OREGON

### NEWS NOTES.

California and Oregon are Hable to the ravages of three species of locusts, the most dangerous of which is the great Rocky Mountain locust, whose attacks several years ago came near starving out the people of two or three western states.

An increase of \$39,936 is reported by the Denver and Rio Grande railroad in its carnings for September as compared with those for the corresponding month of last

President Cleveland authorizes the statement that he earnestly desires the success of his party at the approaching elections in New York and elsewhere, and that any assertions to the contrary is "utterly and maliciously false.

In the town of Campton, Kane county, Illinois, Albert Cook shot his wife and mother-in-law, killing the latter, who was 74 years old, instantly. Mrs. Cook, from her husband obtained a divorce Monday, is fatally injured. The murderer escaped.

Mrs. Druse, who murdered her husband in Herkimer county, New York, and cut up and burned the remains, was sentenced at Utica to be hanged November 25. A son, daughter and nephew of the condemned woman await trial for complicity in her

The Earl of Shaftesbury, the English philanthropist, died last week, aged 84 years. Choice grapes are selling for a cent a pound wholesale, on parts of the Pacific

A license fee of \$500 per year has been Imposed upon roller skating rinks at Free-

The grand jury at Green River, Wyoming, after an investigation of the anti-Chinese riots at Rock Springs, has adjourned without returning any indictments.

During the month of September there were more than 800 deaths from small-pox in Montreal. Over 700 of the victims were

The rumored agreement between Germany and Spain regarding the Caroline Islands is officially confirmed. Prince Bismarck has written the pope a letter thanking him for the interest he has taken in the

Gen. Caceres, leader of the Peruvian insurgents, has abandoned his almost impregnable position at Canta, retiring on Tacna. His forces are said to be penniless and suffering for food, and much weakened

A new religion, founded on faith alone, has just been started in Pennsylvania. No Christians will be allowed to join the new church. The new church insists that all Christians are idolaters because they give that worship to Christ which should be given to God, the father of all.

The Oregon Railway and Navigation company reports its September earnings at \$577,000, an increase of \$490,000 over of last year. The Indiana, Bloomington Western railroad makes an increase of \$5,741, the Ohio Southern of \$12,689, and e Peoria, Decatur and Evansville of

There are 2,400 stables of cows in New York, the milk of which is sold in the city; and these cows from the time they enter the stable until no longer able to give milk never see grass.

The New Zealand government has renewed the mail service between that country and San Francisco.

The Cleveland, Delphos and St. Louis railroad has been sold for \$168,000 by order of the United States court.

A veteran "sport" of Clinton, Illinois, having resolved to reform, made a bonfire of all his gambling paraphernalia on the public square of that town,

Only £1,000 has been subscribed in Ireland to the fund for the relief of the veteran

fenian leader, James Stephens. The egg crop of Maine is said to be more valuable than her apple crop. There are 10,000,000 hens in the state.

A battle has occurred in the Soudan between the Abyssinian expedition marching to the relief of Kassala and a large force of dervishes under Osman Digma. The latter were defeated with a loss of 5,000 killed. The Abyssinians have resumed their advance upon Kassala.

## NOTES OF A POLITICAL NATURE.

Samuel J. Randall in a recent interview promises that there shall be a clean sweep of the federal employes at the great Phila delphia mint.

An Augusta (Me.) special says that the story that Blaine might be the next republican candidate for governor of Maine is

Robert Lincoln is enjoying a life of leisure shing for bass at Point au Pelee. He is evidently fitting himself to be a candidate

for the presidency some day. Joseph Cook, of fame as a pulpit orator, is to take to the prohibition platform this autumn. Some of his jaw-breaking words

are big enough to hold water. The democrats of Pottawattamie county, Iowa, have nominated for representa-tives Col. Keatley, editor of the Council Bluffs Globe, and E. H. Hart, of Avoca.

A Washington correspondent says that Belva Lockwood has a well-shaped head and classic face. It is thought this would seem to indicate that Miss Lockwood is in the race for 1888.

