

THE OREGON SCOUT.

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NEWS NOTES.

The president has appointed Mrs. Marion A. Mulligan, of Chicago, to be pension agent at Chicago, vice Miss Ada C. Sweet resigned, and Joseph D. Bethune, California, to be register of the land office at Los Vegas, Cal.

In the recent instructions sent by the president to Gen. Schofield, to be forwarded to Gen. Howard, commanding the department of the Platte, for his guidance in settling the labor troubles in Wyoming, he directed him to send sufficient force to protect life and property when violence existed, or was threatened, and to aid the civil authorities in preserving peace, and arresting those committing offenses against the law, and to protect especially Chinese laborers from ill-treatment at the hands of other persons.

John Keeley, a leading merchant of Rock Bridge, Ill., was found dead in his store with two bullet-holes in his head. All the circumstances point to murder, but no clue has yet been obtained to the perpetrator of the deed.

Eleven cars of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern and the elevator of Kammer & Lamb burned at Independence, Iowa. Loss on cars and contents, \$12,000; loss on elevator unknown.

The September report of the department of agriculture contains an article showing the production, consumption and distribution of wheat of the United States in the last eight years, and others demonstrating the excess of the commercial estimates of the Pacific coast wheat production, and completeness of the assessor's returns of the western states as to area and products.

The second comptroller of the treasury made a decision denying the motion of counsel for the Baltimore and Ohio railroad company that the accounts of that company for general transportation of soldiers and supplies during the civil war be reopened. The application was based on the ground that the company was subjected to extraordinary charges and expense in executing the business of the government, and was therefore entitled to a more liberal compensation than was allowed at the time the accounts were settled. The comptroller declined to reopen the accounts, for the reason that they had already been settled, and because no new evidence was presented to justify such a course. He also made the point that the property of the company instead of being jeopardized by the business of the government, was in fact protected thereby.

The Rev. Moses A. Hopkins, of Franklin, N. C., appointed minister to Liberia, was born a slave in Montgomery county, Va., and after gaining his freedom he pursued a course of study and was graduated at Lincoln university, Pa., in the class of 1874, and also graduated at the Auburn (N. Y.) Presbyterian theological seminary. In addition to his services as Presbyterian clergyman, he has been engaged in industrial pursuits, and was the principal of the state colored normal schools at Franklin, N. C., several years. The reverend gentleman was highly recommended for the position by the governor and other officials of North Carolina, and by other men of prominence, including a great many clergymen and representative colored men of the country.

Gen. Rosecrans, register of the treasury, has asked for the resignations of William P. Titcomb, assistant register, and Harvey Jenison, Charles Mall, Arthur Hendricks, J. H. Beatty and N. E. Walker, chiefs of divisions in the register's office. The resignations are demanded, the register says, so as to secure the unbiased judgment and cordial cooperation in any changes that may be necessary for the good of the public service. He has found that the officials whose resignations he has asked are not in sympathy with him in reform which he proposes in his office, and for that reason he desires to replace them with men upon whom he can rely.

The president made the following appointments: To be consuls of the United States—H. W. Gilbert, of New York, at Trieste; James M. Rose, of New York, at Three Rivers, Canada; Moses A. Hopkins, of North Carolina, minister resident and consul-general of the United States to Liberia; Irwin Dugan, to be supervising inspector of steam vessels for the Sixth district.

Deputy U. S. Treasurer Titcomb has tendered his resignation at the request of Gen. Rosecrans, to take effect on the appointment and qualification of his successor. Mr. Titcomb has been in the treasury department for twenty-five years. It is understood that Ross Fitch, a former employe of the treasury, will be appointed to succeed him. Gen. Rosecrans has recommended his appointment. Mr. Titcomb will be retained in the register's office as a clerk at a salary of \$1,800.

