether the Mohometan Empire is worth preserving. This will be looked for with interest as a tract for the times.

Smart, those Frenchmen. One of them said to another, who was making fun of his ears: "My ears may be of unusual size for a man, but you must confess, sir, that yours are extremely small for an ass."

Discussion on street corner. First party: "We suspect you of having given that information and that you wrote the leading editorial on the subject, in that Portland paper." Second party: "I did not do it 'twas some other man." Thus ended the first political lesson and the parties went away satisfied.

"Great God! what evils do environ,
The man that meddles with cold iron"

(In the shape of steel pens when some serious political item hangs on the tip.) Gov. Watkinds (with a "d") should better drill his forces.

Last Sunday a good Christian resident of this city, says the Vicksburg Herald, met a colored friend whom he had not seen for some months and he took him by the hand and inquired: "Well, William, what of your future—how does it look?" "Purty bright, sah," responded the smiling William; "I'ze got a 'leben dollar note agin a feller at the depot, two pa'rs of slebe buttons, a shot gun an' a knife, an' I feels as if I couldn't be too grateful for all dat wealth, while lots of older niggers are cl'ar run down to one dog an' one old hat!

"Sir," asked an attorney yesterday of a witness who was testifying in a case of assault and battery, "have you been in this court before?" "Yes, sir," said the witness, "I have been here often." "Ah, been here often, have you?" said the attorney in a triumphant tone. "Now tell the court what for." "Well," replied the witness slowly, "I have been here at least a dozen times to see you, to try and collect that tailor's bill you owe."

An old lady residing in Ohio lost the companion with whom she had jogged for many years. She neglected to mark the spot of his burial by even a stone. Not long after coming into possession of a small legacy, a sister of the deceased said to her: "I suppose you will now put up stones for Daniel?" Her answer was a settler. "If the Lord wants anything of Daniel at the resurrection, I guess he can find him without a guideboard."

STEAMER JEWESS.

BY D. NEWSOME.

To-day (Nov. 28, 1850) I bid farewell to my kind friends and kindred in Gallipolis, Ohio, and on the little steamer Cape May, started for home (Springfield, Ill.) Early on the morning of the 30th arrived at Cincinnati. There were over forty persons, on several up river steamers, then at the wharves, who were anxious to reach St. Louis, and thence up the three rivers—Missouri, Mississippi and Illinois—to their homes speedily, as winter seemed close at hand. I strolled down the beach to find some steamer ready for its departure that day for St. Louis.

The steamer Jewess had its flag out for departure that day for St Louis, by two o'clock P. M. I went on board and inquired the rates of passage to our point of destination, telling the officers that perhaps forty others would come aboard with me if their rates were favorable.