"In the eyes of the national democracy he stands as a shining exponent of true democratic principles, is the opinion the Washington correspondent of the Louis-ville Courier-Journal has of Governor Hill, of New York.

The "committee of one hundred," an independent republican campaign organiza-tion, of Brooklyn, N. Y., the members of which supported Cleveland for president, have held a meeting and resolved to support the republican candidates for state

Miss Cleveland, the president's sister, has set the fashion for ladies to wear short-cropped hair. We knew all the time that the change to a democratic national ad-ministration would result in some innovation of the American people, but never ex-pected anything like this.—[Lowell Citizen.

Maugatuck, Conn., has a violinist named Bunnell who is more than 80 years of age. and his violin, he says, was made three hundred years ago. He values it at \$5,000.

#### RENDING THE GREAT ROCK.

The Barrier of Hell Gate at Last Shivered by Dynamite.

An Immense Crowd Gather to Witness the Great Explosion.

Careful Precautions Against Accidents. New York dispatch: In order to protect life and property at the Flood Rock explosion to-day, the most careful and complete arrangements had been perfected. A force of 450 police in addition to the harbor police were detailed near the scene of action. Blackwell's Island contained a detachment of one hundred men, while one hundred were on duty at Ward's Island. All the buildings on the north end of Blackwell's Island were bared of inmates, including the almshouse, workhouse and lunatic asylum, who were massed on lawns at a safe distance from the explosion and carefully guarded. In the penitentiary the cell ors were thrown open and the prisoners conducted to the walls. The prison was surrounded by police, while large forces were stationed among the convicts to prevent escape or riot. All points on the shore from which Flood Rock could be seen were densely packed with people. The police were kept busy in keeping the crowd utside the danger line. Ropes had been stretched across the river above and below the place of explosion, and launches from the navy yard patrolled the river to see that no vessels attempted to pass through. When the bell in the tower of Stann's school building struck 11, fifty thousand people were waiting expectantly for the explosion, which was advertised to occur at hat hour, but at that moment a number of people were still on Flood Rock. A few moments later, however, a tug boat took them off, and then the spectators braced themselves for the expected shock. Ladies and gentlemen in arriages stood up on cushions and leveled operaglasses toward the island. A hushed pectancy fell upon the vast crowd. The river in the vicinity of Flood Rock and Hallet's point was now clear of vessels. At a respectful distance, however, scores of excursion steamers, yachts and tugs, crowled with people, waited for the press-ing of the electric button. At precisely 11:13 o'clock the bosom of the river was pierced with a mighty upheaval of rocks and timber. Up, up went glittering masses of water until it seemed as if they never would stop. At a height of two hundred feet the uplifted waters paused and fell back again to the river. Mary Newton, the 11-year-old daughter of Gen. Newton, touched the button which fired the electric current that exploded the submarine mines. is the same child who exploded the first Hell Gate explosion. The shock of the explosion was felt only slightly on the Astoria shore. The noise resembled far-distant subterranean thunder. When Flood Rock had been exploded a mass of broken wreck was seen on top of it. The big derrick which had been left to its fate turned over on its side, broken. A huge tank which had been left at the north end of the island still stood in its place, tilted over a little, as it had settled when let down with the angry waters from its aerial flight. Immediately after the explosion fire broke out in the wreck and burned lustily amid seething waters. Four instantaneous photographs were taken by officers