The sugar works of the American Glucose company at Peoria, Ill., burned to the ground, entailing a loss of \$250,000. The flames originated near the dry bone kiln and, driven by the high winds, spread with great rapidity. The heat was so intense that the firemen could scarcely approach the burning building. Some fifteen men employed in the factory at the time barely escaped with their lives.

Charles H. Chamberlain has filed a suit in the United States circuit court at St. Louis against the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad company, asking \$100,000 damages for injuries received in an accident on that road near Woodlawn, Iowa, ten years ago. Mr. Chamberlain claims that he was permanently disabled by the accident, and since then has been subject to epileptic fits and other serious brain troubles.

The body of Deputy U. S. Marshal Miller, who mysteriously disappeared in Sumner county, Tennessee, several weeks ago, has been found buried within 300 yards of the house of John Bradley, who has all the time been suspected of the murder. Bradley was arrested and brought to Nashville. He is a moonshiner, and Miller was on his way to serve a warrant on him when he disappeared.

NATIONAL CAPITAL NOTES.

The acting comptroller of the currency has authorized the First National bank of Dorchester, Neb., the First National bank of Waupun, Wis., the First National bank of Wayne, Neb., and the Minnehaha National bank of Sioux Falls, Dakota, to begin business, each with a capital of \$50,000.

A telegram was received at the marine hospital bureau from Surgeon Dalton, at Port Townsend, W. T., asking authority

to employ watchmen to protect the property of the marine hospital service. He says several attempts have been made recently to fire the town, and the places now under patrol by the citizens.

The commissioner of internal revenue reports that the amount of distilled spirits gone into consumption in the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1885, is 69,155,902 gallons, and the amount of malt liquors on which tax was paid during the same period is 19,185,958 barrels. The amount of wine consumed in this country during the year 1884 is estimated at 20,508,245 gallons.

The acting postmaster-general appointed the following fourth-class postmasters: In Illinois—At Manhattan, C. M. Baker; at Elkhart, T. Brennan; at Colfax, D. M. Mitchell; at Prophetstown, J. C. Paddock; at Washburn, Christian Hoese; at Gardner, G. C. Lovelace. In Iowa—At Percy, T. J. Jones; at Ayershire, P. H. Owens; at Riceville, J. J. Sloan; at Elkader, D. J. Griffith; at Laurel, J. A. Horton; at Bronley, M. Q. Ward. In Nebraska—At Craig, J. R. Davis; at Phillips Station, Mrs. Minnie Baker; at Cedar Rapids, L. W. Campbell; at Chester, Stephen Forsick; at Plainview, Benj. Stetson; at Valley, G. W. Agne.

When the postmaster-general returns to Washington he will proceed to consider questions that have arisen in connection with the establishment of an immediate delivery system, and will issue an additional circular to postmasters containing full and explicit instructions for their guidance in inaugurating the new scheme.

The commissioner of emigration of the state of New York has reported to the secretary of the treasury that during the year 1884 there arrived at the port of New York 310,000 emigrants, all of whom were examined by the board, and on such examinations 1,144 persons were found to be either convicts, lunatics, idiots or persons unable to take care of themselves without becoming public charges, and were returned to the countries from whence they came.

Rear Admiral Davis, in a dispatch to the secretary of the navy, dated Nagasaki, Japan, August 11, reports that all foreign fleets are separated in the several parts of China and Japan. The news from Corea, he says, indicates an unsettled condition of affairs, although no overt act has been committed or anticipated. The complete withdrawal of Chinese and Japanese troops took place July 22.

The president is said to have taken a decided stand in reference to California appointments. He has given the politicians to understand that he will not listen to anything further in reference to those offices or make any more appointments until the strike ceases.

In reply to the women's national labor convention against the giving out of washing of towels for the treasury department contract upon the grounds that it opened the way for a Chinese monopoly, the secretary replied that this work in the general department is given out by contract, and in every case it is given to responsible steam laundry establishments who employ American labor, and under no circumstances will it be given to the Chinese. The Chinese legation in the city have leased for a term of three years the residence of ex-Senator Stewart, known as "Stewart Castle," and situated on Dupont circle.

