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TUESDAY... JANUARY 27, 1885.

A sample group of ring-fencers or fence-ringers is shown up by a letter of introduction from the Secretary of War to the Secretary of the Interior, of whom the former says that "they are old friends of mine, and gentlemen of the highest standing." Of course they are, else they could never have become part of the fence syndicate. They "stand on their hind legs." —Washington Reporter.

And by the way, the disclosures just made in Congress of the attempt of Kansas and Nebraska cattle men to bribe members to vote against the measures looking to the breaking up of the syndicates which have millions of acres of Government lands fenced in for cattle ranges, take some of the stuffing out of the old war whoop, "Millions for de-fence, but not one cent for tribute."

The Columbus board of trade estimates that the Hocking Valley strike has cost it and the coal companies \$1,620,000. The loss to Columbus business men, outside of the board, is said to be \$350,000, to the railroads centering at Columbus, \$1,100,000, to the furnaces in Hocking Valley \$220,000, and to the city of Columbus \$3,500,000. It is pleasant to know that the starved and starving miners were able to "sink several of the enemies ships," and it is further pleasing to note that the battle is not yet at an end.

As was pretty generally known at the time, the action of Vanderbilt in obtaining a judgement against General Grant for the \$150,000 loaned him at the time of the Marine Bank failure, was to protect the General against other possible creditors, and on the 12th the great financier begged Mrs. Grant to accept the property taken under the judgment, but lady positively refused so to do. A bill passed the Senate on the 15th, placing the General on the retired list.

Senator Siglin has introduced a bill in the Legislature exempting Homesteads from judicial sale. There is something unaccountable in the attitude this State has perversely maintained on this subject. If there is any valid argument why Oregon should stand out as the almost solitary exception in the behalf of the statutory protection of the spot where people have selected for their homes it has never been vouchsafed to the public.

Notwithstanding General Grant's positive refusal to receive private aid the New York Sun proposes a "popular subscription, the amount subscribed by any one person not to exceed ten dollars; interest from this amount to be paid over regularly to Grant, and after the death of the General or Mrs. Grant, the principal shall be disposed of as the survivor may direct."

Whitelaw Reid has in his possession the written agreement of Garfield with Jay Gould & Co. for the appointment of Stanley Mathews on the U. S. Supreme Bench. The railroads needed Mathews in their business, and so contributed three hundred thousand dollars to the Garfield campaign fund in order to secure him. He ought to be impeached and removed.

C. Bell Esq., has sold the Douglas Independent to J. R. N. Bell who will edit that journal henceforward. Mr. Bell made commendable efforts to build up the Independent, and considering the adverse circumstances under which he worked succeeded admirably.

The Detroit Times says "Congressmen who have their hands raised against the \$1 and \$2 greenbacks may as well pull them down. The people like them. They are more convenient to carry than the big silver cart wheels. They are convenient for paying small debts by mail, and it is cheaper to use them in this way than to buy postal notes."

Dr. J. W. Watts the temperance "reformer" who deserted the St. John ticket and with the money furnished him to further the cause of temperance, stumped the State for Blaine, was most beautifully and effectually "squashed" at Salem on the 15th, the House refusing to admit him within the bar, to support a prohibitory measure.

None of the Senatorial aspirants have as yet shown their hands at Salem, all appearing to be waiting for something to "turn up." Mitchell's ghost in the back-ground is causing not a little uneasiness.

Senator Hoar presented a petition from Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood, praying Congress to see that the votes cast for her in the late Presidential election be counted.

Did St. John make overtures to the Republican National Committee to withdraw from the fight on the payment to him of \$25,000? Who struck Billy Patterson?

The Texas Legislature met on the 14th and on the ballot for chaplain for the House, Beecher, Burchard and Ingersoll each received one vote.

It may not be "thoroughly known and generally well understood" that Grant does not smoke, but the fact remains.

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