ASHLAND TIDINGS.

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ASHLAND TIDINGS.

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THE SOUTHERN WAY.

Suppression of Republican Votes.

[Boston (Mass.), Dispatch, June 23.]

L. Edwin Dudley of this city, who was commissioned a few weeks ago to visit South Carolina and investigate the status of political parties there, has submitted his report, starting with the statement that the Republican party, of South Carolina was completely overthrown in 1876, and has had no position or standing since that time. Mr. Dudley says: "The Republican organization has placed no county or state ticket in nomination since 1876, and there is not to-day a single officer of any town or county or of the state who holds his office by election at the hands of the Republican party. There are very few white men of any prominence, position or standing in the state to-day identified with the Republican party, and these are men who hold conspicuous places in the organization. They are men who held Federal offices until they were removed by President Cleveland. I do not think it necessary to give at length an account of the methods employed to suppress the vote of both colored and white men, if they are known to be Republicans. There is no difficulty in the state about any man voting if he votes the Democratic ticket. There is no concealment made on the part of Democrats whom I met in the state about the fact that the Republican vote is suppressed. All admit the fact, and attempt to excuse and justify their acts by the assertion that they cannot and will not be ruled by ignorance and vice. But the objection to ignorance and vice does not seem to hold good if the individual is a Democrat, white or colored.

"The state has a registration law under the operation of which possibly one-half of the colored people are disfranchised legally, if the law is constitutional. The white people are prevented from uniting with the present Republican organization in the state because of dissatisfaction with its record and character, and dislike of its leaders and distrust of its ability to command the respect and confidence of a sufficient number of people to place it in control of the state at any time in the future. There is a general desire for a new organization that shall be led and controlled by native-born citizens of good character and standing who have not been identified with any of the disgraceful acts of the old organizations in the state.

"The Independent movement in South Carolina is not an attempt to organize a 'white man's party' in that state. The fight it is making is for fair and honest elections, and it is contending for the right of the colored man as well as the white man to vote and have his vote honestly counted and returned. It proposes to recognize colored men in its organization and its recommendations for appointments. I am satisfied that the true course for the National Republican Committee and for the National Administration is to recognize favorably the Independent party."

THE PRICE OF SUGAR.

NEW YORK, June 11.—Sugar has gone up, is going up, and will probably continue to go up until the next beet root crop is gathered. Taking it by the quotations in the London market from January 1 to March 15 of the present year, beet sugar was steady at 15 shillings and 1½ pence per 112 pounds. From that price it steadily rose to 23 shillings and 9 pence, at which it stood April 23. To-day the price in the same market was 25 shillings and 3 pence. A rise of more than 60 per cent, on the price of March 15 has thus taken place in less than three months. As the profits in handling sugar are always fractional, this increased price has fallen and is likely to fall still more heavily on the consumer. During the months of June and July the demand for sugar is always great. The large fruit preservers require it by the hundreds of tons. Every family in the United States which owns a few fruit trees wants sugar for the same purpose. With any greater advance the effect will be felt in every household in the country. Dear sugar means dear jam, dear candy, dear pie, dear toss, dear tea, and dear coffee. Even some vicious habits will be hard hit by the advance, as when chewing-gum and mixed drinks will become more expensive luxuries than at present.

The peculiarity of the present rise in sugar is that it is due to perfectly legitimate causes, if statistics can be trusted. The great European beet root crop, from which so much sugar is nowadays made, has fallen off seriously for the last two years. During the same period the world's consumption of sugar marked its accustomed average advance of 5 per cent, over the previous year. A member of the firm of Willett & Hamlen of Wall street, who supply a weekly report of sugar to the trade, explained the present situation of the market as follows:

"In England the total stock was only 150,408 tons May 1, 1889, as against 227,331 tons the same day in 1888. Other European countries are short in proportion. This would leave a supply in Europe October 1st, at the average rate of consumption, of 140,000, as against 391,035 tons at the same time in 1888. But out of this 140,000 must come large supplies for America, if we are to have any sugar at all. So that it seems certain that we are in for advancing prices and a general scarcity of sugar—until the next crop be gathered at any rate. Even the next crop will not entirely mend matters. It is about equal to the average, while also 20,000 tons short, which makes a serious addition to the shortage in the beet crop. The advance in price has nothing to do with the sugar trust. The supply of sugar grown in the United States has been exhausted for some time, and the sugar trust people, like everyone else, are scrambling for sugar in the world's market. The most startling figures are those which show the total quantity of sugar in the United States now and a year ago. June 5, 1889, the stock in importers' and mixers' hands amounted to 95,982 tons. At the same period of last year the stock was 190,322 tons, showing a shortage of 94,340 tons. That is there is not more than half as much sugar in the country. "Roughly speaking, sugar is derived from beet and cane sources in equal amounts. The present shortage in the world's supply of sugar is due to the partial failure of the beet root crop in France, Germany, and Russia. This is estimated at 10 per cent, below the quantity sought. The beet crop, which matures in next October, is estimated at 3,015,000 tons, while that of last year was only 2,735,000 tons, and that of 1887, 2,401,600 tons. It was this latter crop that laid the foundation of the present famine, as the yield for 1888 was 2,730,206 tons. The world's consumption of sugar is steadily going up at the rate of about 5 per cent, each year. So that the advance has depended on the shortage in the crop supply. During the last week all grades of sugar have advanced one-quarter cent a pound all over this country. This is a small thing in pounds, but even one-quarter cent a pound means $5 a ton. Last year 1,099,733 tons were used in this country alone, so that every quarter of a cent means about $5,500,000 of an increase, most of which is paid out of the pockets of the poorer classes.