Secretary Manning declined to make any statement whatever in regard to the alleged silver compromise, on the ground that he did not have any time to read the newspapers and consequently did not know what had been said on the subject.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

It is semi-officially announced that Spain has not yet replied to Germany's suggestion to refer the Caroline question to a friendly power for arbitration, nor had Spain replied to Germany's demand for a reparation for the insult to the German embassy at Madrid.

The Earl of Carnarvon in a late speech said it was time to reject sentiment and institute an impartial and searching inquiry into the relative merits of free trade and protection. He had been struck by the vast natural resources of the west of Ireland that remain undeveloped, owing to the absence of railroads and markets. It was a delicate question as to whether the government should aid in the development of these resources, but the circumstances of Ireland were similar to those of the colonies where such aid had been given with advantage.

Official intelligence having been received at Lima of the death of General Grant, flags on the government building were placed at half mast.

King Alfonso presided at a recent Spanish cabinet council. An elaborate answer to Germany was drawn up in the most friendly terms, explaining the claims of Spain to the Caroline islands, and demanding that Germany recognize them.

A dispatch from Pesth states that Count Paul Festetics was killed by L. Pechey, son of Proet, of the Hungarian legation, in a duel. It was at first reported that Pechey died of illness.

The Independence-Egyptienne, of Cairo, formerly the Bosphore-Egyptienne, has placarded the walls of Cairo, inviting those who wish to study the purity of British morals to read its translation of the Pall Mall Gazette's recent article on the London vice.

At the royal family reunion to be held by King Christian of Denmark, at the capitol of Evendenberg, there will be present the czar and czarina, Prince and Princess of Wales, King George of Greece, and Duke and Duchess de Chartres. The occasion will be the formal betrothal of Marie, daughter of Duke de Chartres and Prince Waldemar, youngest son of King Christian. During the visit of the czar the greatest precautions will be maintained to keep him safe from any evil designs which may be entertained against him by the nihilists. It is stated that the czar's moribundness concerning nihilism is increasing and that as the result his mind is almost unbled with dread.

A tour through Wales has been arranged by the Prince of Wales upon his return from Germany. He will first make a general visit through the northern part of the country and will then have special receptions at Cardiff, Swansea, Milford Haven and elsewhere. This tour will be the first formal visit which the prince ever made to Wales.

Lord Leonard, who figured so prominently in the recent London scandal, has gone to Australia on a purse raised by his hands on condition he remains absent from the country.

Mrs. Samuels, the mother of Frank James, says that the ex-highwayman did not go to Samuel Jones' revival meetings, as reported, but has been spending some time with her at her home near Kearney, Mo.

A SEPTEMBER CYCLONE.

An Ohio Town Completely Demolished by the Elements.

Fifteen Persons Known to be Killed and Many More Missing.

Fearful Suffering and Exposure.

Springfield (O.) telegram: A terrible cyclone struck Washington C. H., a city twenty-five miles west of here, at 8 o'clock to-night and almost literally swept it from the earth.

The storm came from the northwest and broke upon the town very suddenly, carrying everything before it. Hardly a private residence in the town escaped, fully 400 buildings going down. The Baptist, Presbyterian and Catholic churches all suffered a common fate.

The Ohio Southern, Pan Handle narrow gauge and Midland railroad depots were blown to smithereens, and every building in the vicinity carried away, making ingress or egress almost impossible. As every wire is cut within a circuit of two miles of it, accurate details of the catastrophe are not obtainable. The only reports that can be gotten are through the operator who tapped a wire two miles west of town and is sitting in a heavy rain storm to work his instruments.

The panic-stricken people were taken completely unawares and fled from the trembling buildings in every direction into the murky darkness. A mad frenzy seemed to seize them and they hurried hither and thither in wild distraction, little knowing where they were fleeing. After the whirlwind whirled about about ten minutes, a heavy rain fall set in which continued unabated for several hours.