work done by the dynamite and "rendarock" said that so far as his observations had extended the explosion was eminently successful. Flood Rock was not buried out of sight. It sank perhaps three or four feet and that was all. Some had affirmed that the bed of the river would be so broken up and jagged with rocks that the middle of the channel would become impassable until the debris was removed. Such did not prove to be the fact. Sound steamers experienced no difficulty whatever in making their trips through the channel. If the work of the electric current failed at any point to discharge cartridges, it was probably under the rock known as "Nigger Rock," opposite the electric light stand, at Hallett's point. The keeper of the light, who watched the upheaval of the waters, said that the water at that point was not disturbed. It might be, however, that he was mistaken. The engineer felt confident that an examination of the bottom of the river would show that therocks were shattered into fragments. Capt. John Somers, of the light-house boat John Rogers, after the explosion said: "We were to buoy the scene of the explosion after it had occurred if necessary. We found at the south end of f necessary. the island six fathoms of water, and on the west end three or four fathoms. There were three or four feet of water there before this. We did not find it necessary to buoy the place at all, while the main channel is entirely clear, so that the explosion is a success, and vessels can pass without any

of the corps of engineers from the firing point at Astoria. As far as was possible

to judge from the position and appearance of the wreck the explosion was a grand suc-

cess, though for the present the vicinity of the blasted rock will be even more danger-

ous than heretofore until the wreck has been removed. The shock was felt to a

slight extent in the city and distinctly in

the city hall, the structure trembling for

been removed.

## NATIONAL CAPITAL NOTES.

Advices have been received at the navy department in Washington from the Asiatic squadron up to September 14th. In the latter part of August, on the "Ossipee," lying off Hiago, a number of cases of cholera occurred among the men, and the following died: Edwin Herbert, private of marines, August 29, John McCourt, seaman, August 19; H. P. Sibert, first sergeant of marines, August 29; Alongo H. Lane, ordinary sea-man, August 31; Thomas Cassidy, ship corporal, September 3. The first three named died when the ship was in the inland sea, and were buried there. The others died in the quarantine hospital, and were buried on shore. As McCourt and Herbert died of undoubted cholera their bodies were buried as soon as they could be prepared, and all their effects were at office destroyed. When Sergeant Siebert died the ship stood for Kobe, the nearest point where assistance could be obtained. That port was reached and the sick were placed in the quarantine hospital and the vessel thoroughly disinfected. At last accounts the sick were all doing well.

Gladstone has openly assumed control of the liberal campaign. He has already managed to compose the difficulties between Lord Hartington, leader of the whigs, and Chamberlain, the leader of the radicals. The latter was making such headway that Lord Hartington became headway that Lord Hartington became alarmed and threatened to withdraw from active management in the campaign unless Chamberlain was so far curbed at least as to be unable to commit the whole liberal party to his schemes of radical reform.

When the senate meets there will be a list of between fire and six hundred postmasters, appointed during the recess, submitted for confirmation. In addition it is estimated that during the session of con-gress the terms of at least six hundred postmasters will expire, so that at least the nominations of over one thousand postmasters come before the senate at the next session. There are 2,335 presidential

postmasters in this country and at the rate observed during the past six months all the presidential postmasters will be changed in six years.

Joseph E. Hayden, a \$1,400 clerk in the pension office, was dismissed for using gross language toward the executive of the United States. The offence is alleged to have been committed while he was riding in a carriage on Pennsylvanfa avenue, when, it is said, he even went so far as to wish for the death of the president. Hayden was appointed by President Arthur, but claims to be a democrat.

The Indian bureau has awarded contracts for Indian supplies for the southern Ute agency, in Colorado, as follows: N.W. Miles, of Schuyler, Neb., 62,000 pounds of flour at \$3.45; J. E. Hughes, of Hughes, Ohio, 345,000 pounds of beef at \$2.84.

The president has accepted the resignation of Wm. B. Fleming as associate justice of the supreme court of New Mexico, to ake effect on the appointment and qualification of his successor.

Upon a request preferred by Gens. Sheridan, Schofield, Pope and Howard, that their present personal aides be made ex- officer or employe. ceptions to the recently issued order sending back to their regiments all officers who have been absent therefrom on detached or parties before the land office except in cases staff duty four years or more, Secretary Endicott has had the subject brought to his order. The order was issued after long and had become convinced that under the prevailing system detached officers lost intercontinuance would be demoralizing to the

The consul of the United States at Guaystate that the statements made in various newspapers that there are 1,000 Chinamen in his district, and that the same are being surreptitiously introduced into the United States in contravention of the restriction act of congress, are untrue, as the total number of Chinamen in that consular district does not exceed 125, and these are nearly all employed in the shoe and tailoring factories, and have no desire to leave their present profitable positions. No additions are being made to their number.

