THE DAILY RECORD-UNION.

SATURDAY............JANUARY 17, 1880.

## AN UNSURPASSED JOURNAL.

In the WEEKLY UNION of this week the prologue to Farjeon's great story is continued. The WEEKLY UNION is issued in semi-weekly parts of eight pages each, but it costs the subscriber not one cent more. He receives sixteen pages each week of choicest selected and original matter for $2 per annum, and an advantage accrues to him which he can gain from no other paper, to wit, the receipt of his paper in the middle and at the end of the week, thus bringing the news to him fresh and within a few hours after being recorded upon the news tablets of the day. The departments of the WEEKLY UNION are very numerous, but not so much so as to be cumbersome. On the contrary, they are so eagerly read that the demand is for their enlargement. Special labor is put upon each department, and every one has the care and supervision and practical judgment of journalists of long experience in the best walks of the profession. A glance at the list of the chief departments regularly conducted and prepared for the UNION will give some idea of the value, scope and variety of the matter presented. The following is an enumeration of the distinctive departments of the journal:

1. Editorial.
2. Commercial.
3. Telegraphic.
4. General coast news.
5. Dramatic and Operatic.
6. Art, Education, Science, Music.
7. Agricultural.
8. Mechanical, Industrial and Mining.
9. Home Economy, Decoration and Amusement.
10. Outdoor Amusements—Sporting.
11. Department of Questions and Answers, Puzzles, Charades and Enigmas.
12. Reviews of new publications and current literature.
13. Local Intelligence.
14. Court, Capitol and Legislative Reports.
15. Stock, Mining and Market Quotations.
16. Religious Intelligence.
17. New York, San Francisco, Washington, European, Oregon, Arizona and Home Correspondence.
18. Fashions.
19. State Resources, Progress and Development.

Beside which, and outside of these departments, the UNION gives special attention to commercial reviews, letters from the counties of the State, notes of new discoveries, China, Japan, Mexican, Sandwich Islands, and South and Central American news, reports of State officials, Boards and Commissions, sanitary science and medical advance, and all leading current topics, such as irrigation, the debris question, improvement of navigable rivers, mechanical discovery and progress, fish and forest culture, mining, drainage, transportation news and questions, immigration, labor and capital, etc.

## NEWS OF THE MORNING.

IN New York yesterday Government bonds were quoted at 104½ for 4s of 1907; 103⅝ for 5s of 1881; 107⅝ for 4½s; sterling, $4 82½@4 85; silver bars, 113; silver coin, ½ discount buying, par selling.

SILVER in London yesterday, 52 5-16; consols, 97 13-16; 5 per cent. United States bonds, 105⅝; 4s, 107⅞; 4½s, 111.

IN San Francisco half dollars are quoted at par; trade dollars, 95 buying, 96½ selling; Mexican dollars, 96 buying, 96½ selling.

AT Liverpool yesterday wheat was quoted at 10s 6d to 11s 4d for average California white, and 11s 3d to 11s 8d for club.

A DIVIDEND of 50 cents per share has been declared by the Eureka Consolidated Mining Company.

LADY BRYAN and Silver Hill were features in the stock market at San Francisco yesterday morning. Both were in active demand, and prices rose rapidly. Thursday Lady Bryan was selling at $1 10 to $1 50. Yesterday it sold at $2 to $2 40. Thursday Silver Hill sold at 60 cents to 90 cents. Yesterday it sold up to $2. Sierra Nevada rose $1 50, and Bullion $1 25. The changes in other sorts were of little consequence.

A BUILDING was blown to pieces at Central City, Neb., yesterday, by gunpowder placed beneath it.

GOLD PLACERS have been discovered near Hopland, Sonoma county.

A PERSON has been arrested near Hillsboro, Or., charged with the murder of Jacob Swanger last Thursday.

IN the recent fight with the Montenegrins the Albanians lost 45 killed and 60 wounded.

THE Duchess of Marlborough relief fund amounts to £19,000.

PROCESS-SERVERS in County Mayo, Ireland, are having a rough time.

THE reported trouble between Russian and German officers in Poland is now said to be without foundation in fact.

THREE persons were killed and 20 injured yesterday, at Southport, Eng., in a railway collision.

THE election for Assemblyman in Napa county took place yesterday, resulting in the election of Chancellor Hartson.

