Birmingham Eccentric.

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BIRMINGHAM, - - - MICHIGAN.

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

William M. Evarts looks thinner and more nervous than ever. Since Alexander Stephen's death, he is the smallest man in high station. He makes $100,000 a year at his law practice, and takes a good many holidays.

ON one occasion Sojourner Truth, "The Lydian Sibyl," attended a lecture by Hon. Frederick Douglass. It was one of his most impassioned efforts, and concluded with a despairing appeal to the blacks to take their rights in their own hands; they had nothing to hope from the whites. As he sat down the solemn, penetrating tones of Sojourner Truth were heard: "Frederick, is God dead?" The effect as described by Wendell Phillips, was electrical.

GOLDEN RULE says: "It is not the men of superior talents who do the great work of the world; it is the men who have trained their working powers the best. Many who possess enviable talents sometimes become hindrances in the way of others, all for the want of well-established habits of industry and a fixed purpose in life. They who have resolved to do the best they can in the world, and are doing it with their might, need not pause to look around for results. There will be time and opportunity for that in a vast eternity."

ANYBODY who watches the southwestern sky just after sunset will see a brilliant stargleaming in the twilight very near the point of the horizon where the sun disappeared. It is the planet Venus, and this is her first evening appearance before the public since she made her famous transit across the sun a year ago. During the winter Venus will be a splendid ornament of the evening sky, growing brighter as she rises higher above the horizon, and draws slowly away from the neighborhood of the sun.—N. Y. Sun.

A PROJECT is being revived in Detroit by which chronic drunks and vags may be made useful to the city. The idea is to appeal to the legislature for the passage of a law by which this can be accomplished. Belle Isle park will need laborers for several years yet, and those who are most active in seeing this scheme successfully carried out think the drunks and disorderlies sent to the house of correction for a short time from the police court can be utilized to good advantage on this and other public works, to say nothing of the corrective tendency of such a scheme.

IT is said the decadence of Victoria's physical powers bears no proportion to the rapid decay of her mental powers, while the Prince of Wales is not strong, though he is getting corpulent. Since his severe illness three years ago he has had to be very careful of himself. Many predict that he will never reach the throne, simply because his mother will outlive him. But that the prince intends to cheat these prophets if he can, is shown in the trouble he takes to bundle himself up as he emerges from the theater into the night air, and in that abstemiousness of diet which leads him to confine himself at the richest banquets to the plainest food.

MR. BURNETT, who was Mr. Teller's private secretary when that gentleman was in the Senate, relates to a Cleveland Herald reporter what he declares to have been the exact circumstances of his patron's appointment to a Cabinet office. Senator Teller had been strongly urging the appointment of Senator Chaffee, asking it of the President as a matter of political policy and as a personal favor to himself, when one day the President sent for him and said that he had decided that he could not invite Mr. Chaffee into his Cabinet, "but," he added, as Mr. Teller, flushed and piqued, rose to depart, "I have also decided that unless Henry M. Teller accepts my appointment as Secretary of the Interior, that office would remain vacant during my entire Presidential term." In vain Mr. Teller protested that he could not accept the place he had sought for another. "I will see that Mr. Chaffee and his friends understand your position," said the President. "But," said Mr. Teller, "I am heartily opposed to you on the silver question, on the Indian question and on the land question." "That is just one reason why I insist on having you in my Cabinet."

FREEMAN, the Pocasset, Mass., fanatic who killed his own child more than four years ago while under the delusion that God required the sacrifice of him, has been acquitted of the charge of murder, on the ground of insanity, and the court has sentenced him to pass the remainder of his life in an insane asylum. This sentence seems to imply a belief on the part of the court that insanity is incurable. Should Freeman recover his sanity the question might very easily be raised, whether there existed any authority for detaining him in an insane asylum. Probably he could not, under such circumstances, be so detained. Yet this disposition of him is, we think, the only rational one attainable. The presumption must be that he is still insane, and having been acquitted of murder on that ground, it is necessary to prevent him from doing any more mischief. If all murderers who put in a plea of insanity knew that acquittal on that ground would consign them to an insane asylum for life, they might rather prefer to take greater chances of the gallows. Yet there can be no reasonable doubt that this ought to be the rule, and not the exception. Murderers who claim that they are not responsible for their actions ought to be locked up with the irresponsible, and kept there, if possible, for the rest of their lives. To liberate such men is necessarily to make a farce of the administration of justice.—Ex.

MICHIGAN NEWS.

Michigan Exhibits at Louisville.

The undersigned commissioners, appointed by the governor to represent the state of Michigan at the Southern Exposition at Louisville and New Orleans during the fall and winter of 1884, invite all persons interested to send without expense to themselves to such points as shall be designated products of the farm, orchard and garden, specimens of handiwork and dairy products, also any curiosities, mineral or vegetable, to the end that greater interest be awakened in our state and its resources become more fully known. Exhibits will be returned when requested, otherwise placed in a public museum to be established in this state. Address at Grand Rapids.

F. M. CARROLL,
E. A. BURLINGAME,
A. P. SWINEFORD.

Rockford's Ruin.

Fire broke out in James Colby's grocery store at Rockford, twelve miles north of Grand Rapids, Sunday morning, December 16. The flames spread very rapidly, owing to the insufficient means to control them, and in less than an hour the whole business portion of the town was in ruins. All the buildings on both sides of Main street and a portion of Courtland street, some eighteen or twenty in number, burned. Among the buildings burned were two grocery stores, two millinery shops, two hardware stores, one bookstore, the postoffice, a barber shop, a meat market, a tailor shop, harness shop, furniture store, dry goods store, restaurant, saloon and livery stable. The total loss is between $40,000 and $50,000 with an aggregate insurance of $18,000. There was much other minor damages caused by water and the removal of goods in danger. Had there been a high wind the entire town must have been laid in ashes. The work of rebuilding will commence at once in many cases, but as most of the buildings burned were owned by outside parties, they will not all be rebuilt.

STATE ITEMS.

There is a vacancy in the Naval Academy to be filled from the Tenth Congressional District, and Congressman Hatch announces that he will receive applications from eligible boys till March 20, the examination to take place early in April.

Col. A. T. Kinney of Washington was in Three Rivers on business the other day. He attempted to jump from a moving train and broke his leg.