### FRIENDS OF THE RED MAN.

Proceedings of the Lake Mohonk Indian Civilization Conference.

Questions that Were Presented for Dis-

What Is Good for the Red Man.

cussion by the Business Committee.

At the late session of the Lake Mohonk Indian Civilization conference the business committee presented the following for discussion: The Indian question can never be settled except on the principle of justice and equal rights. In its settlement all property rights of the Indians must be sacredly guarded, and all obligations to the Indians faithfully fulfilled, either according to the

tenor of past treaties or by provisions affording a full equivalent therefore, Keeping this steadily in view, the object of all legislative and executive action for the future should be the absorption, not isolation, of the Indian; the abrogation of the reservation system; the ultimate discontinuance of annuities; the subjection of the Indian as a citizen to the law, and his protection as a citizen by the law; intermin-gling of Indians as American citizens with the white race, and opening all the territory of the United States, without exception o reservation, to civilization. These objects to be pursued immediately, vigorously and continuously. The measures recommended embrace the following:

First-Immediate admission to all rights Taylor and George Q. Cannon. and privileges of citizenship, including suf-

Second-The immediate measures for alwith grazing lands in common are neces- macted in the interests of morality, but term of years.

Third-Purchase thereupon by the United States of all unallotted land at appraised valuation, and the immediate opening of it when so purchased to settlement Fourth-Setting apart in the treasury

for the benefit of the Indiana the cash value of such appraised and purchased lands Fifth-Immediate negotiations with all Indian tribes to modify or set aside whatever treaties constitute an obstacle to such

Sixth-Every reasonable effort to secure the consent of the Indians to this policy, but if, in any case, consent of the tribes cannot be obtained after a reasonable time

Seventh-If there are any wild tribes ab-solutely incapable of being thus brought them under such guard as will prevent the possibility of Indian outbreaks and their expressed that he will soon size the hope compulsory education. compulsory education.

Eighth-The maintenance of Indian agenries or some equivalent representatives of the United States government to look after plural marriages are declared to be genthe interest and protect the rights of Indians as long as such special protection is

Ninth-The conference reaffirms its approval of the provisions of the Coke bill for the allotment of land in severalty as one method embodying in legislation the prin-

ciples above stated. Tenth-The present system of Indian education should be enlarged and a compre-hensive plan adopted which would place all Indian children in industrial schools. Adult Indians should be brought, as far as possible, under preparation port, and a sufficient number of farmers and other industrial teachers provided to

Eleventh-We are unalterably opposed to the removal of the Indians from their established homes as inhuman, and to massing them together in one territory as injurious to the Indians and an impediment to civilization.

## Pork Packing Still Booms.

The Cincinnati Price Current states that the number of hogs handled by western packers last week was 110,000, as compared with 105,000 for the corresponding time last year. The total to date from March 1 is 4,403,050, sgainst 4,480,000 a year ago. The movement at the principal

points since March 1 is as follows:	
Chicago2	110,00
Kansas City	684,00
Milwaukee	180,00
Cedar Rapids	157,00
St. Louis	156,00
Indianapolis	154,00
Cleveland	121,00
Cincinnati	95,00
Ottumwa	66,00

The loss of cattle by steamers which sailed for England from American ports during the Columbia and cross the border into Washmonth of August amounted to 329.

# NO DEPARTMENT SINECURES

The Secretary of the Interior Unalterably Opposed to Them.

Ruling that Puts a Stopper on Practice of Former Employes.

Reform Must be Inaugurated.