IRA GILCHRIST, a well known architect, died yesterday at Napa.

THE recent unprecedentedly heavy snow-storm in Washington Territory did great damage to property.

RIOTING continues at Pesth, Hungary, and the affair is becoming exceedingly serious.

CHIEF WINNEMUCCA and party passed Omaha yesterday, en route to Washington.

THE Fusionist Legislature yesterday elected Joseph L. Smith Governor of Maine, and he was sworn in.

WILLIAM DEVER was hanged at San Rafael yesterday for the murder of Herman Kohler.

IN the Hayden trial for murder at New Haven, Conn., the case was given to the jury yesterday.

THE ship Formosa, from the Philippine Islands for Boston, was recently lost.

FIRE at Grass Valley.

SEVERAL persons were killed and fifty families made homeless by a landslide at Alcala del Jucar, Spain.

BY an accident on the Reading Railroad yesterday an engineer was killed and a fireman injured.

THE South Bodie Mining Company have levied an assessment of 10 cents per share.

IN the State Senate yesterday the hotly-contested question of the reference of bills to the San Francisco delegation was decided in favor of the delegation. Almost the whole day was taken up in the first reading of the bills heretofore introduced.

ONE person was killed, another fatally injured, and a mill blown to pieces, Thursday night, at Fremont, N. H., by a boiler explosion.

S. SPEIZER committed suicide yesterday at Virginia, Nev.

HENRY STEVENS, an aged German, was recently murdered at Canyon City, Or.

KEARNEY delivered one of his characteristic harangues at New York last night.

A DARING robbery in a Chicago street occurred yesterday in broad daylight.

IN the Assembly the matter of referring bills to the Chinese Committee came up again, and it was finally decided to refer bills to the Committee on Chinese.

## "THE THEOSOPHIST."

We have received the first three numbers of *The Theosophist*, a very peculiar periodical published monthly at Bombay, under the editorship of the Countess Blavatsky. It aims at the dissemination of the truth concerning the great religions of India, and at the elucidation of the alleged supernatural powers of the ascetics who, under the name of Yogis, are said to perform various marvelous feats, of which levitation is one of the most common. *The Theosophist* has among its contributors several learned Pandits and Buddhist Priests, and not the least singular feature in the case is the lofty-minded toleration manifested by these sectaries to the representatives of all other creeds. We should seek in vain for a parallel to this spirit among the religious periodicals of Europe or America.

"MANHATTANISMS."—On another page appears the first of a series of letters to the RECORD-UNION from New York, under the title "Manhattanisms." The letter is from the pen of Junius Henri Browne, and will be followed each week by New York city notes from the same source. Mr. Browne is an experienced correspondent, and has been long connected with journalism of the best order. As a writer he is concise, clear, dramatic in narrative, positive in conclusion and scholarly in diction. His literary tastes and culture, his observant faculties, his knowledge of men and public questions, his intimacy with art, dramatic, scientific, business and literary circles incident to his journalistic career, fit him peculiarly for the task for which he has been commissioned by this paper—the weekly presentation of matters and events at the metropolis of the Atlantic, which will be of interest to readers upon this coast.