They offered to give us good accommodations and quick passage to St. Louis, for seven dollars each. I returned to those passengers who had requested me to look out a place for them, and reported. About forty of us then went aboard the Jewess, paid for our tickets, and had rooms or berths assigned to us. The time of departure arrived, but there were no indications of starting. At 4 o'clock P. M. the general discovery was made that every lock on the cabin doors had been broken, and not repaired. Finding that we must remain all night at Cincinnati, opposite Broadway street, where multitudes of all characters resorted day and night, we began to feel uneasy about the situation, and went to the officers, telling them that the locks on all the doors of the cabin berths of the men were broken, and no safety to our effects on board. They seemed angry at our request or suspicions, telling us that all of our effects were in their care, and at their responsibility. About five o'clock P M. I went up to the pilot house platform on the boat, to take a view of Covington and Newport, on the Kentucky side of the Ohio river. Directly a well-dressed, fine looking young man, about 25 years of age, came to me, and inquired if I were a passenger on that boat. I replied in the affirmative, stating my destination. He stated that he was bound for the same city, and intended to settle there in the mercantile business. He pointed across the river and asked me what towns those were just opposite to us. I asked it he did not know, but he stated that he never had been there till then, having been raised in Philadelphia. The setting sun shone brightly on the river and the towns there, and my new acquaintance proposed that we should enter the door of the pilot house and have a better view. I objected, unless the pilot should be in it. He then called out to them and asked if he would permit two strangers to enter his room. A most elegantly dressed young man, about 28 years old, sat at a table, moving a thimble and covering some small bills with it. My new acquaintance asked him what he was doing. He replied that as he was pilot of the boat and must be always on hand at his post he was amusing himself by playing "thimble rig." You do not say that you ever gamble on this concern, do you? Oh, no, I was raised by a pious Methodist mother; a widow, and she taught me to abhor and abstain from all gambling of whatever sort. Feeling lonesome, said he, I was amusing myself in this way. Will you be so kind as to amuse us in the same way? said my new acquaintance. The pilot then moved the thimble and covered one of the three balls with it. We saw plainly which one was covered. He then told me to guess which one was covered. I pointed to that one and there it was. He then performed the same three times and we pointed out each time which ball was covered. Said he, you must see through a dark thimble, or else understand gambling. My comrade said that he too was raised by a Methodist preacher and pious mother and had been taught rigid rules of life. And when leaving home his parents prayed over him and had a solemn promise from him that he would never learn to gamble or practice it. Well, said the pilot, we two are under leading strings but this gentleman, perhaps, is a "sharp." I told them that I never gambled nor should I ever practice it. Then Mr. Pilot moved the thimble and covered one ball, offering to bet $5 that neither of us could tell which ball was covered. My fellow took the bet and won it. Three times he won five, ten and fifteen dollars. Next game he lost for $30. Instanter the pilot offered to bet $50 on the next game and showed plainly which ball was covered. The other said that he was flat broke, but whispered to me to loan him $50 and he would give me $25 of the wager, as I saw as well as he which ball was covered. Said I, you cannot fool me with your tales of home piety and your promises, I am too old to be taken in by such gamblers as you are and so good night to you. I left and hastened to my cabin companion, who was my nephew from near Jefferson City, Missouri, and had been to the Medical Springs in West Virginia for his health and was then returning home. I told him what had gone on in the pilot house, and he told me that he had had the same advantage at 3 o'clock but they had not gulled him. A dozen or more had had the same experience with those pious fellows, some having lost heavily by them, after first winning smaller sums. These occurrences were then speedily made known to the cabin passengers generally. At six o'clock the supper was announced and all the cabin passengers sat down to the table. When my nephew and I arose, we went to our cabin door and found it barred against us. We got a candle and went to our r a door and entered. My comrade's trunk was broken open and numerous little keepsakes and other little articles gone. We had secured our money and watches upon our persons, so that the robbers got no money of ours. This caused general alarm, and many of us again requested rooms that had locks and keys on them. There none was such on the boat. The Captain and Mate said that there was a conspiracy on board amongst the passengers, to injure the reputation of their boat, and that we had broken open our trunks in order to extort pay from them for our pretended losses. All that had revolvers prepared for self defense during the night. The ladies' berths seemed secure, and the officers of the Jewess attended in person to bolting and barring all the outer doors to the ladies' cabin. My companion and I had no revolvers, but we barred our doors and kept watch. We were not disturbed; but during the night the robbers entered the ladies' cabin, from a door only known to the crew and officers aboard, and stole from the ladies in cash, watches, jewelry and fine garments, upwards of one thousand dollars worth. Next morning there was excitement in the cabin. Each one came forward and told her loss. We all ate but little at breakfast. We held a council, and all who had requested me to engage their passage, urged on me to stand as their friend, in seeking redress for their losses during the night and for their passage money. I went to the Captain and made known their cases and requests. He drew a revolver and pointed it at my breast and swore that if I said another word about that matter, he would send a ball through my heart. In two seconds more there were over fifty six-shooters pointed at his breast, with a request that he put up his revolver, which he did.

(To be continued.)

[For the STATESMAN.]

REAL ESTATE SHOULD BE THE BASIS OF WEALTH AND TAXATION IN OREGON.

It is a well known fact that many persons who own and control large fund and real estate in the State of Oregon, pay no county or State tax. They always manage to be in debt about the time the assessor comes around, and under the existing law of the State, they are permitted to balance their indebtedness against their assessed valuation.

By this means a great amount of valuable property, that should (and does in all States in the Union except Oregon) constitute a part of the actual wealth of the State, is of no value whatever to the State and for all the benefit the State derives from it, may as well be in Central Africa, and owned and controlled by a race of Hottentots.