"Capital punishment" is the cry from many sections of "Michigan, my Michigan."

Mrs. Reese, and the colored boy, Bolles, the domestics in the family of Crouch, have been arrested for complicity in the murder, and held for examination. The inquest has been adjourned until the first Monday in January.

Two basket factories are in full blast in Newport.

The state grange was in session at Lansing, December 12 and 13. In his annual address Grand Master Luce expressed sentiments decidedly anti free trade.

A school teacher named Carpenter, of Ferry township, Oceana county, is charged with a criminal assault on a pupil, a girl named Manly.

The Rogers will case, which has attracted considerable attention in Jackson county, has been concluded, the jury finding for the proponents of the will. The case was the appeal of Orlando A. Rogers, for the heirs, from the decree of the probate court, allowing the will of David H. Rogers, deceased. Rogers lived in the town of Sandstone, Jackson Co. He died in 1882, leaving a widow and seven children, four sons and three daughters. All of these children were by his first wife, who died in April, 1875. By his will he left a greater portion of his property to the widow and her daughter, a Mrs. Day. The contestants claimed that the will was obtained by undue influence practiced by the widow upon the deceased, and that the testator was incompetent to make a will at the time he did so in September, 1880. Testator's property consisted of 300 acres of valuable farming land in the township of Sandstone, and a large amount of personal property.

The residents of Norris a few miles from Detroit are excited over the killing of a girl named Louisa Kuhlman, daughter of Ferdinand Kuhlman, a farmer who lives on the Norris plank road. The tragedy occurred under circumstances which create a doubt as to whether the case is one of murder or accident. The girl was on her way to school about noon when she met a number of boys who were playing base ball. One of them named Riss had a club in his hands, and the girl coming into his way he struck her a powerful blow on the head. She bled from the mouth, but continued on her way to school, where her condition was noticed by her teacher who told her to go home. She became unconscious soon afterward and lingered until about 4 p. m., when she died. The case was reported to Justice Ecklin, of Hamtramck, who impaneled a jury. The boy is under arrest.

Congressman Herbert of Alabama has introduced a bill in the House of Representatives fixing the salaries of United States marshals. Under its provisions the marshal of the eastern district of Michigan would get $3,000 and for the western district $2,500. No fees are to be allowed, and no allowances except for reasonable traveling expenses in serving warrants at places over 50 miles distant.

Dr. W. H. Bruckner of Washington died on the 9th, and his remains were forwarded to his old home, Monroe, for burial. He was a graduate of the university of Michigan and was one of the foremost chemists of America, and for some time past has been assistant chemist at the Smithsonian institute. Overwork led to his death.

Fred Morse and John Harris, well grown lads, have been arrested at Muskegon for attempting to throw a train off the track. They were caught stealing a ride the other evening and were put off the train by the conductor at the Car Works. Hurrying ahead they placed a piece of iron rail across the track and also put a brickbat and other obstructions on the rails. The train was stopped in time to avert any disaster. They have both been bound over to the Circuit Court for trial, and have been placed in jail in default of bail.

Tony Debaer, an employe in a plaster quarry near Grand Rapids was killed by the accident al discharge of a blast, the other day.

Rev. Andrew Ten Brook, who was librarian of the university from 1864 to 1877, is now preaching at Catskill on the Hudson and doing literary work. He has just completed for George Putnam's Sons a translation of Gindely's "History of the Thirty Years' War."

The postoffice department has ordered that service from Stalwart to Prentis Bay be increased to two trips a week from January 1.

The heirs of the murdered Crouch are very much dissatisfied with the action of the Jackson county officials.

Hon. Jacob Barnes, a register of the United States land office at Traverse City under Buchanan's administration, died in that place a few days ago. He was well and favorably known in business circles throughout the state.

The Vulcan furnace at Newberry, Chippewa county, recently destroyed by fire, has been rebuilt of wood and iron and has just gone into blast.

Hon. J. J. Woodman of Paw Paw, is to be master of the national grange for the next two years.

The people at Jackson express a great deal of indignation over the arrest of the two domestics in the Crouch family charged with their murder. They claim that there is no sufficient ground for their arrest.

The buildings of the Benton Harbor chilled plow company, with the warehouse of Ingham, Leslie & Co. burned the other morning. The fire originated from the early morning train on the Wabash. The plow company loses nearly $25,000 on stock and buildings. Insured in the London, Liverpool and Globe for $25,000; Phœnix of Brooklyn and Traders' of Chicago $1,500 each. Ingham & Leslie lose about $1,000, no insurance. The Globe middlings purifier company had about $2,000 worth of stock in the plow company warehouse entirely destroyed; insured in the Continental for $1,000. The plow company was organized about two years ago with a capital stock of $40,000. The St. Joseph fire company was present and did some splendid work.

The state grange in session at Lansing adopted resolutions declaring temperance to be the essential principle upon which the order is founded, and declaring that the practice of licensing the sale of liquors at fairs and other like gatherings to be a disgrace to the civilization of the 19th century.

The Detroit Board of Trade having petitioned for the establishment of a harbor of refuge at Lac la Belle, Keweenaw Point, Congressman Maybury has introduced a bill making an appropriation for that purpose.

The Manistee boom Company has handled 235,590,693 feet of logs this year, and estimates that there are 64,000,000 feet still in the river and booms.

Henry Kirback and Geo. Fickenger, charged with attempt to burn Hanzelman's store in Manistee have been held to bail in the sum of $700 for appearance at the February term of court. In default of bail they were committed.

Hillsdale college has a better attendance than for many years before.

The State Grange has spoken, at its session just closed, with no uncertain sound, on the subjects of temperance and of gambling at fairs. It adopted resolutions condemning the action of the Legislature in refusing to submit a prohibitory amendment, as subversive of the fundamental principles of our government; and stigmatizes the licensing of the sale of intoxicants at fairs, and especially that of the State Agricultural Society, and also the practice of pool selling, as a burning shame, and a disgrace to the civilization of the nineteenth century.—Lansing Republican.

The bondsmen of Harry Hunter, the celebrated pickpocket captured at Kalamazoo during the July races, and let off on $1,000 bail by order of Judge Sherwood, paid the money to the county treasurer. Much indignation has been expressed over the manner in which the bondsmen have acted in the matter, finally paying it under protest in order to avoid being sued forthwith. The bondsmen were Alexander Cameron and Caleb Sweetland.