As soon as the few cool-headed recovered their senses, searching parties were organized and the sad work of looking for the dead began. So far fifteen bodies have been recovered from the debris of the ruined buildings, and the dreary work is just beginning to get under way. It is probable as many more will be found before morning. The glimmer of lanterns procured from farm houses in the vicinity, and from the few houses left standing, is the only light they have to work by. The cellars of the houses and every sort of refuge were filled with shivering people huddling together in the vain attempt to keep warm. Two or three bodies have been stumbled upon in the middle of the street, where they were stricken down by flying bricks or timbers.

LATER.—The loss will exceed \$1,000,000. Those injured severely and slightly will number about 800. The city is the county seat of Fayette county. It has had a most extraordinary business growth within the last fifteen years, and being the center of a rich agricultural district, with excellent railroad facilities, it had grown to be a business place of considerable importance. Its residents had a beautiful town, with tasteful dwellings, and its recently completed court house was one of the best in the state. Now this prosperous town is a mass of ruins. The experience of its inhabitants has no parallel in the history of any town in Ohio.

A heavy rainfall began about 8 o'clock at night. Then the darkness drove everybody into shelter, so that while there are some who say they saw funnel shaped clouds, it does not seem possible that there could have been much observation of the heavens. Shortly after the rain began, the sky was almost instantaneous. The people say it was over in two minutes. Nobody could take note of time in such fearful experience. The fierce roaring of the terrible tornado, the crashing, broken and falling buildings, the sharp flashes of lightning, rattling thunder and pitiless rain, combined to produce sensations of a most horrifying character.

Two minutes of this startling experience was followed by a new feeling among the scattered and terrified survivors, most of whom had been driven into the streets. It was the uncertainty of the fate of friends and relatives. All who escaped alive felt sure that many lives were certainly lost. When the fierceness of the storm had passed, and men could communicate with each other, it was found that all were in darkness, and the streets were out. Only by the lightning were the frightened people enabled to catch glimmers of the desolation which had wrecked their little city. Friends called for friends, and as answers came the first shock of the dread was relieved. The number of deaths was unaccountably small.

The next duty was to search for the imprisoned and wounded. In this there was a prompt and whole-hearted effort. Torches were improvised, and wherever cries were heard ready aid was given. More than that, the debris was overturned and searched, and many bodies were found. With cheerful welcome the doors of such houses as were not destroyed were opened to the homeless ones who had been driven into the rain. In many cases they were utterly bereft of their household goods. The night was a fearful one, but it was full of helping work for the strong.

With daylight came the most heartrending spectacles. The fair town of the day before lay torn and wrecked. The disordered streets were well nigh impassable, for trees and parts of the houses were cast into them. The worst of all was the sight of the poor, who had lost all and had no place. They wandered hopelessly about as if they were strangers. Of course people whose houses were not ruined began at once to care for their fellow-sufferers and the farmers soon began to pour into town from curiosity but at the same time bringing supplies and aid for the sufferers. At the day ended the council had taken formal action by organizing a relief committee and by night much was done towards preventing actual privation.

The great wonder is that more lives were not lost. In the Ohio fellows hall forty reports were laid out at a meeting on the second story when the storm came. The building was literally thrown down yet none were injured. Thirty-one went down with the ruins and escaped, while nine clung to the walls adjoining the block and were rescued by ladders.

Reports from various parts of Ohio and Indiana show that the storm which devastated Washington C. H. was widespread. In Miami county its course was due east. At Coleville in that county two barns and one house were blown down and three of the inmates seriously injured. On the other side of the Miami several buildings were damaged. Frame houses were blown from their foundations. The path of the storm was forty rods to a half mile wide. At Cambridge the city house was blown down. At Dublin and Napoleon, O., and Seymour, Ind., much damage is reported but no lives lost.

NEWS AND OTHERWISE.