The secretary of the interior has made a decision upon the appeal of Luther Harrison, ex-assistant commissioner of the land office, from the order of Commissioner Sparks denying the right of practice as attorney before the interior department under the terms of the act of June 1, 1872 which provides that it shall not be lawful for any person appointed after June 1. 1872, as an officer, clerk or employe in any department to act at attorney, counsel or agent for the prosecution of any claim that was pending in the department while he was such officer, nor to aid in the prosecution of any such claim within two years next after he shall have ceased to be an

applied only to the prosecution of claims for money, that it had no application to involving money, and that in his case it had no application whatever, because he was a third-class clerk at the date of the attention, and has decided that no excep-tions shall be made to the operations of the passage of the act. He declares that his employment was continuous until the 1st personal consideration by the secretary, inst., although his salary had been in-who fully knew the effect it would have. He creased by promotions which were made by appointments. In his opinion, after citing the act, the secretary holds that it est in their regiments and that its longer applies to all departments and to claims continuance would be demoralizing to the of every class. Its design is to elevate public service so that it may inspire public confidence. The act plainly implies that it is not suitable or seemly for an employe mas, Mexico, informs the department of shortly after his departure from service in that department to appear before that department as a prosecutor of claims pending therein against the United States while he was a member of it. The principle of the act is that all of the public servants in the department, whether officers, clerks, or employes, shall observe condition which at least tends to hinder them from the appearance of being placed under suspicion of having had a conflict between their duties as officers or public agents and as men, and as giving preference to the last. For two years after their res ignation or dismissal they are disabled for the prosecution of claims against the United States. The secretary also holds that cases prosecuted in the land office for claims to title are not exempted from the operaons of the act, and points out how an employe, if so disposed, might abuse his op-portunition while in the department to prohit, as, for instance, to use his time, not in speedy and just settlement of claims against the government during his term of office, but in presenting such settlement and put-ting them in such shape as to enable him to reach a handsome profit by their unjust

settlement after his term of settlement shall have expired. In conclusion, the secretary holds that the act also applies to persons like Harrison, who, although in office at the date of the passage of the act, received new pointments or commissions since that date who have been nominated by the presi dent and confirmed by the senate. This opinion applies to all persons who have either resigned or been dismissed from any department during the present administration and is a heavy blow to a great number of persons who have embarked in the business of prosecuting claims before the departments. It was adopted after consideration in the cabinet, and it is to be pre-sumed will afford a precedent for other cab tnet officers in regulating practice before their departments.

## AN EPISTLE TO THE CHURCH.

the Mormon Question-Legislation Regarding Their People.

Utah dispatch: At the Mormon general conference to-day a general epistle to the thurch was read from Frist Presidents John

"Time has revealed," says the epistle, in referring to the pending prosecutions for lotment of land to all Indians in severalty, polygamy, "that the Edmunds bill was not sary, and with legal titles inalienable for a was expressly designed to destroy the prinsiple of the Mormon religion. The grossest immoralities on the part of non-Mormons flourishing under the very eyes of the law's idministrators are viewed with indifference if committed outside the matrimonial re-lation. The Mormons removed from that

tenet of their religion are unmolested."

The letter continues: "We did create the relestial marriage. We cannot renounce it. God revealed it, and has promised to main tain and bless those who obey it. only course to pursue is to maintain our

ovenant and trust in God. The recent ruling of courts is declared consent, then its execution without their ment for each day lived in illegal cohabitation and rendering possible life imprisonment and an enormous first ost extraordinary, allowing an indictonly six months' imprisonment and \$300 attention, as the rights of the people are being grossly trampled under foot.

Mormon motives for espousing erally misunderstood, the institution being accepted only in consideration of its being by divine command, which brings damnaon if disobeyed. The belief is professed that the present crusade will convince the people there is something more in polygamy than supposed.