The war department has issued an order that offices connected with the war department be draped in mourning for thirty days as a mark of respect to the memory of Simon Cameron, who was secretary of war in the original cabinet of President Lincoln.

THE POSTOFFICES.

Wanamaker Makes a Few Statements.

New York, June 25.—The *Mail and Express* determined to sift to the bottom the "sound and fury, signifying nothing" charges against the Postoffice Department, finds that the Democratic witnesses, as usual, are reduced to making grimaces, as they cannot speak. The silly character of the charges is shown by the completeness of the answers. The Postmaster-General was waited upon by a representative of the paper in Washington, and this is substantially what was said:

"Why are removals made so rapidly? They are not made rapidly. The daily changes going on in a city of 50,000 inhabitants are many, and if our Postmasters were all put together in a city they would make a city of that size. There would be deaths and resignations, necessary removals and expirations of terms of service that would naturally require many hundreds of new appointments every week."

"But there is a great deal of criticism because of removals."

"Yes, it always has been so, and always will be so, until it becomes the custom of the Government to publish the actual reasons for these changes. In many an instance they are upon inspectors' reports, which, if published, would destroy the future of the man and leave a shadow upon his family. For the same reason no information is given to the public on removals, or causes of removals, where there is no inspectors' report, but affidavits filed by people which in themselves are sufficient to put a department under severe criticism if removals are not promptly made. There has often been much criticism, simply because of the politics involved, when the sole cause of the removal has been drunkenness, neglect of duty and clearly proved unfitness to hold the important office of Postmaster. The department does not expect to please everybody, any more than we expect to hunt up people who make false statements about the methods of procedure here in order to give explanations.

"We propose to insist upon faithful service, and the very best of it, for we shall ask the people to get out of the way in cases where we have carefully examined into the facts and they have been unfaithful. It frequently comes to our knowledge that postmasters are saying that they do not expect to remain long and it is no matter of interest to them to attend any longer to the office for the few months of their unexpired term. It would seem better for the good of the public if these people would resign instead of waiting to have complaints lodged against them and then be removed by the department."

"Are the majority of the appointments made to fill vacancies caused by actual removals?"

"Fifty-six thousand of the post officials have no certain term. That is, an appointment is made and the term is continuous. But when a postoffice becomes a Presidential appointment, four years constitute the term for which a postmaster is appointed. That is also what the people generally give their city, county and State officers, and when they have served four years they think they have had enough official life and elect somebody else. Thus, a postmaster appointed for four years has as long tenure of office as the officers the people have themselves elected. In removing an incumbent after four years and appointing a new postmaster the department is merely following the popular will."

"Is it true that you have taken a stand against making appointments where liquor is sold?"

"The law compels this. There is a regulation against making an appointment in a place where liquor is sold. A postoffice and a tavern in charge of the same man are not a partnership consistent with the dignity of the United States Government."

"What is the exact fact regarding Sunday work?"

"Briefly this: We do not propose to disrupt the service, but to find out what can be done to lessen the hours of toil with thousands of men all over the country, many of whom have families with whom they like to spend at least part of Sunday."

Which is Our Senator.

Senator Pugh of Alabama, said at Astoria, after he had looked upon this great country and the Columbia river:

"No member of Congress and no member of the Senate is prepared to go any further than I to make appropriations to open this great waterway to the sea to commerce and to do it so speedily as possible. I do not like this practice of piecemeal appropriation. There should be no delay in completing these public improvements after the United States engineers have made known the importance of the work. I shall go home with a full comprehension of the magnitude of my country and feel as much in the heart and confidence of the people of Oregon as the people of Alabama."

Senator Dolph of Oregon said:

"He feared that for some time he would have to depend on irregular and insufficient appropriations, because the sentiment of the country at present would not sustain Congress in making anything but piecemeal appropriations."—[Wasco Sun.

Chunks of Gold.