Roseco Conkling now weighs only 193 pounds.

Emperor William is an excellent marksman for a man of his advanced age.

Ex-Speaker Kiefer may some day be a great cattle king. He is growing rich rapidly.

John L. Sullivan is so tender-hearted that he wouldn't strike even a mousethew when it is down.

Louis Riel has a poor opinion of the press. He may yet get a good send-off, but will be unable to read it.

Judge Tourgee will take the lecturestump this fall. He will not stand on a platform built of "Dricks Without Straw."

"Woman is most muscular in the heart," says a sentimental bachelor, who "never saw her wield a broom or wait a night."

Chin-Chin is the name of a Chinese belle in Canton. This shows that even the heathen have some idea of the eternal fitness of things.

Miss Cleveland is said to have made at least \$50,000 out of her book. She would be a veritable helpmeet to some deserving young man.

Brigham Young's son John is the father of twenty-one children. What he doesn't know about paragonic and peppermint isn't worth knowing.

Dr. Talmage's sermons in Ireland possessed so much rhetorical dynamite that he was dubbed "The O'Donovan Rossa of the American pulpit."

Ex-Senator Thurman is very fond of whist, and often gets so warm while playing that he is compelled to mop his brow with his red bandanna.

Lydia Thompson is said to have been her stage career when she was only eleven years of age. Her few personal notes, however, can remember the occasion.

Rev. "R. R." Burdard, who is now at Saratoga, shudders when he hears people talking about the opening of the oyster season. He knows that September has an "R" in it.

An arboriculturist says that Lydia Thompson and Maggie Mitchell are the evergreens of the stage, because when they plant their little feet upon the boards they make a century plant between them.

THE CEREALS ALL RIGHT.

Condition of Spring Wheat Throughout the United States.

Falling Off in the Yield of 1885 as Compared With 1884.

Condition of the Cotton Crop.

The condition of spring wheat, says a Washington dispatch, has been impaired since August 7 in the northwest, the district of principal production. Heavy rains, followed by extreme heat, between the first and middle of August before harvest, shriveling the grain and causing rust. The heavy windstorms prostrated and injured large areas.

In Nebraska there is some complaint of smut, and a little in Dakota. Chinch bugs have done some damage in Wisconsin and Minnesota, the injury being greater in August than in July. The averages are as follows:

Table with 3 columns: State, 1884, 1885. Rows include Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Colorado, New England states, and Average.

The crop of last year was 156,000,000 bushels. Returns of winter wheat are almost identical in results with those of July. There is a slight advance in Michigan, Texas, Maryland and some other states and a point or two of decrease in several. The general average is about 45.8 against 65 in July. Except as the result of the spring may change the present expectations the winter wheat area may be placed at 217,000,000 bushels. If the injuries reported in stock should prove greater than are apparent at the present a few million more acres will be available for a crop slightly above the average.

The September cotton report of the department of agriculture shows the presence of hot and dry weather during August caused a shedding of the blossoms and a decreased vitality resulted quite generally. The condition of the crop is still favorable for a crop slightly above the average.

The condition of corn still continues high, ranging from 90 to 100 in the states averaged. The general average is 95 against 96 in August. It was 74 last year. In September the frosts wrought very little injury and will be capable of little if deferred to the present. The prospects are still favorable for a crop slightly above the average.

A GREAT LAWYER DEAD.

Sudden Death of Emory A. Storrs at Ottawa, Ill.

Ottawa (Ill.) dispatch: This city was thrown into great excitement this morning by the remarks on the street that Emory Storrs, the great Chicago lawyer, counsel for Joe C. Mackin, had died suddenly in his room at the Clifton hotel in this city. Investigation proved the report but too true. Storrs is dead. For two days he had been suffering a slight disposition, but no serious consequences had been anticipated. The best medical services had been attending him and at no time was he confined to his room. His wife came from Chicago last evening and during the night it was necessary to administer medicine, which was done by Mrs. Storrs herself. This morning upon awakening she found him in a dying condition and beyond medical skill. Death occurred at 7:10 and was without suffering, being caused by paralysis of the heart.

