

JOURNAL.

SUNDAY.

PUBLISHED BY THE

Journal Publishing Company.

(Incorporated.)

Entered at the postoffice at Salem, Or., as

second-class matter.

See fourth page for terms of subscrip-

Advertisements to insure insertion (for

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25 1880.

THE widow of General Grant has

sent \$25 to aid the National Con-

federate Soldiers' Home at Austin,

Texas.

THE New Orleans police force was

organized under the life-tenure law

Thursday, being no longer under the

influence of ward politicians.

Miss SANGER, President Harri-

son's type-writer, is said to be the

first woman ever employed in the

White House in a clerical capacity.

THE Nebraska House, Thursday,

by a vote of 77 to 18, passed a bill

providing for the "Australian sys-

tem" of voting in the larger cities of

the state.

The report of the Department of

Agriculture for March shows the

proportion of merchantable wheat

and corn averages 82 per cent, which

is less than in 1881-82-83, and the

lowest State percentages are in the

wheat-growing States.

J. T. ADAMS, the forger and de-

fauter, of Atlanta, Ga., is dead.

When arrested he turned over to the

bank-life insurance policies for \$18,-

000 and starved himself to death.

He died Wednesday night, having

gone twenty-seven days without

food.

SENATOR VANCE of North Caro-

lina has been substituted for Sen-

ator Cockrell of Missouri, as chairman

of the U. S. Senate committee on

Woman Suffrage. It will be re-

membered that Mr. Cockrell refused

to sign the majority report of the

committee favoring woman suffrage

and it was reported by Mr. Blair,

Mr. Vance was not a member of the

last committee, and his selection as

chairman is a gain for the suffragists.

MRS. AMELIE RIVER CHANDLER

is writing a novel to be called "The

White Slave." Its subject will be

child-labor, and Prof. Richard T.

Ely is sending her facts and figures,

"material by the bushel," as she ex-

presses it. The story will describe a

Virginian, impoverished by the war,

who goes to the city to earn a living

for his family, falls ill, and is obli-

gated to send his little girl to work in a

factory.

AN AERONAUTICAL ADVANCE.

The so-called "governable air-

ship" is driven forward or back-

ward by means of a fan-like pro-

peller at the forward end of the car,

while a second propeller, directly un-

der the car, serves to raise or lower the

balloon without loss of ballast or of

gas. The horizontal propeller may

be turned to right or left, thus serv-

ing as a rudder. In an experiment

the aeronaut, seated

in the car, readily drove

the propellers at a

rate of 250 revolutions per

minute, and the car

was lifted to a height of

100 feet, and the mo-

tion was under perfect con-

trol against a moderate wind.

The system of netting gave

remarkable steadiness.

The car is expected to launch an

air-carrying fifty

feet long, with a lifting

power of 500 pounds, and the mo-

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selted in comparatively few con-

tracting twine for this year, both

among dealers and farmers, and if

the present determination is held to,

considerable grain will be "cut"

loose and the old-fashioned cradle

again used.

LUNAR PROBABILITIES.

The weather predictions of the

early part of the century were fur-

nished by the almanacs according

to a table "constructed on philosoph-

ical principles." This table simply

showed the weather that would fol-

low "changes" of the moon at the

different hours of the day. The ab-

surdity of this rubbish—in which

there are unfortunately still many

believers—is evident when it is con-

sidered that the moon is changing

continually and steadily, and not at

quarter monthly intervals. That

there is no connection whatever be-

tween the moon's phases and the

weather has been shown in France

and in England by the most elab-

orate comparisons of meteorological

records, in which the Greenwich

observations for forty years were

carefully collated with the moon's

phases for that period. The solitary

observable effect of the moon upon

our atmosphere was believed by Sir

John Herschel to be a tendency to

the disappearance of clouds under

the full moon, and this he attribut-

ed to the heat radiated from its sur-

face. Theoretically the moon should

produce slight tides in our atmo-

sphere twice a day, and Prof. Dan-

iel has been able to detect these

tides by close barometrical obser-

vation. No further influence can be

discovered, and it may be taken

as a settled fact that the moon no

more affects our weather than the

sun's passage of the equator produces

"equinoctial" storms.