There are several examples in Marion county and they are quite numerous throughout the State, one of whom has under his control three or four large farms, aggregating three or four thousand acres, in a good state of cultivation, which he values at from twenty to thirty dollars per acre, (something over fifty thousand dollars,) and this man pays no road, county or State tax on this vast amount of *real taxable property*. No wonder honest citizens complain of high taxes and demand economy and reform, when nearly one-fourth of the actual taxable property escapes taxation, and thereby overburdening the remainder.

What then shall be done? I answer: Let the Legislature of the State of Oregon pass a law making *all real estate taxable*, making no exemption for indebtedness, and assess and collect taxes on the same regardless of who the owner may be and make all real estate property directly responsible for the taxes and in case of neglect or refusal by the owner to pay the tax, levy and collect the same by law.

I am well aware the class of persons referred to will present numerous objections against taxing mortgaged property, or the property of a debtor, where his property will not cover his indebtedness. The principal argument is this: They tell us that if you tax real property and notes, and make no exemption for indebtedness, you are taxing the same property twice. Now, I will say as an offset against such arguments, that very few money lenders will advance money to but little over one-half the value of the property mortgaged, and as real estate is very seldom assessed for much more than one-half its cash value, the person claiming such property will not be then unjustly taxed. I will illustrate: A purchases a farm of B, or borrows money of B. For the farm he pays five thousand dollars down and agrees to pay B five thousand more, for which he gives B his note and to secure the payment of the same gives B a mortgage on the property he has purchased. A now has in his possession ten thousand dollars worth of property; the Assessor comes around, and being a very generous man, which he is sure to be if he wants office, he assesses the ten thousand dollar farm at about five thousand, and A informs him the farm is mortgaged to B for that amount of money. The Assessor balances and A only has a poll to pay, but B is assessed on the five thousand in money and five thousand in notes, and in consequence of A paying no tax B is compelled to pay a greater per cent. than if A paid his portion as justice required. You can easily see that at least five thousand dollars of property in the possession of these two men escapes taxation entirely. Thus A escapes paying taxes while his neighbor, who is not so well off by half, but who is out of debt, pays double or treble what he should in justice pay. I ask, is there any justice in such a law? Common sense answers no. And the only reason we have it on our statute is because so many of the class described have been the law makers in Oregon.

Mr. Editor, I have written this in order that the citizens of this commonwealth may have their attention directed to this matter. It will be remembered that the Americans rebelled against Great Britain because she sought to tax us without representation, but I am inclined to believe that we, of Oregon, have too much representation in proportion to taxation.

J. P. VEATCH.

SALEM, Oregon, Nov. 26, 1875.

FATE OF IRON-CLADS.

If Great Britain and France have not by this time found out that their big ironclads are white elephants obtained at a high price not at all in keeping with their usefulness, they will probably come to that conclusion before long. Unwieldy, unfit for sea service, what would Nelson have done with them had he been forced to fight a great battle on the Atlantic with them? The first one she sent to sea rolled over and sunk off the Coast of France on the first occasion she attempted a voyage on the ocean. Recently the Vanguard, by a collision with the Iron Duke, went to the bottom like a lump of lead. Next, the Iron Duke was only saved from sinking by one of the officers wading through the water up to his neck in the hold to stop up some huge scuttle left open.

And next, or perhaps we should have placed it as a previous accident, the French huge ironclad, the Magenta, Napoleon's grand ship that was to perpetuate the fame of the great battle in which he was nominally the commander, has had the starch taken out of her by fire and explosion. Although comparatively one of the first style of ironclads, some fourteen years old, with not very thick plates, she has been one of the boasts of the French Navy. We begin to think that all of that class of ships, except for service as harbor defense, are failures, and believe that our government and people need not regret that we have not attempted to exceed or equal the Iron Duke or any of the heavy ironclads of the French or other European Navies. We believe the next European war will show that the huge ironclads are the greatest naval failures of the time.—Alta.

A COLLEGE newspaper significantly remarks: "The President has appointed the 25th of November as a day of thanksgiving, and it behooves every honest citizen to pick out his turkey and wait for a dark night."

TELEGRAPHIC.

Very Latest News Reports.