Hon. Emory A. Storrs was one of the most eminent lawyers of the country and ranked next to Robert G. Ingersoll as an eloquent orator. In criminal law he had few if any equals and was counsel in many celebrated cases, including the famous whisky ring and latterly the ballot-box stuffers of Chicago. Within the last few weeks he was retained as principal counsel for the Mormon church in the polygamy cases which have been appealed to the United States supreme court. As a politician Mr. Storrs was a stalwart of stalwarts, and seconded the nomination of General Grant in Chicago in 1860, following the brilliant address of Hon. Roscoe Conkling. He was one of the famous "306" who voted "First, last and all the time" for Grant in that convention. He was between 48 and 50 years old at the time of his death.

Third-Class Offices.

At the last session of congress there was passed an act authorizing the postmaster-general to lease buildings occupied by the third-class postoffices. The amount of the appropriation for leasing postoffice buildings, however, was only \$450,000, or just about enough money to defray the expense of leasing buildings for offices of the first and second class, consequently the postmaster-general has been unable to carry out the provisions of the act authorizing the leasing of third-class offices. There are 1,728 third-class offices, and it is estimated that \$350,000 will be required annually to defray the expenses of leasing suitable quarters for them. It is probable that when congress meets recommendations will be made by the postmaster-general that an adequate appropriation be made for these leases or that the act be repealed.

BLOWING HIS OWN BUGLE.

Third Auditor Williams Addresses a Letter to Secretary Manning.

Wherein He Shows What Has Been Accomplished in Four Months.

Claims Amounting to \$104,527,117 Adjusted.

Col. John S. Williams, third auditor of the treasury, addressed a letter to the secretary of the treasury, stating that when he assumed the duties of third auditor, May 1, 1885, it was notorious that the business of the office was largely in arrears, the cause being that the clerical force was not sufficient for a proper dispatch of the work. The pension division was nearly a year behind in its examination and settlement of accounts of pension agents, involving a sum of \$75,987,885; miscellaneous claims against the government, including state war claims, amounting to \$15,587,774. Some of the work in the collection division was over two years in arrears. In the horse claim division over 11,000 claims were pending and unsettled, involving \$1,716,696. The unsettled accounts of the army quartermasters and commissaries amounted to \$5,458,208; unsettled accounts of engineers amounted to \$5,556,826, making a grand total of \$104,527,117.

In the short space of four months, ending August 31, and without increasing the clerical force, Auditor Williams says the accounts of all pension agents have been examined and settled up to June 1 last, and the clerks in the division are now examining and settling accounts of the last quarter, which is current work.

Showing the improvement in the working capacity of the clerks in that division, he says that during the months of May, June, July and August, 1884, there was examined and settled accounts aggregating \$18,223,580. For the corresponding four months of 1885 the same clerks with perhaps three or four exceptions examined and settled \$75,105,778. These figures make their comment. In the horse claims division 613 claims have been adjusted or rejected involving \$76,275, besides carrying on a large amount of correspondence necessary to proper disposal of remaining cases. During the same period in 1884 only \$27,840. The accounts of quartermasters, commissaries and engineers are up as far as possible for them to be, and the clerks in these divisions are now engaged in current work. The claims division, collection division and horse claims division are cleared in arrears, and the character of the work necessarily precludes a possibility of its being done promptly. This is explained on the plea that almost in every case information is required from other officers and outside sources, which often involves a long delay.