## THE PROGRESS OF CIVILIZATION.

There are two schools among those who discuss the progress of civilization. One of these schools claims too much, and the other admits too little. It is true that civilization has produced very small improvements in some respects, but it is equally true that it has produced very considerable improvements in other respects. Undoubtedly its most marked effect has been upon what is called material progress. In the past century the advances made in science have exceeded very far those of the preceding five hundred years, and the consequent revolutions effected in the modes of living and traveling and lighting and heating and manufacturing and doing business have in the aggregate sensibly ameliorated the condition of a large percentage of the inhabitants of what are called civilized countries. The growth of comfort has been particularly great. It is not so very far back to the time of Queen Elizabeth, but at that time the most wealthy people in Europe could only display a thoroughly barbarous magnificence, while the masses lived in such squalor as is now confined to small quarters in our largest cities. There were no carpets, nor bed furniture, nor pillows, nor sheets, nor underclothing such as is worn now, nor crockeryware, nor markets, nor vegetables. The well-to-do tradesman or farmer wore one greasy leathern suit a score of years; went to bed contented on a bag of chaff with a round log for a pillow; ate from wooden trenchers; strewed rushes on the earthen floor in lieu of carpets; lived nine months on salted meats; did without other vegetables than sundry salads and kales; often eschewed chimneys, and sat with inflamed eyes under blackened rafters, drinking heady beer, all through the winter evenings. There was even less comfort for the common people. They were fed and lodged like hogs. They were filthy in their habits, coarse and callous in their tastes, imbruted as to their minds. Undoubtedly a great change for the better has taken place in the comfort of the people, and its extent is not enough realized. At the time of Elizabeth, and for that matter almost a century later, no sovereign prince could have procured the conveniences which are to-day within the reach of every mechanic who earns from $2 50 to $4 per day. And it is certainly true that through this great increase of comfort the masses have been enabled to stimulate their intellectual faculties more than ever before. That the intellectual advancement of the people has not kept pace with the growth of what may be called external civilization, is evident; but it must be remembered how very little our ancestors had progressed beyond the stage of barbarism when Science inaugurated the present era of rapid changes. The world to-day is undergoing an entirely new experience. It has no precedents to guide it. It is plunged into conditions amid which it grows bewildered, and sometimes shows symptoms of losing its head. But notwithstanding the novelty of the situation it must be regarded as in the line of healthy progress, and though the tendency of sudden emancipation from long-borne yokes is generally towards flighty and extravagant courses, the ultimate consequences of making life sweeter, easier and more joyful to the many, cannot but be wholesome. Just now it seems to us that the most useful, because the most sobering knowledge that can be imparted to the people, and especially to the working classes, is the history of the past out of which they come, but concerning which they are more ignorant than they should be. It is the custom of the day for the poor to contrast their lot enviously with that of the rich. There is no useful lesson in this habit, but if they were enabled to compare their own condition with that of their class a generation or two ago, they would see that the world indeed moves, and that demagogues never lie more shamelessly and wickedly than when they declare that the condition of the masses has not been improved.

The poor man to-day can and does live more comfortably than the rich man lived a century and a half ago. One result of these material advances is that the masses are enabled to think. Educated men often lament the stupidity of the common people, and many affect to despair of the future because of it. Yet here again a candid comparison with the past will show that some real gain has been effected in the course of time, and that popular intelligence has grown with the material growth of the people. Free discussion has done this. For however crude and foolish the thoughts of newly enfranchised minds may be, it is impossible but that they should gather strength and judgment from constant friction. The habit of talking freely about grave questions engenders a habit of thinking. Brain growth comes by exercise of the cerebral faculties, and so, despite all the deadening influences of superstition and tradition, and custom and fashion and barbarism, the human mind has slowly worked its way forward, and has gained a higher position than it ever occupied before. It is true that this is not saying much. Indeed it is saying less than many people will be apt to imagine, for though the human mind has made some little progress, it is yet painfully far from the goal of even the most moderate ambition. The world, however, is not patient with its own growth. It is continually bewailing the sluggishness of civilization. But modern science should have taught it that improvement and growth of every kind in Nature are slow; so slow that it is only very recently men have begun to realize the vast periods of time consumed in these mutations. Civilization proceeds more rapidly than natural changes because, while the methods of Nature are constant and unvarying, Man possesses the power to assist his own progress in manifold ways by exerting his influence upon his surroundings, and by employing natural forces to accomplish his purposes. This is, however, true chiefly of material civilization. The growth of mind is slower, and in its phases more akin to the processes of Nature. To a certain extent, as we have shown, this increase of physical comforts facilitates and encourages intellectual development, but in other respects this very complexity of modern life tends to hamper mental growth, and by fixing all the energies upon sordid considerations, to blunt and stunt the intelligence. The proof that this is so may be found in the most cursory analysis of modern society. With all its pretensions to intellectuality, its real claims are almost absurdly inadequate. The culture of a very small section is made to do duty for the whole community. Fashion prescribes the solemn iteration of certain Shibboleths supposed to indicate familiarity and sympathy with Science, Literature and Art. But Fashion itself is emphatically and hopelessly a product of Barbarism, and in so far as it is still the controlling influence in society, that society is wanting in some vital elements of true civilization. Between the Fashion of London, Paris, New York, and San Francisco, and the Fashion of Ujiji, Unyoro, Fiji, Madagascar or any other stronghold of Savagism, the difference is merely of degree. Our wealthy women and girls who spent their lives in dressing themselves, in devising new costumes, in worshiping abjectly at the shrine of their pagan God, Fashion, are certainly not engaged in pursuits one whit more intellectual than those which absorb the faculties of their sisters upon the Blue Nile or the Amazon. Our energetic men who toil through all the best years of their lives in order that they may gratify the barbarous tastes of their wives and daughters; in order that they may live in larger houses, have finer furniture, give more ostentatious entertainments, outshine their neighbors in some way—are not engaged in more intellectual pursuits than the primitive Bongo or Dinka citizen follows when he seeks to surpass his friends by building up his fantastic coiffure to unimagined hights with ill-savored plaster, or decks his well-buttered body with an additional string of plaited grass, with the same end in view.