WORK OF NATURE'S SCULPTOR.

We are accustomed to associate

such gigantic water-carvings as the

Colorado canyon and Niagara gorge

with almost inconceivable periods

of time, yet instances are numerous

of the wearing from the solid rock

of gorges hundreds of feet deep by

two or three centuries only of work.

Lyell mentions the case of the

Simeto, in Sicily, which had been

dammed by lavas in 1603. In two

and a half centuries it had excavat-

ed a channel fifty to several hundred

feet deep, and in some parts forty

to fifty feet wide, although the rock

is a hard basalt. He also describes

a gorge in decomposed rock, near

Milledgeville, Ga., that was at first

a mud-crack a yard deep, but which

in twenty years was 300 yards long,

20 to 180 feet wide and 55 feet deep;

and Sals describes a similar gorge,

of twice the length, in Brazil, made

in forty years. But it is in the low

lands bordering rivers that the flood-

artist finds the plastic material that

may be re-molded with each

passing season. With high water

the streams rapidly wear into earth-

ly banks, commencing new bends

or cutting off old ones and even

opening new channels for discharge.

The great and turbulent Hoang-Ho

is noted for its devastations, says

Dana. In 1890 it emptied into the

Yellow Sea; now this mouth is dry,

and it has a new channel opening

to the Gulf of Pecheli, nearly 300

miles north of its former outlet, and

it departed from the old channel

more than this distance from the

coast. This is the last of many

changes, back and forth, recorded

by the Chinese during the past 3,000

years.

PROBLEM OF THE BOOMERANG.

Some German scientists, seeking

to discover the secret of the boomer-

ang's curious flight, lately caused

a party of Australian natives to give

an exhibition of boomerang-throw-

ing. The instruments used were of

two sizes, the larger being a slender

curved stick about two feet long, two

and a quarter inches wide, and a

quarter of an inch thick, made of an

extraordinarily heavy Australian

iron-wood. This boomerang was

thrust into the air about a hun-

dred yards, when it flew straight

away, then turned to the left and

returned in a curved line back to

the thrower, whirling around con-

stantly and whizzing unpleasantly.

One badly directed projectile fell

through a spectator's hat with a cut

as clean as that of a razor. A man-

ufacturer who has made some 11,000

toy boomerangs, believes that the

mystery of the shape lies in a sharp

curvature in the middle with un-

equal length of the two arms, which

must be made of equal weight by

unequal thickness. The peculiarity

of motion is due to the difference in

the length of the arms, which di-

verges the curve of rotation from

the circular.

WEATHER ERRORS.

Few erroneous notions are spread

so readily and cling so tenaciously

as those respecting the weather. In

noticing common errors of this kind,

a distinguished meteorologist urges

attention to these facts: That while

the moon might well be expected to

influence our weather, scientific evi-

dence shows that it does not; that

there is no sound reason for believ-

ing that sunspots have any appre-

ciable effect in producing storms, or

her local changes; that animal in-

stincts rank greatly below human

intelligence as a guide to future

weather; that the indications fur-

nished by plants are due to the

hygroscopic condition of the air, as

are also other "signs," and are less

delicate and reliable than the accu-

rate instrumental tests of meteorolo-

gists; that electricity and ozone

do not produce the effects often as-

cribed to them; that thunder-

storms do not cool the air, but the

cool inrush, results, like the storm,

from the rise of hot air—at least in

many cases; that it has not yet been

proven that the removal of forests

and the extension of railroads and

telegraphs have influenced our

climate; that the weather is materi-

ally the same as in old-fashioned

times, scientific records disproving

the faulty recollections of the oldest

inhabitant; and that severe storms

are no more liable to occur at the

date of the equinoxes, or on certain

days of the week or month, than at

other times.

Night on a Farm.