Williams says it is due to the clerks in his office to say that, with a few exceptions, since the present auditor's incumbency, they have been faithful and efficient. Their improvement in this respect is simply wonderful. As a consequence a large amount of work which in 1884 could not be done, and that on the whole the business is in a very satisfactory condition. Continuing, he says in this connection, however, it may be stated that since the 4th day of March there appears to have been an astonishing improvement in the health of the clerks. Last year, with 157 clerks, only 1,639 were sick days. To-day the auditor knows of only two clerks who are absent on sick leave. As a result of the improved condition of the business of the office is the fact that greater efficiency has been obtained. The third auditor recommends a reduction in the clerical force. The law now provides for 153 clerks. There are now six vacancies by resignation, which need not be filled, and the services of twelve more clerks can be dispensed with without injuring the public service, making a total reduction of eighteen clerks.

BILLY MAHONE AS A COWHIDER.

He Attempts to Chastise Young Men for Landing His Son Astray.

Petersburg (Va.) telegram: United States Senator William Mahone figured this evening in an attempt to cowhide two young society gentlemen of this city. The facts furnished by one of the gentlemen attacked by Mahone are as follows: The senator's son Butler has many friends among the young democrats of this city, and is identified with them socially, there existing most agreeable relations between them. Of late the young man, so the senator thought, had been indulging in harmful dissipation, and the senator concluded that his democratic associates were the cause of his delinquencies.

With this conviction uppermost in his mind, Mahone came down town this afternoon, armed with a horsewhip, and determined to wreak vengeance upon his son's associates. The senator was accompanied on this warlike mission by Captain Asa Rogers. He found his son in company with Alexander Donnan, jr., and Thomas Hunter, the three young men being in a group near the club house.

As soon as the senator saw the young gentlemen he walked at once among them, and in a most unbecomingly insulting manner, taxing him with being the author of Butler's last dissipation. Hunter did not resent the imputation and Donnan, who turned toward the senator, was met by a storm of abusive epithets. The attack was accompanied by a string of profanities. The senator also menaced them with his whip and accompanied the menace with the remark that he intended to cowhide him within an inch of his life.

Donnan, who is very plucky, but quite a young man, at once supposed the senator was further armed. He therefore produced a penknife from his pocket, raised upon the senator, caught him by the body and holding the knife dangerously near his face defied him to utter another word or make any motion with his whip. The two men confronted each other for a moment only. Had Senator Mahone moved his foot, he would probably have been slain before the affair was all over, to culminate Capt. Rogers stepped between the two men and averted what promised to be a sanguinary encounter. Mahone was at once offed and High Constable Minotree prevented Donnan from prosecuting the matter further.

Murder About a Banana.

Five young men, stepping down Halstead street, Chicago, walking near the stand of Michael Rossa, a fruit peddler, while one of their number purchased some bananas. Becoming excited because one of the young men took a banana which had not been paid for, Rossa seized a pointed knife and plunged it into the breast of John Kebo. The wounded man ran across the street and fell dead. Rossa fled but has been captured. He admitted the cutting, but claims it was done in self-defense.

Pensies, mignonette, sweet alysum, and many other flowers, will bloom much better if no flower is allowed to seed.

A quiet conscience causes a quiet sleep.

A NEW STAR BORN.

Dr. Harting of Russia the Godfather of the New Member of Our Stellar Family.

London dispatch.—Astronomers have for the first time in the world's history assisted at the birth of a new member of our stellar system. Dr. Harting of the Dorpat University Observatory in Russia is the godfather of this by no means little stranger, which may be 3,000,000 times larger than our sun, and which by its mere birth threatens to upset many of our most cherished astronomical theories. The nebula of Andromeda is the mother of the new star. Between 9 and 10 o'clock on any clear evening the newly-born may be found in the Eastern sky, well up from the horizon, as a glowing point of the eighth magnitude, surrounded by the cloud like mist of the nebula from which it sprang. A good pair of opera-glasses will clearly show both the nebula and star.