Frank P. McPhillips, who went to Grand Rapids recently from Woodville, the other afternoon shot Gerrit Timmer of Holland, Mich. The bullet entered his groin and was extracted at the back. The wounded man cannot live. An old quarrel over business affairs caused the shooting.

A school-house in Winfield township, Montcalm county, was fired by tramps the other day.

The Cheboygan Lumber Company will erect a $4,000 iron slab burner at their Cheboygan mill this winter.

Saugatuck asks for a life-saving station, claiming that its shipping is larger than that of either Holland, St. Joseph or South Haven.

An officer of the Grand Army of the Republic states that there are enough soldiers in the poor-houses of this state to fill out a full-sized regiment.

Many men are said to be wandering about the lumber camps vainly seeking for work.

The cause of what was termed Senator Palmer's poor luck in securing so few plums in the distribution of the committees is thus explained: The chief advantage in being a chairman in most of the committees is that it affords a private secretary at the nation's expense. There are four committees less than the number of republican senators. The wealthy senators can well afford to hire their own secretaries. Among the new senators the four wealthiest were selected to bear this burden, and Senator Palmer was very willing to be one of that number.

Pension Agent Post, of Detroit, estimates that during pay week he pays on an average per day about 1,200 pensions by mail and 300 in person. An idea seems to be entertained by widows drawing pension that the government would be deeply grieved were they to marry. One old lady told Mr. Post that $8 a month would not support herself and two daughters and that if it was not increased she would get married, but remarked in parenthesis "It was mighty hard nowadays to find a man worth $8 a month."

Thomas Smith, the lumberman of Duncan City, near Cheboygan, has reduced the wages of all his men working in the woods to $14 per month, and on being notified of the fact only two out of the entire force of the six camps left his employ.—Bay City Tribune.

Since the opening of the season the entire ground foundations for the Northern Asylum for the Insane, located here, have been laid and the basement built, and the first story of the brick work is nearly completed. Masons are still at work laying bricks, as weather permits. The stone masons will work all winter cutting and finishing stone for the building. On the northern portion of the grounds a large boarding house has been built and half a dozen more small dwelling houses have been put up for temporary use of workmen.—Grand Traverse Herald.

George Cole, a Delta county convict, serving a sentence in the Jackson prison, has been adjudged insane and sent to the asylum at Kalamazoo.

A few days ago B. S. Tibbitts of Coldwater, one of the heaviest cigar manufacturers in Michigan, filed mortgages covering all of his property. This action of Mr. Tibbitts induced U. S. Marshal Matthews of Detroit to replevin his entire stock on suits commenced by Freedman Bros. of New York and Frinett & Co. of Philadelphia. Mr. Tibbitts attributes his present embarrassment to the strike of the union men in that city some months ago.

Dr. Foster Pratt of Kalamazoo has sent to Congress copies of his pamphlet on the increase of insanity, and asking for the enactment of a law to prevent the deportation to the United States of persons of insane or vicious tendencies.

The Senate has confirmed the nomination of William Livingstone as collector of Detroit, and he will enter upon the duties of the office at the beginning of the year.

The annual report of the state salt inspector shows the total manufacture for the year 1883 to have been 2,957,449 barrels.

George C. Sandborn, a well known business man of the Saginaw Valley, is dead.

Hadsell, formerly treasurer of Cass county, failed to pay to his successor, one Vanness, all the money belonging to the office. The county sued Vanness and secured judgment, and Vanness in turn sued Hadsell, and judgment of $954 has just been rendered in favor of Vanness.

DETROIT MARKETS.

Wheat—No 1, white	$ 90	@	1 03
Flour	5 00	@	5 25
Corn	48	@	53
Oats	28	@	31
Clover Seed, ℔ bu	6 00	@	6 25
Apples, ℔ bbl	2 50	@	3 00
Dried Apples, ℔ ℔	7	@	7½
Peaches	14	@	15
Cherries	20	@	21
Butter, ℔ ℔	21	@	22
Eggs	25	@	26
Potatoes	45	@	50
Honey	18	@	20
Beans picked	2 10	@	2 15
Beans, unpicked	1 75	@	2 20
Hay	9 00	@	14 00
Straw	7 00	@	7 35
Pork dressed, ℔ 100	5 00	@	5 70
Pork, mess	11 75	@	12 25
Pork, family			17 00
Hams	14	@	15
Shoulders	8	@	8½
Lard	10½	@	10¾
Beef extra mess	11 50	@	12 00
Wood, Beech and Maple			6 50
Wood, Maple			7 00
Wood, Hickory			7 00

What He Would Say.

A husband and wife were talking grammer.

"Would you," said she, "say scissors are or scissors is?"

"I'd say scissors are, of course," he replied.

"Would you say molasses is, or molasses are?"

"Molasses is, of course."

"Well, then would you say the family is well?"

"No."

"What; you wouldn't say the family are well when family is a singular noun would you?"

"No."

"What would you say, then, I'd like to know?"

"Why, love, I'd say the family was not well: that you had the grunts, that Tommy had a sore finger, that the baby had the colic, that Katie had the headache and that I was trying to make an average by being well enough for four."

She went out of the room and didn't speak to him for two days.

Burdette's Patent Screen.

"Last March I invented a screen that I am going to get patented as soon as I can think of a name for it," says Bob Burdette. "Two women sat down in the seat before me. Remarking as usual upon the closeness of the car, they banged open the window, and I held on to keep from being blown over the back of the seat. I took the newspaper I was reading, folded it in half, and bending it into a semi-funnel shape, laid it up at such an angle that the blasts of March howling in at that window were not only turned away from myself, but were directed against the back of the neck of the window-opener. When that window slammed down, which was just as soon as the ventilator dared let go of her bonnet with both hands, it woke up the man asleep on the wood-box and I got a glare that made it warm for me for 50 miles. But I didn't open the window and let in the gale. I only exercised the right of a freeman and turned it away from myself."

THE passenger department of the Detroit & Cleveland Steam Navigation Company will open the 1884 season of navigation on standard time, and make use of the twenty-four hour system as well. Thus, the steamers of both the Lake Erie division to Cleveland, from the wharf at the foot of Third street, Detroit, and the steamers City of Mackinac and City of Cleveland, of the Lake Huron division, from the wharf at the foot of Wayne street, Detroit, to Mackinaw and way ports, will leave at 22 o'clock. In this movement the Detroit & Cleveland Steam Navigation Company claim to be the pioneer of navigation.