# That Union Pacific Lean.

It is reported in Boston that a hitch occurred in the Union Pacific railroad negotiations whereby \$300,000 was to be borrowed from a trust company in New York which had \$300,000 land grant trust funds on deposit. The collateral is understood to be St. Joseph and Grand Island bonds, and certain parties in power are under-stood to have objected to the transaction as involving too much risk. The Union Pacific officials at Boston, however, deny all knowledge of any hitch and say, in fact, that they have had no negotiations with any trust company in New York, excepting to endeavor to induce one company to allow the advance payment of certain claims comprised in the floating debt. It is officially asserted that the Union Pacific company now has in bank fully \$1,500,000, which it will use with other funds wherever it can do so to advantage in making advance payment of outstanding claims.

#### THE CHINESE RESTRICTION ACT. an Interesting Question Referred to the Attorney-General for Decision.

The secretary of the treasury has referred to the attorney-general for opinion enforcement of the Chinese restriction ect. One of the methods employed to evade the law was for emigrants to land in British

ington territory. When such persons we found they were taken back into Britisa oiumbia and warned not to return to the United States. It is possible that many laborers who had entered the United States in various ways were driven into British Columbia under the impression that they came from there. The authorities of British Columbia protested against this practice and called attention to a law imposing a tax of \$50 per head on all Chinese who landed in British possessions. The collector at Port Townsend reported the situation to the treasury departmen' and asked for instructions. The secreta y has called on the attorney-general for an opinion and it is likely that the matter will be brought before the cabinet tite next meeting.

### CARDINAL McCLOSKEY DEAD. He Passes Quietly from Earth at His Home in New York.

Loss to the Catholic Church of Its First and Only American Cardinal.

Brief Sketch of His Life.

In his appeal Harrison held that the act Cardinal McCloskey died at his home in New York early on the morning of the 10th. A dispatch announcing the fact says the end came so peacefully and painlessly that those who watched by the bedside scarcely knew that the great change had come until Dr. Keyes signified that all was over, and that the cardinal was dead.

Cardinal McCloskey was born in Brooklyn, New York, March 20, 1810, both his parents being natives of County Derry, Ireand. He received his early training in New York City, at that time a place of less than 100,000 inhabitants, with but two churches of the faith which the family of the young lad professed. The Catholics were so few there for a time that High Mass was celebrated in each church on alternate Sundays, one being closed at the proper hour in order that the other might have somewhat of a suitable congregation. Before young McCloskey had reached theage of 12 years he was sent to Mt. St. Mary's college near Emmettsburg, Frederick county, Md. He closed his college career in 1828, having been graduated with the highest honors and immediately returned to the home of his widowed mother, then residing in West-chester county, N. Y. He returned after a year's rest to the bosom of his alma mater. ursued theological studies, and January 1834, he was ordained a priest of the Roman Catholic church. In 1835 he went to Rome to give a perfect finish to his clerical education, and for two years he assidu ously attended the lectures of the Roman college or Gregorian university under Perrone, Manera, and other distinguished professors. His third year abroad was devo ted to the study of travel in Upper Italy, Austria, Germany, France, England. Scot-land and Ireland. Thus prepared for his expected work, that of collegiate instruction, he returned to New York in 1838 Circumstances forced the aged Bishop Du bois to postpone until a later day the establishment of the projected church over which he desired the young priest Mc-Closkey to preside, and for the time being he was appointed pastor of St. Joseph's church in New York City, succeeding in this position his old e friend, the Rev. Charles C. Pise, D. When in 1842 a diocesan seminary was at length established in connection with the college at Fordham, he was named rector and accepted the position. One year afterward he returned to his old pastoral charge at St. Joseph's, and was at the same time appointed coadjuster to Bishop John

Hughes, who had succeeded to the Episco-pacy on the death of Bishop Dubois. This was Nov. 23, 1843, and March 10, 1844, he was consecrated under the title of bishop of Axierre in partibus infidelium On the division of the diocese of New York ie was installed bishop of Albany in 1847 He administered that diocese seventeer years with signal ability, erected a magnifi ent cathedral, founded the world famou theological seminary at Troy, N. Y., built numerous churches, established many charitable and religious institutions and intro duced many monastic orders and lay com munities. On the death of Archbishop Hughes he was made his successor May 6 1864, and assumed the duties of the office August 21. He was raised to the princely dignity of cardinal priest March 15, 1875 He received the beretta in May, after which

he visited Rome to receive the investiture.
In person the late cardinal was about five feet ten inches in height, straight and rather thin in person, and frail in appearance His features were regular and finely chiseled the brow being lofty, the eyes keen, quick and penetrating; the thin lips in repose seeming to preserve the memory of a smile and the whole expression of the countenance one of serious thought. The tones of his voice while preaching were clear and far-reaching, and in conversation as charming as the sounds of favorite music.