Our midwife astronomers are now hard at work measuring, weighing and gossipping about the unexpected youngster which has given them no cause for complaint as regards either growth or ability to make a noise in the world. August 10th the nebula was carefully scanned, but not the slightest sign of change was observed. The nebula according to a photograph then taken remained in its ordinary condition of a gigantic accumulation of fairly-glowing star mist, in which the most powerful telescopes could detect nothing except a faintly glowing nucleus of nebula. August 19th the new star was seen as a brilliant point near the nucleus, but the great importance of the discovery was not appreciated until in September.

Since its sudden birth the star has given constant cause for astronomical gossip on account of its irregular habits. Not only has it changed its position in the sky by ten seconds in one direction and two seconds in the other, but it also shines with an unsteady, flickering, orange-like light, new to members of the stellar family. These manifestations may be simply a species of stellar gas which has given the new star will emerge to be a credit to its mother, or they may portend a career as startling as its origin. Godfather Harting declines to predict his nursling's future, and Mr. Richard A. Proctor, who has the report of the star at all celestial events, is equally non-committal. Certain it is, at any rate, that by its birth, its life, and perhaps its death, the disquieting star will teach astronomers a valuable lesson concerning the matter which is so much at all celestial events, is equally non-committal. Certain it is, at any rate, that by its birth, its life, and perhaps its death, the disquieting star will teach astronomers a valuable lesson concerning the matter which is so much at all celestial events, is equally non-committal.

It is an odd fact that the variable stars occasionally and even regularly flare up in the midst of gaseous nebula. This seems to emphasize still further the difference between the new unknown and other stars, for Andromeda is shown by the spectroscopic to be similar, not also variable. This, however, all astronomers so far agree that the new star is not a worn-out sun unexpectedly blazing into new life, but it is on the contrary, a new agglomeration of force and matter suddenly created or brought together, which was not yet even to be guessed by our science.

With its first flicker the new star shook Laplace's nebular hypothesis until seams and strands stood apart over this practical explanation of the creation of a single "catastrophic" star blazing out with full powers would utterly upset a theory which demands ages of slow accretion before such a star could even be thought of. This star may prove that our universe is after all, but one of the many systems, is untrue. This new variety seems to show that all the wonderful variety of suns—double, triple and multiple, far distant clouds of stars and star dust, and star vapor as well—are alike parts of our own system, not strangers subject to other laws and with other attributes. As this star by its birth has shown the universal kinship of worlds, many of our astronomers are now looking toward the end of all matter!

With the British Association discussing it from the Aberdeen point of view, with telescopes pointing from all the observatories, and with astronomical vicars writing letters about it, the new star must certainly tell what it has to tell.

TOPICS OF THE TURF.

The trotter Iron Age did well while trotting in the free-for-all races at the Gentlemen's Driving Park, Bridgeport, Conn.

Lord Russell, the 4-year-old brother of Maud S, recently got fast in her box at Woodburn, and severely injured his hind leg.

The total amount of money won at the two Saratoga meetings was \$121,265. The get of Pat Molloy was the most successful, earning \$14,835, Irish Pat leading with \$8,950 to his credit.

The National Horse Show association of America will hold its third annual exhibition at Madison Square Garden, on November 3-7. The premium list will amount to over \$19,000, and entries will close on Saturday, October 10.

There is still talk of Miss Woodford and Freeland meeting again, but so far it has amounted to nothing. The Washington Park club of Chicago has offered \$5,000 of added money to any race made between the two, to be decided on its track, and \$1,000 additional if Pontiac should start.

The Associated Press account of the attempt of Maud S, to beat her record at Providence recently was incorrect in saying that she then made the fastest half-mile on record (1:03). At the Belmont course, on August 15, 1884, Jay's Eclipse trotted a quarter in 32 2/3, and the half in 1:03.

Parole's appearance at Sheepshead Bay, after an absence of two years, was the occasion of a great popular ovation. Parole looked quite high in flesh. His change of color, too, was the subject of general remark. From a brown he has become quite a bay. But most horses become lighter in their coat with age. Two years ago Parole was almost black; two years ago he was a "burnt brown."

A Fearful Railroad Collision.