Thus the complexity of modern civilization tends to repress mental growth. The frivolities of what may be called merely animal rivalry and contention—the same kind of rivalry known to the lowest savages—are elaborated and expanded in these days until they afford employment for a lifetime, and countless thousands have become so absorbed in them as to know no other life. But it is evident that in this groove no advancement can be found. It is numbing and paralyzing to the mind. It is brutalizing, though it wears the mask of a higher civilization. There is no room for thought, for brain growth, for spiritual expansion, where the exacting idol Fashion holds sway, and unhappily millions pay allegiance to the goddess who are unaware that they are her faithful subjects. There is one fact which ought to give pause to the thoughtful. It is, that all important advances have been made hitherto by convention-breakers; that is to say, by people who have refused to follow the beaten paths, but have insisted on striking out ways for themselves. Herein lies the secret of all true progress, and the key to the problem of the slow growth of intelligence. And until an advance has been reached which will break the rule of Fashion, it is perhaps useless to anticipate an intellectual renaissance corresponding in extent and importance to the Scientific march of the present time. So far the situation seems to be embarrassed by the paradox that with the increase of physical comforts the difficulties of earning a sufficiency must grow, and that consequently the energies of men must be so monopolized by the cares of daily business as to leave no room for mental development. Coupling this with the physiological fact that reproduction is endangered by excessive cerebral cultivation, we seem to have reached the perplexing conclusion that civilization contains the seeds of its own destruction, and that its natural unfolding must at no remote period bring about its extinction. But it is reasonable to suppose that all the conditions of human existence are capable of being very greatly changed, and that the development of that philosophy which is beginning now to be adopted may in time produce a revolution even greater than the establishment of any great religion has caused in the past. It is conceivable that with the growth of Altruism may arise a more general inclination to do whatever can be done towards furthering the interests of the race. The Positivist idea of a Religion of Humanity has at least so much truth at bottom that a normal result of the better balancing of the physical and intellectual faculties must be the establishment of a common regard for Humanity as such. Of course these are but speculations. Whatever pronounced intellectual movement may be in store for the race is still in the womb of the future, and the peoples cling to the old dull mill-round of sordid pursuits, sordid pleasures, sordid imitations and apings of culture, which have been familiar from the beginning. The very fact, however, that modern civilization seems to point toward its own extirpation through the methods inseparable from its nature, warrants the belief that some factors of vital importance are yet to be discovered, and that, as the tendency of Nature is ever toward the perfecting of existing types, that tendency will be applied here with the usual results.