In a horse a good and strong, but quiet, pulse beats forty times a minute, in an ox fifty to fifty-five, in sheep and pigs not less than seventy or more than eighty for ordinary health. It may be felt whenever a large artery crosses a bone. A rapid, hard and full pulse in stock denotes high fever; a rapid, small, and weak pulse also fever, caused by a weak and poor state of the subject. A very slow pulse indicates brain disease while an irregular one indicates heart trouble.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

WASHINGTON.

ABOUT NATIONAL BANKS.

Sherman, who is a strong advocate of the national banking system, surprised the Senate by declaring unequivocally that a wise public policy demanded the continuance of sinking fund operations until every farthing of the public debt shall have been paid. Mr. Plumb astonished his republican associates by declaring that the national banking system is doomed because of the determination of the people to pay off the national debt, and that Congress should at once begin the consideration of a measure providing for something to take the place of national bank circulation.

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE.

Anson G. McCook received the nomination for secretary of the Senate, greatly to the surprise and chagrin of Mahone and other gentlemen who sought the nomination for Geo. C. Gorham.

DEATH OF REPRESENTATIVE HASKELL.

Representative Dudley C. Haskell of Kansas died in Washington a few days ago after a lingering illness. On account of the ill-health of Judge Kelley, Haskell was generally recognized as the leader of the Republicans in the last congress in the discussion of the tariff bill. Those who knew him best say no member of the House was better acquainted with every detail of the tariff than he. He was an ardent protectionist, and while the tariff bill was pending devoted to that subject nearly the whole of his time, and often had conferences with manufacturers and others interested in it. Late hours at night to his indefatigable labors in connection with tariff legislation is largely attributed to his illness which ended in his death. He was not well when he returned to his home after the adjournment of congress last spring, and during the summer he visited a health resort in the northwest, and finally about a month ago came to Washington. At all three places he was treated for different diseases, physicians holding various opinions in regard to the nature of his illness. Since his return here he has been confined to his rooms. He contemplated being carried to the House to take the oath, in order that he might introduce measures in the interest of his constituents, although unable to attend the daily sessions of the House. The remains, accompanied by the family of the deceased and a congressional committee, were taken to Lawrence, Kansas, for interment.

CHICAGO TAKES THE CAKE.

Senator Sabin of Minnesota the new Chairman of the National Committee.

The Republican National Committee met on the morning of December 12, at the Arlington Hotel in Washington. The following delegates answered the call of States: Alabama—Paul Strobach; Arkansas—Powell Clayton; California—Senator Miller; Connecticut—O. H. Platt; Delaware—Christian Febriger; Florida—W. W. Hicks; Georgia—J. B. Devereaux; Illinois—J. A. Logan; Indiana—J. C. New; Iowa—S. S. Runnells; Kansas—J. S. Martin; Kentucky—Wm. O. Bradley; Louisiana—Frank Morey; Maine—Wm. P. Frye; Maryland—J. A. Gary; Massachusetts—J. M. Forbes; Michigan—J. H. Stone; Minnesota—D. M. Sabin; Mississippi—Geo. C. McKee; Missouri—C. J. Filly; Nebraska—J. W. Dawes; Nevada—Senator Jones; New Hampshire—W. E. Chandler; New Jersey—George A. Halsey; New York—T. C. Platt; North Carolina—W. P. Canady; Ohio—W. C. Cooper; Oregon—J. H. Mitchell; Pennsylvania—C. L. Magee; Rhode Island—W. A. Pierce; South Carolina—Samuel Lee; Tennessee—Wm. Rule; Texas—A. F. Malloy; Vermont—G. W. Hooker; Virginia—V. S. M. Yost; West Virginia—N. Goff; Wisconsin—Elihu Enos; Arizona—Levi Bashford; Dakota—C. T. McCoy; Idaho—G. L. Shoup; New Mexico—S. B. Elkins; Utah—C. W. Bennet; Washington Territory—T. J. Brents; Wyoming—J. L. Carey; District of Columbia—C. B. Purvis; Colorado—Senator Chaffee. The committee was called to order by John A. Martin, Secretary. Mr. Chandler nominated ex-Senator Chaffee, of Colorado, for temporary presiding officer, and he was elected unanimously. After reading the journal nominations for permanent chairman were in order. D. M. Sabin, of Minnesota, was nominated by Mr. Elkins, and was elected by acclamation. The election of Mr. Sabin was a great surprise to that gentleman, who, however, in a neat and happy vein, thanked the committee for the honor shown him, and pledged himself to do his best to subserve the interests of the great party represented by the committee. Mr. Elkins offered resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, paying a beautiful tribute to the late Marshall Jewell of Connecticut.

The next business before the committee was to decide upon a place for holding the next national convention. The claims of Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Philadelphia, Chautauqua and Saratoga were set forth by the representatives of these places. Greatly, however, to the surprise of nearly every one, Chicago was the place chosen. The following ballots were taken:

FIRST BALLOT.

Necessary to a choice	24
Chicago	14
Philadelphia	8
Cincinnati	12
Indianapolis	4
Saratoga	8

SECOND BALLOT.

Chicago	17
Cincinnati	17
Philadelphia	1
Saratoga	8

THIRD BALLOT.

Chicago	20
Cincinnati	21
Saratoga	4
Philadelphia	1

FOURTH BALLOT.

Chicago	26
Cincinnati	18
Saratoga	1
Philadelphia	1

So Chicago was declared the place for holding the next convention. The following call was formally adopted:

The Republican National Convention will meet at Chicago, Ill., Tuesday, June 3, 1884, at 12 o'clock noon, for the nomination of the candidates to be supported for President and Vice-President at the next election. The Republican electors of the several states, and all other voters, without regard to past political differences, who are in favor of elevating and dignifying American labor, extending and protecting home industry, giving free popular education to the masses of the people, securing free suffrage and an honest counting of the ballots, effectually protecting all human rights in every section of the common country, and who desire to promote a friendly feeling of permanent harmony throughout the land by securing a national government pledged to these objects and principles, are cordially invited to send for each state four delegates at large, for each congressional district two delegates, and for each Representative-at-large two delegates.