## Two Montana Banks Swindled.

The First National bank of Butte City and the First National bank of Helena, Montana, have been robbed by a clever swindler, the former of \$2,000 and the latter of \$1,500. He secured the fac simile blanks of certificates of deposit and identification certificates on the First National bank of Albany, Ore. He then forged certiticates of deposit on the banks for \$3,500 each and indentification papers purporting to come from the bank inclosing the signature of the person in whose order the certificates of deposit were drawn. He sent to the banks a letter bearing the forged name of the cashier of the Albany bank advising them of the intended visit of Whitney, and requesting them to accommodate him on his certificate. The matter looked straight. and the banks readily advanced him the sums named. He generously left the bal-ances subject to his check. Whitney made good his escape.

## About Arctic Explorations.

The United States Naval Institute, composed of officers of the navy, discussed at the Naval academy at Annapolis. Lieut. Danenhauer's paper on "North Polar Researches," in which he takes the ground that there is no continent yet undiscovered in the North Polar basin, that the only lands yet unknown are small islands and groups of islands, and that the scientific knowledge yet to be obtained is not worth the loss of life and trensure that will be required for future expetitions. A letter was read from Chief Engineer Melville, saying that he does not seem to the contract of the c that he does not concur with Danenhauer. Lieut. Greely also dissents from Danen-hauer's views. Danenhauer was supported by Prof. Reuck of Sweden.

## Witnessed by 10,000 Strangers.

The seventh annual parade of the "Veiled Propheta" took place in St. Louis on the night of the 6th and was a very brilliant affair. It consisted of twenty-two floats, representing and illustrating about a dozen of the "Arabian Nights" stories, and was an interesting question in regard to the who packed every available foot of space enforcement of the Chinese restriction ect. along the line of march. The usual ball in connection with this affair took place in the great hall of the Merchants' Exchange, and was attended by the clite and fashion of the city. Over 10,000 strangers were in

## HUGE FRAUDS IN TIMBER-

Alleged Discoveries by an Inspection of the Northern Pacific Deal.

The Discrepancy Claimed to be Something Over \$600,000.

Manipulators of the Deal.

LAND OFFICE, BATHDBUM, Idaho Territory,

The following letter has just been received: y Commissioner Sparks: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, GENERAL

October 3.-To the Honorable Commissioner of the General Land Office-Sir: I have the honor to report that I have completed reports in the Northern Pacific Railway and Montana Improvement company timber trespass cases, and herewith transmit eight reports, making, with what I have already transmitted, thirty-one separate indictments in all, showing that these cor porations have caused to be cut from the public domain 45,100,000 feet of lumber and bridge timber, 84,744 ties, 15,400,000 shingles (61,500 bunches), 32,035 cords of wood, and 20,000 cedar posts. To value the lumber at \$10 per 1,000 feet, which would be a low figure, railroad ties at 40 cents per tie, the wood at \$3 per cord, posts at \$80 per 1,000, and shingles at \$2 per 1,000, or 50 cents a bunch, would amount \$681,402. This does not represent all the ties and wood cut for the Northern Pacific railrond company by Eddy, Ham-mond & Co., which changed its name into "The Montana Improvement company" in July, 1883, as I found it an absolute impossibility to get witnesses to testify in those cases or even to find persons from whom I could obtain anything like satisfactory information. Where the depredations were committed-between Rathdrum. Idaho, and Bear Mouth, Mont .- is very thinly settled, and men who were employed on contracts during the construction of the Northerhern Pacific railroad have gone to parts unknown. Owing to this it has taken longer to complete this investigation than it otherwise should. I was hampered by the officers of the Montana improveient company, who appeared to expectan nvestigation and were fortifying their position. The company had agents along the line endeavoring to suppress facts of the Montana improvement company's operations. The company is an unscrupuous corporation, that will leave nothing indone to gain their point. I found that no reliance whatever could be placed upon statements made by the officers of the Montana improvement company. I have mailed you a copy, in duplicate, of the con-tract between the Northern Pacific railroad ompany and the Montana improven company and the Montana improvement company. It was furnished me by H. W. Fairweather, of Sprague, Wyo., an ex-division superintendent of the Northern Pacific railroad company. I have the honor to be your obedient servan