'Tis dewfall on the lonely farm,
The flocks are gathered in the fold,
The dusky air is soft and balmy,
The daisies hide their hearts of gold.

Slow, drowsy, swinging bells are heard
In pastures, dewy, dark and dim,
And in the door-yard trees, a bird
Trills sleepily his evening hymn.

The dark, blue deeps are full of stars;
One lone lamp, in the hillside gloom
A mile away, is red as Mars;
The night is faint with sweet perfumes.

At bed-time in the quiet house,
Up through the wide old rooms I go,
Without a lamp—and not a mouse
Is stirring. Loudly, to and fro,

The old clock ticks, and eagerly
The ancient windows open high;
Here the sun's kiss will waken me,
With bird-songs swelling up the sky.

"SERAPS."

The profession of "lady guide" is

so well established in London that

a society which sends out 200 guides

carries on a lucrative business.

The California legislature has

evolved a new word. It is "diffe-

gible," meaning a flank attack on

a main question by criticising some

minor detail.

An Eastern paper suggests the

name "Kotai" for the new state of

South Dakota, and for the North-

ern part that of "Overkota." Very

appropriate names those.

A whole family in Evansville, In-

diana, have been poisoned by poison

accidentally falling from a shelf

above into a pail of drinking water.

Two deaths resulted from the mis-

hap.

The color of the sun, if seen from

outside the earth's atmosphere, is

believed by Prof. Langley to be of a

bluish tinge—or, as he describes it,

a lavender with a suggestion of pur-

ple.

"I don't see why you can't get

rich. You sell a main spring for

\$1.50 that only costs you ten cents."

"That may be true, sir, but we have

to keep three clerks to wait on the

lady shoppers, and we must get our

money back in some way."

His intentions were good—"Your

husband is dead, I believe, Mrs.

Jamison?" "Yes; poor man, he per-

ished of cold on the prairie last win-

ter." "Sad, very sad, Mrs. Jamison,

but you have the sweet consolation

of knowing that he is now where

cold is never known."

"Ma," said a small boy, "hurry,

hurry up and go into the parlor.

Sister's feller is killin' her."

"Killing her! What do you

mean?"

"I seed him put his arms around

her, and heard him say, 'Now, I'm

goin' ter squeeze you to death.'"

It is reported that from Living-

ston Nebraska, that the remains of a

prehistoric monster have been found

fifty-four feet below the surface by a

well-digger. It is said that one of

its teeth was eleven inches long,

between its eyes was a horn two

feet long.

Scientific men predict another

general epidemic of yellow fever

this year. The basis of this predic-

tion is in the absence of frost this

winter in the districts infected last

summer. As frost is the only exter-

minator of the germs of this dread-

ed scourge, the fears of specialists

seem to have a rational basis.

Cannery men who have sent out-

fits to Alaskan waters this season,

are considerably alarmed by a report

that smallpox is prevalent among

the Indians in that region. As the

Indians are dependent upon to a

large extent to catch the fish for can-

ning, it is feared that on account of

the smallpox the catch may not be

as large as usual.

It is said that the greatest dread

of a gambler is that he will be par-

alyzed. They nearly all expect to die

from a shock of some kind. It may

come from a fact that a great many

have gone that way. If a man with

a withered arm or leg should hap-

pen in a gambling house the dealer

would quit his chair. Another

dread of gamblers is a man with a

cane in his hand. That is regarded

as bad luck to the house.

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of the skin, chaps, red nose, etc. Dr.

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hands night and morning, a clear and

healthy complexion can be preserved.

Portland, Oregon, March, 25

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Finest in the World.



Our Guarantee—If a dealer receives a

complaint, (which he believes to be honest)

from any musician to whom he has sold

any of these strings, he is authorized by

us to give him another string without

charge, and all such loss will be made good

by us to our customers, without quibble or

question. (Beware of imitations!) Dealers

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in silence, rather than make known their

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Oregon Kidney Tea, which is composed of

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lief.

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mation for all who pur-

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all the necessary and unnecessary

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