Apprehension of War with Spain.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—A special says it seems to be the apprehension that the country will be plunged into a war with Spain by an unsatisfactory termination of the negotiations which Secretary Fish and Cushing have been conducting with the Spanish government. During the past two months all information that can be obtained leads to the belief that these negotiations are proceeding favorably, and the result is more likely than not to be gratifying to our government. At the same time our relations with every other foreign power are of the most friendly character, our only serious troubles being upon the Rio Grande at a point inaccessible to the navy. Naval officers are therefore convinced that Robeson's extensive preparations must be in view of something likely to happen in regard to our attitude towards Spain. They very naturally look towards Cuba for an explanation, but there has been no recent occurrence in Cuba to call for a naval demonstration on that island. Americans may have been ill treated there, but no very aggravated case of this kind has recently occurred; so that the present state of affairs in that island considered in connection with the favorable progress our negotiations at Madrid seem to be making, causes the theory of war with Spain as likely to arise out of the existing state of affairs to be promptly dismissed. One theory alone remains, and that is that the President intends either to recognize the belligerent rights of Cuban insurgents, or to recommend Congress to take special action in the matter. This is the theory held by many naval officers. If this were the purpose of the President, they say the present extraordinary naval preparations might easily be explained, supposing the treaty with Spain to remain unmodified. Such a recognition would give a right to cruisers under the 12th article of the treaty, to visit and examine all vessels bearing the American flag. It is not believed in naval circles, that Spain would consider the recognition of Cuba by the United States casus belli; but it is believed that the officers of her naval vessels would seek to exercise the right above noticed, and they might be tempted to do so in an offensive manner, or in cases not contemplated by the terms of the treaty. In order to prevent this, and assure himself that American commerce shall not suffer from the action of the Spanish government, our naval officers think the present preparations are being made. This may or may not be correct, but it is a fact others, beside them, are beginning to think something of this kind is in his mind.

Democratic Caucus.

WASINGTON, Dec. 2.—Messrs. Kerr, Randall and Cox, candidates for Speaker, met this morning and agreed that a Democratic caucus should be held at 2 o'clock on Saturday and that Mr. Lamar, of Mississippi, should preside over it.

Centennial.

The Centennial Committee, on opening ceremonies, selected Wm. M. Evarts as orator; W. H. Longfellow, poet; and a grandson of Richard H. Lee, of Virginia, reader of the Declaration of Independence.

Shipwreck—Loss of Life.

OSWEGO, Dec. 2.—The schooner J. G. Jenkins foundered in a gale on Tuesday; and all on board were lost, as follows: Capt. John Brown; 1st mate, John Smith; 2d mate, John Stewart; James Williams, Michael Brophy, Wm. Bender, all of Owego, and a woman cook from Buffalo.

Murderers Respited.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 2.—Governor Kellogg respited Bill Williams and Henderson, sentenced to be hanged on the 3d, to the 31st, when they will be executed unless the Supreme Court grants the new trial, for which they have made application on the ground that the jury indicting them was not legal, it having been drawn by Judge Brauhn while he was acting by appointment of Judge Atocha and before Brauhn had been commissioded by Gov. Kellogg.

Church Burned.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 2.—A fire occurred in Broadway Baptist Church this morning. The church is almost ruined. It was valued at $70,000. Nearly all the library is lost.

Not Yet Identified.

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—The body of a woman packed in a barrel, together with that of a newly born child, to the United States Express office yesterday has not been identified. It is by no means certain that the lady was highly respectable. The expressman who took the package to the office was arrested this morning and he pointed out two men, Jackson and Darrow, who got him to do the job. They are carpenteners and it is said they have done body-snatching before.

Brutal Husband.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Patrick Toney last night saturated the clothes of his wife with kerosene and set them on fire. The cries of the woman brought the inmates of the house to her rescue, when the flames were extinguished. She was terribly burned. She is not expected to live.

President's Message will be Lengthy.

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—The President's message this year will be much longer than usual. It will contain upwards of 18,000 words, and on account of its length will not be ready to send into Congress until Tuesday evening, if the House should elect a Speaker on Monday.