The call was signed by all the members of the committee.

A FREE BALLOT AND A FAIR COUNT.

Mr. Chandler offered the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this committee views with regret and indignation the recent attempts to suppress human rights, destroy free suffrage and the honest counting of the ballots in various States by methods at war with humanity and civilization. Against the prevalence of such methods the Republican party stands irrevocably pledged, and we extend our sympathy to all sufferers from such inhumanities and pledge our earnest, unconditional co-operation and right hand of fellowship to all men and all organizations, whatever may have been their past political action, who unreservedly commit themselves to organized efforts to secure free education, free suffrage and the protection of the life and property of all citizens, without regard to race, color, political opinion or votes.

ADJOURNED.

The committee adjourned to meet at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago, May, 31, 1884.

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

DECEMBER 12.

SENATE—Mr. Wilson called up his joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution relating to the civil rights of citizens, and moved its reference to the committee on judiciary. The resolution proposes that the following article be numbered article sixteen: "Congress shall have power by appropriate legislation to protect citizens of the United States in the exercise and enjoyment of rights, privileges and immunities, and assure them of equal protection of the laws." Mr. Wilson spoke at great length in support of the resolution, and the matter was finally referred to the committee on judiciary. The resolution submitted a few days ago directing the secretary of the treasury to furnish information concerning the sinking fund was taken up and discussed, but no further action taken. After an executive session the Senate adjourned. The House was not in session.

DECEMBER 13.

Senate.—Bills were introduced providing for the admission into the Union of the state of Washington, and to provide for a commission on the liquor traffic. Senator Van Wyck introduced a resolution calling for the expenditures of the department of justice in connection with the star route trial. The discussion of the new rules to be adopted in the Senate occupied the rest of the session, and adjournment was ordered till Monday.

DECEMBER 14.

HOUSE.—But very little business was transacted. Mr. Washburn introduced a bill providing for the removal of the obstructions to the free navigation of the navigable waters of the United States. Referred. A resolution was introduced requesting the President to issue a proclamation urging the observance on December 23, 1882, of the 100th anniversary of the surrender by Washington of his commission as commander-in chief of the army. Horr of Michigan, asked leave to introduce a resolution to bring to the notice of the President the recent murder of several citizens of the United States, and also of the recent riots at Danville, Va. The resolution was objected to and lightly treated as a Horr-ible joke. The Committee on Rules was announced as follows: The Speaker and Messrs. Blackburn, Randall, Keifer and Reid.

DECEMBER 17.

SENATE.—Mr. Sherman offered a resolution that the Senate proceed to the election of officers. Ordered to lie over till to-morrow. A message was received from the House announcing the death of Mr. Haskell of Kansas, which was immediately taken up. After appropriate remarks by Mr. Ingalls, and on his motion the president of the Senate appointed Senators Plumb, Cockrell and Dawes a committee to attend the obsequies of the deceased representative, and the Senate, from respect to his memory, adjourned.

HOUSE.—The chaplain in a few touching words referred to the death of the Hon. D. C. Haskell of Kansas, and invoked the divine blessing on the bereaved family, others following in glowing tribute to the memory of the deceased. Mr. Anderson offered the customary resolution, which was unanimously adopted, that the House, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased adjourn till Wednesday, which was done.

DECEMBER 18.

SENATE—The bills providing for a civil government for Alaska, and regarding the election of President and Vice President, were reported by the committees to whom they have been referred. The subject of unearned land grants was called up again by a resolution presented by Mr. Van Wyck, calling on the Secretary of the Interior for documents relating to the Texas Pacific and other roads. The Presidential succession question formed the subject of a lengthy discussion, when the Senate proceeded to vote upon the new rules. The question to be voted upon was the third clause of the first rule which gives the Vice President the power of substitution. Mr. Bayard of Delaware thought grave objections existed to the clause, as in the case of the death of the President or Vice President it would place the question of Presidential succession in a very dangerous position. So important a question should be absolutely free from any doubt. Jones of Florida thought it dangerous to clothe the President pro tem with such power. Maxey of Texas thought the clause was only intended to fit a temporary necessity, and for that reason he opposed it. Mr. Frye of Maine could not see how the clause could touch the question of Presidential succession. The Senate then proceeded to the election of officers. Anson G. McCook of New York was elected secretary of the Senate; chief clerk, Chas. W. Johnson, Minnesota; executive clerk, Jas. R. Young, Pennsylvania; chaplain, Rev. Elias Dewitt Heintley, District of Columbia; sergeant-at-arms, M. P. Canaday, North Carolina.

NEWS NOTES.

A WRECKED LIFE ENDED.

The divorced wife of ex-United States Senator Christiancy died in New York a few days ago. After the divorce was granted the young woman became melancholy, quite as much from the change in her circumstances as from the loss of social standing. Her melancholy so preyed upon her as to unseat her reason, and she died a raving lunatic. Her parents, who were in Washington, were telegraphed for, but did not arrive until death had claimed its own.

KNOWLEDGE, PIETY AND CASH.

At the convention of colored men, in session at Atlanta, Ga., to discuss the educational situation with a view of getting additional appropriations from the state for their race, as well as a congressional appropriation, Dr. Arnett, of Ohio, financial secretary of the African Methodist church, spoke on the possibilities in store for his people through education. "Every man," said he, "should be able to read his ballot. Get education for your head, religion for your heart, and money for your pocket, and you will need no civil rights bill."

A FERRY BOAT BURNED.

The ferry boat Garden City, of the East River Ferry company, caught fire and burned the other day in the slip at the foot of James slip. Several horses were also burned, but all the passengers and employes escaped so far as known. The boat was valued at $100,000 and partly insured.

A HORRIBLE DEATH.

The basement fronting on Arcade Court and being at the rear of 146 Madison street, Chicago, was the scene of a fatal accident of the most horrible description the other day, the victim being John Burke, striker for the engineer who ran an engine there to furnish lights for the Fuller Electric Light Company. There were two engines in the basement, one of which was stopped. Burke told his partner that he would now go out to lunch, and the engineer went on cleaning the dead engine, while Burke took a pail of water and passed behind the working engine to wash his hands and face. The engineer a moment afterward heard a shriek and the light went out. The engine having stopped partially, the engineer knew there was something wrong, and, feeling his way to the valve, shut off steam and thus stopped the engine. As soon as he could get a light he found the remains of his assistant horribly mutilated, an arm and a leg having been torn from the body. The central patrol was summoned and the remains were collected and removed to the morgue. It is believed that the deceased somehow got caught between the flywheel and the stone wall behind it, and that the resistance offered by the body was sufficient to throw off the belt. The deceased was 23 years of age and a native of Ireland. He was unmarried and his parents live in the old country.