## OUR GIRLS.

An interesting lecture on this extremely fascinating topic was delivered the other night. The lecturer entertained sound views upon the desirability of enlarging the domestic education of girls, and expatiated feelingly upon the hopelessness of happiness in homes where the wife begins her married life without any knowledge of the duties she ought to perform. He was justly severe upon the frivolous "accomplishments" which are commonly thought to be necessary to the completion of a young woman's education, but which are so utterly useless from the moment she enters practical life. While, however, lectures on this subject may awaken thought in the minds of parents, they are not calculated to lead to practical results. Evidently what is needed is the introduction to the educational course of instruction in domestic duties. That is a clear and straightforward way to rectify the evils complained of, and we have just encountered one educational institution at least which has attempted this revolutionary scheme. We shall not give the name of the seminary, because we are not writing an advertisement. Suffice it to say that it is in Massachusetts. The circular that lies before us announces the "Third annual course of Object Lessons in Cooking," and it gives a programme of eleven lessons, at each of which either a meal or some particular dish is to be cooked by the teacher, and then eaten by the pupils. For example, the first lesson consists of "Stuffed leg of mutton, Boiled rice, "Mashed Potatoes, various modes of preparing cold potatoes, Pineapple Sherbet." Another consists of "Roast Beef, Beet "Steak, Celery Soup, Boiled Potatoes, "Vanilla Ice-cream." A third enters into the mysteries of preparations of cold meats, another deals with fish and fish balls and fish hash, and so forth. It is evident that a girl who had gone through the entire course conscientiously could not help learning something about cooking, and that she might easily be graduated as an accomplished cook. Nor is this the only radical reform instituted at the seminary in question. It has also classes in dress-making and millinery, where the young idea is taught to harmonize colors and material, to cultivate taste in dress, and to master the economics of those occult trades. When a young lady graduates from this advanced institution she is supposed to make her own spring suit and bonnet, and to cook a supper for her friends. It is evident that at least some of the time spent at this particular academy is not wasted.

Before civilization can make much further progress it is clear that domestic life must be amended in important respects, and above all in the culinary department. The barbarous notion that eating was somehow sinful, and that it was unworthy of intellectual beings to pay any attention to diet, has come down to us from the misty days of religious asceticism. It is physiologically and morally absurd, for nothing can be more certain than that the temper, culture and destiny of human beings depend very largely upon what they eat. The reckless use of indigestible food has made millions of people unhappy all their lives; has produced untold quarrels in families; has led to crime and disease and mental and bodily suffering beyond expression. Not to recognize this is to confess want of intelligence. Not to act upon the knowledge of it is still worse. It is, however, only through the education of women that the reform of the kitchen can be established. They are the natural rulers of the household, and unless they are taught to insist upon wholesome and rational methods of cooking, the old pernicious habits will be adhered to. It is idle to expect any change for the better from the domestic servants. They are either wedded to old-fashioned ways, or they simply know nothing at all about cooking. The latter state is perhaps the preferable one, since those who know nothing may be taught, while those who think they know something are generally above learning. A great deal of nonsense is talked about cooking, from the standpoint that women ought to reform the kitchen in order the better to manage their husbands. In truth it is a question of hygiene, and not of sentiment. Women enjoy good health as much as men do, and their own health is quite as intimately concerned as that of their husbands. Cooking reform may be pushed forward through the regular educational machinery with more prospect of success than in any other way. If colleges and schools of mechanic arts are to be established for the boys, it is equally desirable that schools of cookery should be founded for the girls. The utility of the latter is quite as plain as that of the former, and it is even possible that such schools would exercise a greater influence upon the civilization of the future than giving the boys trades is likely to do.

## BEARINGS OF THE MAINE CASE UPON THE FUTURE.

The *Nation* expresses the opinion that the most important consequences of the Maine case are likely to be developed in connection with the next Presidential election. Of this there can be no doubt. The failure of Congress to agree upon any plan for counting the Presidential vote threatens the country with dangers the reality and extent of which the Maine case renders conspicuous. It is, of course, impossible that another Presidential election should be settled as the last one was. No matter what complications may arise, it must be regarded as certain that no second Electoral Commission will be proposed or submitted to. The fact that the Democrats will control both branches of Congress puts that method of settlement out of the question. There is, however, no scheme proposed up to the present time which holds out any promise of security, or which commands the confidence of either party. And whatever sanguine hopes may have been entertained by optimist politicians as to the prospect of a smooth and peaceable solution, must melt away before the evidences afforded in Maine of the increasing audacity and unscrupulousness of faction. It has already been freely intimated that the Garcelon game is one which two can play at, and this cannot be regarded as an idle threat. It is in fact apparent that an unusually heated party struggle, such as the coming Presidential campaign is sure to be, may so intensify partisan passion that both sides will be prepared to imitate the Maine tactics wherever possible, and that thus the issue of the contest may be anarchy in a number of States at once. When once constitutional methods have been abandoned or overstepped, it is difficult to avoid further progress towards disorganization. At such times the usurpations committed by one party are availed of to justify still more daring encroachments by the other, and there is nothing to check this rivalry in lawlessness until the *ultima ratio regum* is reached, and the hostile factions confront one another in arms. The most insidious evil produced by such cases as that of Maine is the familiarity with unconstitutional methods which they engender. However shocked the intelligent lover of orderly government may at the outset be by the contemplation of these cases, it is impossible that their perpetration should not eventually lead him to regard them as admissible resorts, at least for his own party. Maine is to-day a "shocking example," and the danger is that the precedent set by her may be followed by other States when general excitement has still further deadened the popular reverence for constitutional methods.