Boiler Exploded.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 2.—The boiler in the Wood Block Sawing Works of McMahon & Steele, pavement contractors, exploded this morning with terrible force. Fifteen or twenty men were employed about the building. Two, Henry Haggerty and Terrance Doyle, were seriously injured, and eight others more or less injured, none seriously. The building was torn to pieces, and fragments of the boiler were thrown to a great distance. The cause of the explosion is unknown.

Bismark Approves.

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—A Berlin telegram says: An interview has taken place between Gortschakoff and Bismarck, which it is believed has resulted in a declaration of Bismarck's approbation of the purchase of the Suez Canal by Great Britain.

Religious Persecution in Spain.

LONDON, Dec. 1.—Intelligence from Spain states that the authorities had closed the Protestant Church at Jaledo, and expelled the pastor and schoolmaster.

Marine Disaster.

SAN BUENA VENTURA, Dec. 2.—The brig Lucy Ann, Capt. J. C. Smith, from Puget Sound, loaded with lumber for this place, parted her chains last night, and drifted into the breakers, a quarter of a mile below the wharf, where a heavy sea dashed over her all night. Her crew, of eight men and officers, were inhurt. This morning she lies on the beach with her bottom burst and full of water. The cargo was partly discharged and will mostly be saved, but the brig will undoubtedly be a total loss.

Loss of the Atlanta near Cape Flattery.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 2.—Dispatches from Seattle to the Merchants' Exc ange here say the steamer Goliah arrived at Port Ludlow to-day, bringing intelligence of the loss of the Atlanta on Destruction Island, south of Cape Flattery, near where the Pacific foundered. Two men were lost. The remainder of the crew were saved, and started for Olympia, overland, via Gray's Harbor. No further particulars. The Atlanta was a bark of 867 tons burthen, and owned by Pope & Talbot, of this city. She was built in Newburyport in 1851, and has been on this coast about 12 years; valued at about $15,000; not insured. She left here for Port Gamble in ballast, Nov. 20th.

Accident at the Richmond Consolidated Mine.

EUREKA, Dec. 2.—An extensive cave occurred at the Richmond Consolidated Mine this morning, extending from the second to the fourth levels. Two miners, James Martin and B. Treloan, who were engaged in the shatt were buried. The bodies have not yet been recovered.

Train Thrown from the Track.

The train from Palisde last night was thrown from the track six miles from here. The spikes had been withdrawn from the rails by parties unknown. The locomotive jumped the track ditching the train. But few passengers were on board and none were injured. It is thought the act was planned by parties intending to rob the express of a large amount of money.

Bank of California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 2.—In accordance with a previous decision the Directors of the Bank of California will file new articles of incorporation this morning, thereby coming in under the code governing corporations. An assessment of 10 per cent. on the syndicate guarantee fund, amounting to $786,500, has been levied, payable December 10th, presumably for the purpose of meeting the three months' notes given in settlement of claims of large creditors at the time of the re-opening of the bank. After the incorporation has been effected, an assessment of 10 per cent. on the capital stock of the bank will be levied, for the purpose of making good the capital, as required by the provisions of the code. The impairment of the capital was in the neighborhood of 70 per cent., to repair which 10 per cent. assessments will be levied from time to time, until the capital is made good.

Statement to Congress from Gov. Kellogg

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 3.—Gov. Kellogg has transmitted to Congress an elaborate brief, in anticipation of a possible attempt to seat, on McEnery's certificates, the Democratic members elect of Louisiana, all of whom applied for and received credentials from Kellogg. The leading points of the brief are summarized as follows: In conclusion it is submitted that Mr. McEnery and his friends are stopped, in all honor, from further questioning the title of Governor Kellogg as Governor of Louisiana. First, because McEnery agreed to submit his claim to the congressional committee, and a majority of this committee have expressed their opinion that Gov. Kellogg was elected in 1872. Secondly, because his own partisan and present legislature, conceding a majority in the lower house, which legislature is accepted on all sides as the undisputed legislature of the State, almost unanimously passed joint resolutions recognizing Gov. Kellogg as the Governor of the State. Thirdly, because McEnery has already professed to desire some settlement of the heretofore pending controversy which would bring peace and quiet to the State, and it cannot be denied but that these results have followed from the adoption of the adjustment and lastly, because McEnery and his friends, as zealous and consistent upholders of the doctrine of State Rights, will surely not ask Congress to interfere, and by its action to annul the solemn act of a recognized and unquestioned legislature of a soverign State in a matter pertaining exclusively to its own domestic affairs. The brief is accompanied by the protocol of agreement, and adjustment; extracts from the the testimony taken by the House Committee, with reference to the election of 1872, and a tabular statement of the census, registration, etc., from 1876 down.