Special Timber Agent, Bathdrum, I. T. The contract referred to by Agent Haley in the above report is between the Northu Pacific railroad of the first part and the Montana improvement company of the second part. It binds the railroad company to withdraw all of its timber lands from sale or disposal, and gives the improvement company the exclusive right to cut timber from the lands. In return for the privilege the improvement company transfers to the railroad company 1,001 full paid shares of its capital stock of the value of \$1,000,100, reserving to itself shares valued at \$999,900. The improve-ment committee also agrees to erect at its own expense all mills and furnish all the plant necessary for its business of timber

## NAVAL BOARD'S REPORT.

What They Say Regarding Construction of the U. S. Steamer Mohican.

Work Commenced on It Without Authority of Law or Legal Appropriation.

Why the Extravagant tost of the Ship.

The report of the naval board appointed to investigate the cost of construction of the United States steamer, Mohican, and the organization of the Mare Island navy ys ed, Cal., has been furnished for publication. Regarding the work of construction the board finds that the original Mohican was placed out of commission at the Mare Island yard, in June, 1872. A survey was made of the vessel and the sum of \$186,-000 estimated as necessary to repair her. The board finds that by the authority of a letter signed by Naval Constructor I. Hansen, chief of the bureau of construction and repairs, dated Sept. 14, 1884, a new vessel called in this and all subsequent orders and references, the Mohican, was laid downfrom plans and specifications entirely new and differing in almost every respect from the old Monican. The order by which the present Monican was commenced, was without any authority of law or appropriation that the board could discover, and was simply an order from the chief of the bureau of construction and repair to the commandant of the Mare Island yard. This order directed the rebuilding of the Mohican and thereafter the vessel was alluded to in official correspondence as "the new Mohican." The new vessel was launched in December, 1883, at which time there had been expended upon her under the jurisdiction of the bureau of construction and re-pair, the sum of \$598,000. It is the opinon of the board that the work on the Mohican was done in a satisfactory manner and that the material was of the best quality. The board is of the opinion that the extravagant methods pursued by the bureau of construction prior to 1883 were mainly caused by excessive expenditures up to that time.

In the opinion of the board the extravagant cost of the Mohican in depth, construction and repair, is to be attributed to the following causes: First, the high prices of labor, which was nearly 40 per cent greater than paid the same class of labor in the New York navy yard; second, the high price of the material which entered into the construction of the vessel; third, the alterations made in obedience to orders from the proper authorities; fourth, the intermittent manner in which the work was conducted. But these causes were be youd the control of any of the naval yard authorities.

Missouri River Improvement.

Bismarck (Dak.) dispatch: The United States engineer corps which has been at work on the upper Missouri river returned from the north to-day and is soon to close its labors for the season. The engineers complain that they are unable to do justice to the river, owing to the inadequacy of the appropriations, and much of their time must necessarily be spent in preparing for next season's work, with the hope that congress will deal more liberally with the stream at its next session. The channel is reatly in need of repairs, and there is much to be done in the way of improving the condition of the stream. The river traffic between Bismarck, Fort Benton, and intermediate points, representing a run of 1,200 miles northwest from here, has been very good during the last season, but would be greatly facilitated by river improvements.