OUT AND IN.

Frank Jones, the noted desperado, was released on $3,000 bail the other afternoon from the Kansas City jail, where he was awaiting trial for the Blue Cut train robbery. He was immediately re-arrested on a charge of killing Cashier Sheets, of Gallatin, in 1878. It is not probable that he will be bailed on this latter charge, and should he be officers are waiting to arrest him on four other charges.

YOUTHFUL FIREBUGS.

The four boys, Moffatt, Millard, West and Finch, arrested for setting the numerous fires that have occurred in Milwaukee of late, and all sons of prominent citizens, were arraigned in court on the 15th. West was remanded, and the others were sentenced to the reform school until 21 years of age.

CRIME.

DEATH AT THE POLLS.

The primary elections for delegates to the Democratic State Nominating Convention were held in New Orleans on the 14th inst. Much ill-feeling was shown, which culminated in the afternoon in a terrible tragedy at the polls. It appears that a man, name unknown, came up to vote, and was challenged. Capt. Foster and brother, it is stated, tried to get the man from in front of the poles, but the man was finally knocked down, or fell down. A shot was then fired which seemed to be the signal, as the firing immediately became general.

The greatest excitement prevailed, the police being powerless against the combatants. When the shooting closed it was found that Capt. Michael J. Foster, a prominent Ogden champion, was mortally wounded. He was removed to his residence, where he expired in a few minutes. He leaves a wife and three children. Capt. Foster was well known as the commander of a battery in the competitive drills at Nashville, Indianapolis and other points. Gus Renaud, Superintendent of Streets in the Seventh Ward, under Commissioner Fitzpatrick, was picked up in an unconscious condition and taken to the Fifth Precinct Station, where he died in a little while. Four wounds were found on his body. He leaves a widow and one child. Edward Masson, deputy constable, received three balls in the leg which severed an artery. He survived but a short time. He leaves a widow and two children. Fifteen others were seriously injured. A number of arrests were made, and the prisoners committed to jail without bail.

A YOUTHFUL MURDERER.

At Paola, Kas., a horrible double murder was committed by George Orr, a boy only sixteen years of age. For some years Orr has been at work upon the farm of an aged blind man named M. M. Trimble, by whom he was brought up. It was believed by the boy that the aged couple had considerable money hidden about the house, and before daylight the other morning he shot and killed Mr. Trimble, and then shot and beat his wife so badly that she has since died. It is not known how much Orr secured as the price of his crime, and he is still at large.

SAD ENDING OF A PRACTICAL JOKE.

A special to the Terra Haute Express from Paris, Ill., says: Sanford Norris, with other boys, arranged a practical joke by having two brothers, Tod and Orlando Norris, Winston Griffin, Jr., and Ben McLaughlin steal some apples. Sandford Norris and the other boys were to be concealed, and at the proper time fire a gun in the air. Instead, by an almost criminal fatality, the gun was pointed directly at the boys, who were close together. Tod Norris was perforated with fifty-one shot and died soon after. Orlando Norris was seriously injured, as was Griffin and McLaughlin. It is thought Griffin will also die.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

A BANQUET FOR PARNELL.

A banquet was tendered Parnell in Dublin a few nights ago. An immense concourse was present to do honor to the "great Irish leader." Davitt, in response to the toast, "Ireland a nation," said "that led by Parnell they might believe themselves on the threshold of heralding the Irish nation." The "great leader" made an address arraigning the authorities for misgovernment in Ireland, and showing that the people of the Emerald Isle held the balance of power between existing parties. As a national tribute £38,000 was presented to Parnell.

TERRIFIC GALES.

Violent gales raged throughout England on the 12th inst., doing great damage. Many lives were lost, scores of people seriously injured, and the damage to shipping and other property is incalculable.

"O RESTLESS SEA."

The steamer Auk from Liverpool to Rotterdam was wrecked in a gale a few days ago and the crew of twenty one drowned.

THE WAR PARTY TRIUMPHANT.

It is reported in Paris that a revolution has occurred in the palace at Pekin, resulting in the triumph of the military party and hostile to an arrangement with France, thereby causing the disgrace of Li Hung Chang, Prime Minister.

O'DONNELL'S SWING.

Carey's Slayer Hanged.--His Last Instructions.

O'Donnell was hanged at 8.02 o'clock on the morning of December 17. Despite boisterous and squallid weather a considerable crowd assembled at the prison. Hundreds of workmen passing by the jail were waiting to gaze at the black flag, among them O'Donnell's brother, who paced to and fro in a most restless and dejected manner, exciting the sympathy of all present. The hangman's arrangements were perfect and the execution occurred without a hitch. O'Donnell was calm and collected. He made no statement on the scaffold. The Local News Agency says that at a farewell visit of O'Donnell's brother to him on Saturday the men conversed for half an hour. O'Donnell gave his brother final instructions in regard to certain private matters. They spoke in Irish to prevent the wardens from understanding them. O'Donnell declared his intention to say on the scaffold that he shot Carey and felt no remorse for the act. He felt comforted because the fund which was subscribed for his defense will be divided among his wife and other dependent relations. He died for Ireland and would die a brave man. O'Donnell's brother was desirous of burying the body in consecrated ground, and was horrified to learn that the remains must be interred in the prison yard.

FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

Milwaukee has opened a museum of fine arts. An art school will begin Jan. 2.

Owing to the poor wheat this year, Canadian millers will be allowed 10 pounds more wheat to the barrel produced from imported wheat ground in bond and exported.

Rogers, the missing treasurer of Lewis county, N. Y., was owed $1,700 by the county, when he thought he owed it $4,000. Inability to balance his books it is feared drove him insane.

Hicks Pasha's defeat was owing to the bad conduct of the Bashi-Bazooks.

The idea that Secretary Folger will soon retire is gaining ground.

The London Evening News says Parnell will not use his testimonial fund, but will suggest its appropriation for the benefit of the people of Ireland.