Earthquake—Rain—Danger to Levees.

MARYSVILLE, Dec. 3.—A slight shock of earthquake was felt here to-day at 2:40 P. M. The vibrations were from east to west.

Rain has been falling copiously during the day. Advices from the levee dittricts on the west side of Sutter county report the water in the Sacramento river up to the high water mark of 1861 and 1862. Park's levees are successfully resisting the waters. There is no water in the upper part of the district. A full force of men is on hand for the protection of the levees. Three thousand sacks of sand have been laid to keep them from washing.

Good Prospect for Wheat.

The prospect for a large crop of grain in those districts was never so flattering.

Heavy Rain.

COLUSA, Cal., Dec. 3.—About 90-100 inches of water have fallen here during the last four days; but the storm has been very severe in the mountains west of Colusa. The river at this point is one inch above high water mark and running through the break at Bogg's slough, below Princeton, at Hagarstield, above Colusa, and on both sides of the river below Colusa, but doing no serious damage to levees or other property. The Parks dam is filling rapidly, but will not fill before the water begins to fall. The sudden rise in the river is caused by the heavy rains coming down Stoney Creek. No stage communication north. Marysville and Knight's Landing make regular trips, although the tules are filling up rapidly. The levee in front of Colusa broke twice, but was soon stopped.

YREKA, Dec. 1.—There was another heavy rain all last night, and the streams are still greatly swolen. The snow—two and three feet deep—on the mountain tops has nearly all disappeared from the effects of the warm and heavy rain storms of the past few days.

Fire in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 3.—Last night, about 12:30 o'clock, a fire broke out in Greeneburg's dry goods store on Aliso street, and spread to the butcher shop of Mr. Berrand, on the corner of Los Angeles street. The building being brick, the fire was confined within these limits. Greeneburg's loss is total; insurance for $3,000 in Ætna and 2,000 in Home Mutual. Bertrand's loss is small—$300 to $500 for fixtures, etc. The building was owned by P. Beandery. It is damaged from $1,000 to $1,500, and was fully insured in the Scottish Commercial. The cause of the fire is unknown.

STANWIX, Dec. 3.—The party who made the recent attack on Agua Caliente ranch consisted of six Mexicans, who came from below. After the attack they scattered, crossing the river at Burkes, taking the trail for Sonora. They are undoubtedly friends of Chavez, hunting for Colvig, who returned to Caliente, after killing him. Had they wanted stock, they might have taken several mules running at large on the ranch, which were not disturbed. There were only three men on the ranch, and the assailants had everything their own way, outside of the house.

Bold Attempt at Robbery at the Palace Hotel.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 3.—A bold attempt at robbery and murder was made this afternoon at the Palace Hotel. On the 20th of last month, a young man calling himself Harrington, took apartments at the hotel, being apparently engaged as a traveling agent. About noon to-day he sent a note to Hopkins & Haley, money brokers, asking them to send him $3,750 in greenbacks to his room to be exchanged for coin. Mr. Haley, Jr., went to his room—No. 699, fourth floor—and agreed with him on the price to be paid. On returning his suspicions being aroused, he reported the matter at the office of the Chief of Police, who ordered a detective to attend to the matter. The officer accompanied by a young man named Ludlum, in the employ of Hopkins & Haley, and Mr. Haley, Sr., went to his room. The officer and Haley remained unobserved outside, while the boy, with the required amount of greenbacks, went in with instructions to keep a sharp lookout and call for assistance if necessary. Harrington requested Ludlum, on his entrance, to count the money and see there were no counterfeit notes in the package. While doing this, Harrington stepped behind him with a hatchet, and aimed a blow at the body's head. Ludlum saw his motion in the mirror, and partly avoided the blow, receiving, however, a pretty severe cut on the head. He at once gave the alarm, and the officer rushed in, when Harrington surr