Nor does it seem probable that Congress will be able to come to any agreement upon the vital question of the Presidential count. Party fears and hopes and interests are powerful agents in dissuading members from urging any measures the effect of which may be to deprive them at a critical juncture of some tempting opportunity to advance their own cause. If it were broadly alleged that neither party was willing to forego the possibility of employing improper methods to insure success, the imputation would probably be denied indignantly. Yet it is clear that something closely resembling this feeling must be at the bottom of the indisposition to settle the question which characterizes the political leaders on both sides. It certainly cannot be impossible to find a way of making the count fairly and surely, and it is as certainly the duty of Congress to discover and apply this method. But though there has been a good deal of debate on the question, and though many suggestions have been made, there is no indication that any one of these finds favor in the eyes of either Republicans or Democrats, and meantime the country is steadily drifting towards complications and dangers, the extent of which cannot be estimated, but the reality of which is apparent to all. The last Presidential dispute was a warning. It carried the country so near to shipwreck that the escape was almost miraculous. No one believes that the same feat can be accomplished a second time, and every one sees that the probability of a close election is very strong. The responsibility which rests upon Congress is extremely grave. The time for action is passing away rapidly. In a few months the country will be in the throes of another Presidential campaign, and with the Maine case before its eyes it would be fatuous to expect that it will be more than ordinarily guarded in its political strategy. There ought to be no doubt as to the manner in which the count will be made; but as a fact there is no knowledge whatever as to what the future has in store in this regard. An urgent appeal should therefore be made to Congress to settle this vital question, and pressure should be brought to bear upon members from both sides, to induce them to banish partisan bitterness at least long enough to save their country from the threatened confusion, and all the ills that confusion may entail.

## THE DELEGATION QUESTION.

After a long debate yesterday the Senate voted by a considerable majority to send a local bill to the San Francisco delegation. The opposition which was offered to this very reasonable and legitimate proposition appears to us to have been in the main unjustified. The reference of local bills to local delegations has always been a question of parliamentary courtesy, and while it presumably secures the interests of the locality concerned, it does not deprive it of the protection which the entire Senate can extend in the case of vicious legislation. As all bills are printed and furnished to every member, all can follow the course of proposed measures, and can at need interfere to prevent the passage of objectionable laws. In referring local bills to the San Francisco delegation the Senate surrenders no whit of its power over them. It can recall them at will, and it can pass them or reject them as it may seem fit. But the relations of San Francisco to the rest of the State are in some respects peculiar. Whatever legislation applies to cities of over 100,000 inhabitants, for instance, must apply to her, and cannot apply to any other part of California. To call this special legislation is to betray ignorance of what special legislation means. The Constitution expressly prohibits that kind of legislation in thirty-two enumerated cases, and generally "in all other "cases where a general law can be made "applicable." There are, however, many cases in which a general law cannot be made applicable, and in all of these special legislation is unavoidable. It would, for example, be impracticable to pass a general law for the building of levees around cities, because there are only a few cities which require levees. In the same way it would be nonsense to call a law general which applied only to cities having over 100,000 inhabitants, because there is only one city answering that description in the State. It is further desirable that the San Francisco delegation should be made to bear its full burden of responsibility for whatever bad legislation it may propose. To relieve it from that would be to afford its members an easy escape from the reproaches of their constituents, and would take from the latter one effective agency for keeping their representatives within the line of duty. It is not possible that the San Francisco delegation can secure any more power or influence by having local bills referred to it, and altogether it is much better that the existing practice should be respected and maintained.