General McClellan believes the Democrats will make a square issue on the tariff question.

Fort Worth, Texas, wants a $1,000,000 cotton mill.

A radical editor in Belgrade has been condemned to death for participating in the recent revolt.

All coal miners on the Monongahela river have suspended operations for an indefinite time, owing to unseasonable weather, overstocked markets and low prices. The suspension will throw out of work over 6,000 men, who are much depressed at the prospect. Great suffering will result.

Miss R. E. Keiser of Utica, N. Y., committed suicide at the Windsor Hotel in New York City the other morning. She had been disappointed in love.

United States Consul Wadsworth died at Saltillo, Mexico, of pneumonia, a few days ago. He leaves a wife and seven children.

Ohio has $150,000,000 worth of fences. The statistician who figured this out is resting.

A bill has been introduced in the House to abolish the tax on alcohol used for medicinal purposes.

Ex-Senator Kellogg says the case against him was prompted by personal malice.

A decided hostility to postal telegraphy is manifested in Congressional circles.

A bill will soon be introduced in the House appropriating $60,000 for the embellishment of Mackinaw Island as a national park.

The proposition to place the state militias in charge of the war department is favored by the President and officers of the war department.

The 10th anniversary of "The Woman's Crusade" will be celebrated by the different state unions on the 23d inst.

The London Times regards Parnell's speech at the banquet the other evening as uncompromising defiance of the English nation.

There is a deficit of £3,000,000 in the Egyptian budget for 1883.

A statue of Gladstone was unveiled in the City Liberal Club rooms in London the other day.

An oyster sloop capsized in Chesapeake Bay and the entire crew of nine persons perished.

The rolling mills at Joliet, Ill., are closed for the winter, and 600 men are thrown out of employment.

Oakey Hall, late editor of the New York Truth, will enter the New York Herald bureau service in London.

An old woman charged with witchcraft, was tied to a post and hacked to pieces with hatchets at Santa Clara, Central America.

Tobacco manufacturers from all over the country have sent representatives to Washington to protest against any agitation of the tobacco tax at this session.

The common council of Joliet, Ill., allows $10 to each policeman towards the purchase of an overcoat.

Night schools will soon be opened in the Indiana state prison.

Postmaster General Gresham has issued an order directing that the old three and six cent stamps be taken in exchange for the new issues.

Democratic National Committee meet in Washington February, 22.

Flour retails at $40 per barrel in Manitoba.

Over 2,000 buildings were erected in Chicago during the past year, at a cost of nearly $16,000,000.

Snow is reported four feet deep in the mountains at Monterey.

John Burks of Chicago, an engineer's tender, was caught in some shafting and one leg and arm torn from his body. He died in a few hours.

Mrs. Abigail D. Pond, a sister of the famous "Sam Patch," died in Petersburg, Va., on the 30th ult., in the ninety first year of her age.

Capt. Robert Dickinson, an Irish refugee and brother-in-law of Parnell, was found dead in bed at Brussels recently. His remains were sent to Ireland.

The Standard theatre in New York was discovered to be on fire about seven o'clock the other evening, and in a very short time was a smouldering heap of ruins. The loss is estimated at $100,000. No lives were lost.

It is rumored that the Khedive is about to abdicate.

The state department has taken precautionary measures concerning Egyptian rags shipped to this country. The United States consul in Egypt will have to see that *all* rags have been thoroughly disinfected.

Zorilla, the Spanish radical, asserts a revolution to be inevitable and certain to succeed.

The Spanish cortes was opened on the 15th with the usual ceremonies. In his opening address King Alfonso promised various governmental reforms.

Four hundred French coal miners at Vieux Conde are on a strike.

A railroad elevator and other property in Winona, Minn., valued at $143,000, was destroyed by fire the other afternoon.

An explosion occurred at the Cameron colliery in Shamoking, Pa., destroying the doors in the mine, fatally burning Elias Noll and seriously injuring John Smith, miners. Noll was burned almost to a crisp.

A house at Houston, Texas, owned by an old man named Carmichael, was burned the other night. When the flames were extinguished, the charred remains of the old man were found on the floor.

Wm. Coney, a New York policeman, who, when an officer on duty and drunk, shot and killed Peter Keenan in a saloon, has been found guilty of murder in the first degree. The jury were out all night. A new trial will be applied for.

Chicago police are making a periodical raid on the gambling houses in that city.

A Pennsylvania judge refuses the application of Mrs. Carrie Kilgore for admission to the bar of that state.

An uprising of the Copts in Upper Egypt is feared.

The trouble in the New York Tribune office is at an end.

Chicago wants a "corner" on the convention business, having already taken steps to secure the National Democratic convention.

Prince Jerome Bonaparte thinks he would like to become a member of the Chamber of Deputies.

The new Secretary of the Senate, McCook, one of the fighting McCooks of Ohio, and he served during the last three Congresses from a New York City district.

The President wants to send another expedition to hunt up Lieut. Greeley.

Fred J. Kelly, who escaped from the penitentiary in Columbus, Ohio, January, 1876, was arrested at Cincinnati a few days ago. He came to prison in 1871 for twenty years from Cuyahoga County, convicted of aiding to commit arson. He has been living quietly in Cincinnati for the last seven years under an assumed name.

One, John Wilton of Brooklyn, is charged with being one of the murderers of Jennie Cramer. The charge is made by Mrs. Fidding whose daughter Wilton had betrayed.

United States Supreme Court has decided that the conviction of the Indian, Crow Dog, who killed Spotted Tail, is illegal, and that Crow Dog must be tried by the tribe of which Spotted Tail was one.

All but one of the persons arrested for being concerned in the New Orleans riot were discharged after a preliminary examination. The one held was arraigned for manslaughter and committed.

Marquis Tseng says China will break off official relations with France if the French take either Bocninh or Sontay.

Rev. Geo. Morris, an aged Presbyterian minister of Baltimore blew his gas out the other day. The funeral occurred in the afternoon of the second day.

The first cargo of American wheat ever imported into Austria has been received at Taube in Bohemia.

Peter Wade who murdered Patrick Quinn in October last at Rathfarnaham near Dublin, has been sentenced to be hanged.

The Khedive has informed England that he cannot confront the present position in Egypt unless his position is secured by other than Egyptian troops.