Some of the largest nuggets ever displayed in California says the Post, are now on exhibition in Sutro & Co's. office on Montgomery street and huge chunks of gold are an unfailing source of attraction to the passing crowd, and especially to many an old pioneer, bringing back vivid recollections of '49. They were found recently in the Sunnyside drift gravel mine, located about 17 miles from Downieville, Sierra county. This vicinity has always been famous for large sized nuggets, and one weighing 68 pounds, unearthed by an Englishman in the early 50's, ranks second in point of value with any that has ever been discovered elsewhere. The heaviest of the three just taken from the Sunnyside mine weighs 181 ounces and is worth in the neighborhood of $3400. The others will average about 40 ounces, each, of gold entirely free from quartz.

A Chicago gentleman of wealth and eccentricity has four fine children, the eldest ten years old, and he has named them One, Two, Three and Four. His explanation of this curious nomenclature is that he has so often seen the great dissatisfaction of children with names bestowed upon them that he resolved to simply number his offspring until they were twelve years old, and then let them select their own names. The children are pleased with the idea, and are great students of names.

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The Stern Reality of Pain.

A robust toothache once moved into the molar tooth of a Christian Healer and proceeded to make itself at home. The Healer had spent that day, and so many days preceding it, assuring his patients that their sufferings had no real existence, that he had come to look upon the physical ills of mankind with lofty scorn, and to despise the weakness which acknowledged pain.

He therefore calmly continued to treat a case of spinal irritation then in hand, totally disregarding the none too gentle titillations which were running through his inferior dental nerve.

After a time, finding that his tooth ached with a fury that refused to be disregarded, he proceeded to give himself one of his two-dollar treatments, thus: "Evil doth not exist; pain is evil; therefore pain has no existence; hence there can be no pain in my tooth."

At this logical demonstration the robust toothache smiled grimly, and gave the dental pulp a bang so powerful that the Christian Healer was unable to suppress a mournful howl, but he heroically proceeded:

"The pain I seem to feel in my tooth is not an actual existence; it is merely an evil thought brought about by an operation of the intellect; I will put a good thought in its place and the discomfort conceived by my mind will cease."

On hearing this the robust toothache rolled up its sleeves and went to work in earnest. It jumped with both feet upon the quivering nerve ends and stamped, kicked, squeezed and tugged at them with so savage a vigor that when the blear-eyed dawn began to brighten in the east, the Christian Healer, who had spent the night in walking up and down, moaning and trying to convince himself that it was only a bad idea he was suffering from, was in a thoroughly knocked out condition.

The toothache, with all the freshness of youth, continued to play a stormy fantasia upon his nerve ends.

Suddenly he seized his hat and coat with a frantic haste.

"Where are you going, Edward?' inquired his wife, who was also a metaphysical healer.

"I'm going to have this d——d tooth pulled out," said he, shortly.

"Pain has no real existence," replied his wife, calmly; "you know that, Edward."

"Shut up, woman!" he yelled. "Who's got the toothache, you or me?" and slamming the front door behind him he made a bee-line for the nearest dentist.—F. B. S. King, in Medical Visitor.

The Behring Sea Fisheries.

[San Francisco Dispatch, June 27.]

The Examiner's New York special says: Alger, and Platt are believed to have their eyes on the contract covering the seal fisheries in Behring sea, which have been enjoyed by the Alaska Commercial company for the past twenty years.

The contract between the government and the Alaska Commercial Company will expire in May 1890. This is the last year that the commercial company will have the exclusive right to take seals in Behring sea, unless the contract is renewed. It will take a new company several months to get into shape to continue the work of taking seals, so an early decision on the part of the government in the matter is anticipated.

Under the existing laws the letting of the contract is left entirely to the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury Windom. He will probably make known his decision before Jan. 1st.

Platt and Alger are going to Alaska because of a wish to investigate the extent of the seal industry before engaging in it.

It is known that the Alaska Commercial Company is making strenuous efforts to obtain the renewal of their contract. The plum is such a rich one that there are already a dozen or more applicants in the field.

Whether Windom will advertise for proposals or not is not known.

Noble Generosity of Convicts.

No more touching proof of the universal sympathy that flowed out to the Johnstown sufferers was given than the subscription of the convicts in the Eastern penitentiary of Pennsylvania. They are only allowed weekly papers, and did not know of the disaster until the following Wednesday. As soon as they read the story numbers were heard knocking on their wickets to tell the keepers they wanted to give something of their earnings. These they made by working extratime, half going to the county from which the convict comes and half to the man himself. The maxima that can be made in a week is $1. Out of 1110 prisoners, 546 gave $542.90, on an average of almost a dollar per man. One old man had $16 to his credit, and wanted to give the whole of it. He said: "I have been doing crooked work nearly all my life, and I want to do something square this time." The warden's rule that no one should give more than $5 stood in his way, but he persisted. "I will send the rest of the money," said he, "out to my folks, and tell them to send it." It may be instructive to couple with this the denial of a chief of police that professional thieves were swarming into the flooded country to rob the dead. "The thieves would not do anything like that," said he: "there is too much of the gentleman in them." Twist humanity into what shape you will, there is still some good left in it.