Natives report that Hicks Pasha's hands were first cut off by the enemy and that he was afterwards cut to pieces.

St. Louis presents compliments and asks that the National Democratic Convention be held in that city.

George Orr, the boy who killed an old blind man and his wife near Palo, Kansas, a few days ago, has been arrested. He confesses to the crime.

The supplementary Tonquin credit of 20,000,000 francs was adopted by the chamber of deputies by a decisive majority.

One hundred and fifty British artillerymen sailed for Egypt the other day.

A Constantinople dispatch says 21 vessels were lost during a recent gale, and the crews drowned.

Joseph Poole was hanged in Dublin the other morning for the murder of Kennedy, on the night of July 4, 1882.

Whiskey men have decided that it is not advisable to ask Secretary Folger to stop the collection of taxes pending legislation on the subject.

Presbyterian ministers in the City of Brotherly Love have "set down" on Moody and Sankey's hymns, ranking them as "fifth-rate poetry" and unfit to be taught to children.

Leading politicians of Washington Territory are petitioning President Arthur to appoint Mrs. Dunway, a prominent woman suffragist, as governor of the territory.

The Knickerbocker Christmas.

George Wm. Curtis in December Harper's

While their neighbors upon Massachusetts Bay were banning Christmas, the Dutch at New Amsterdam gladly welcomed and honored him, and nowhere has he been so truly at home upon the continent as in the Dutch city. The character of the inhabitants naturally determined that of the day. It was less an ecclesiastical festival than a social and domestic holiday. The glittering tree of gifts was its lighted and decorated altar, and hearty good eating and drinking were its genial ceremonial rites. Hereditary Dutch pride sometimes looks askance and even angrily at Deidrich Knickerbocker's story. But it is plain that the gay exaggeration of the old chronicler only emphasized the truth, and that his humorous imaginative touch produced a likeness as accurate as that of Bradford of the Pilgrims, or that of Winthrop and Sewall of the Puritans. The tranquil, contented burghers whom he drew were sure to make the most of Christmastide, and their neighbors who cursed it must have seemed to them the most whimsical of lunatics.

It was natural that the genius which described those burghers with so subtle a sympathy should seem to be kindred with them. Indeed, there was so much of the true Knickerbocker spirit in Irving that he is usually supposed, by those who do not reflect, to be of Dutch descent. It is this quality, perhaps, this ready sympathy with cheerful and simple domestic enjoyment, which made the author of Knickerbocker's History the laureate of English Christmas. The holiday that he describes affects him as it affected the citizen of New Amsterdam, as a day of pleasure consecrated by religious association. And the enduring popularity of his charming essay shows that this is the Christmas of the English-speaking race. Even the New England air, which was so black with sermons that it suffocated Christmas, now murmurs softly with Christmas bells. The children of the resolute God-fearing men who did not rest from labor on that first Christmas morning now rest and rejoice in the happy day whose dawn is a benediction.

But it is no longer a superstition of any scarlet woman, no longer a festival whose observance implies perilous adherence to papal or prelatical errors. The purifying spiritual fire, historically known as Puritanism, has purged the theological and ecclesiastical dross away, and has left the pure gold of religious faith and human sympathy. When the neophyte asked his confessor what was the central truth of Christianity, the old man answered, "Charity." Then he explained that charity meant love, and that love meant the spirit of universal fraternity. The almsgiving which is the technical interpretation of the word is but a symbol of that giving of the heart and soul and life to help others of which the supreme sacrifice of Christ is the accepted type. The day that commemorates His birth is the festival of humanity, as the inspiring sentiment of actual life. The lovely legends of the day, the stories, and the songs, and the half fairy-lore that gathers around it, the ancient traditions of dusky woods and mystic rites; the magnificence or simplicity of Christian observance, from the Pope in his triple tiara, borne upon his portative throne in gorgeous state to celebrate pontifical high mass at the great altar of St. Peter's, to George Herbert humbly kneeling in his rustic church at Bemerton, or to the bare service in some missionary chapel upon the American frontier; the lighting of Christmas trees and hanging up of Christmas stockings, the happy family meetings, the dinner, the game, the dance—they are all the natural signs and symbols, the flower and fruit, of Christmas. For Christmas is the day of days which declares the universal human consciousness that peace on earth comes only from good-will to man.

Baruum Ought to Have It.

In the town of Springfield, O., there lives a young girl who is and of right ought to be a mulatto, but the color of whose skin is constautly changing from deep brown to a snowy white and back again to its original hue. The Springfield Globe, which describes this phenomenon, is precise enough to say that she lives at No. 107 Scott st. and is the daughter of a well-to-do drayman named James Keemer. The transition is not effected by a slow process of uniform fading, but by the appearance of successive white spots which finally monopolize the entire surface. It follows that at certain stages of the transformation the girl presents an exceedingly striking aspect. Thus the reporter of The Globe, who was recently admitted to an inspections of the phenomenon, remarks: "Very often the neighborssay they are accustomed to seeing the child run about durnig the warm weather wirh one foot and ankle as dark as any little colored girl's need be, and the other as white as that of the fairest lady in the land. Frequently one hand is a dark mulatto color, while theother will be spotlessly white and almost transparent. Often the child's face will be entirely white but the eyelids, they retaining their original color. When she closes her eyes the affect is striking. Quite as often, the face will be entirely brown and the eyelids alone white, giving the girl an unhealthy apparance when the lids are down." If Mr. Barnum is wise he will relinquish his ambition to posess a white elephant and secure instead a spotted attraction which would cause every leopard in his show to blush with shame.

Two Fatal Defects.

Philadelphia Call.

Mrs. Jenkins—"Dear me, Matilda Jane, it's no use trying to be aristocratic any longer. I've done everything mortal woman could since your par did so well in lumber, but the obstacles is too great, I give it up."

Matilda Jane—"Why, ma, I think we're getting along splendid, I'm sure. We don't eat with our knives any more and we've got so we dare speak to the butler at dinner. The way you say, 'James, you may go,' sounds like a queen talking. What is the trouble now?"

Mrs. Jenkins—"Well, I was reading only a little while ago that the gout and a family feud were necessary adjuncts to aristocracy, and I don't see any prospect of securing either."

It is stated that W. E. Curtis, of the Chicago Inter-Ocean, is the author of "The Bread Winners", now being published anonymously in the Century.

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