## A STATE CONSTABULARY.

We hope the present Legislature will establish a State Constabulary. It is an institution which has long been needed, and which nothing else can supply the place of. At present there are many counties in the State where crime can be committed with comparative impunity, because the county is too poor to pursue and capture the criminal. It is indeed seldom that a Sheriff or his deputies are disposed to travel far beyond the boundaries of their own county in pursuit of offenders against the laws, and one result is that a great many crimes, and sometimes even the most atrocious ones, go unpunished. A State Constabulary is, therefore, needed to police the whole State, to be ready at all times to pursue escaped convicts or criminals fleeing beyond the bounds of the counties where their crime was committed. Such a force would prove of the very greatest assistance to the Sheriffs. It would be specially available against stage robbers, and would in a short time doubtless put an end to that business altogether. Placed under the control of the Executive, and superintended by some veteran police or other officer, it would add greatly to the security of the public, and would certainly repay its cost in a short time. The arguments in favor of a State Constabulary are many and powerful, and in so extensive a territory there is much more need for it than could exist in a more confined area. Such a force has for many years been established in Australia and New Zealand, and it has been found the only means of repressing the bush-rangers, whose facilities for rapid change of base have put them entirely beyond the reach of local authorities. The State Constabulary might easily be made to play an important part in a scheme of penal reform, moreover, by being charged with the supervision of discharged convicts, and the duty, when necessary, of protecting and encouraging reformed and industrious members of that class. A large force would not be required, but it would have to be composed of picked men, and all of them should be familiar with detective business.

## THE INCREASING USE OF OPIUM.

A bill has been introduced to the Assembly dealing with the vice of opium-smoking by penal prohibition. Whether such a law will serve the purpose of breaking up this practice must be considered doubtful, since stringent local ordinances have hitherto been found insufficient to check it. It is, however, the fact that the opium habit has for some time been extending in this State, and that in the principal cities it has attained really alarming proportions. We have been recently informed that it has made considerable advances of late in Sacramento, and it is well known that in San Francisco and other towns it is firmly established. It ought to be generally known that this habit is even more ruinous to health than drinking, and that when it is practiced by youths of either sex it is liable to undermine the constitution, impair the digestive organs, and plant the seeds of life-long disease and misery. It is a habit, too, which is alike insidious in its growth, and difficult to eradicate. It is far more tyrannous and persistent than any other craving, if perhaps we except the inherited tendency to alcoholism. The victim of the opium-habit becomes the abject slave of the indulgence. He is incapable, after a time, of doing anything without the accustomed stimulant, and when abandoned to its enjoyment he soon ceases to be responsible for his actions. As practiced in California the use of opium, moreover, brings the victim in contact with the most repulsive and contaminating forms of Chinese filth and disease. The dens in which opium is smoked are disgusting in all their details, while the acquaintances made there are of the most objectionable kind. Boys and girls who may think it an evidence of spirit and "goaheaditiveness" to smoke opium, should be made to understand that in doing so they are risking their health, and very possibly their lives. The vice is one for which no palliation can be found, when it is indulged by white people, though it is conceivable that a person who has had the misfortune to be born a Chinaman may be disposed to fly to the seductive poppy for oblivion. If the practice can be suppressed by legislation there can be no doubt of the wisdom of enacting such a measure as may meet the requirements of the case, and the experiment is worth trying, even though former attempts have not been particularly successful.

## THE NEMESIS OF LITERARY PIRACY.

If an international copyright law is ever secured it is probable that it will be urged upon Congress by American publishers who have found that the absence of such a law is a sword that cuts both ways. A few days ago we recounted the particulars of the piracy of the Encyclopedia Britannica. That was a case in which the advantage seemed to lie with the American publisher altogether. It is not always so, however. For example, the three leading English monthlies, the *Contemporary Review*, the *Fortnightly Review*, and the *Nineteenth Century*, have been republished in New York, and so cheaply that they are brought within the reach of every one. The first result of this stroke of business was to force the *North American* and the *International* reviews to issue monthly, but it is fast becoming apparent that this change will not save them. They cannot command the literary talent which is at the service of the English reviews, and they cannot sell at a price which will compete with the pirated American editions of these publications. They are thus put at a fatal disadvantage, both as regards quality and cost, and it is impossible to see any way of relief for them. So long as the American reader can procure the best results of the best minds of Europe for twenty cents a month, it is unlikely that he will care to spend five times that amount upon inferior literature. Of course, too, this piracy of periodicals tends to cut the ground from under American authors. When publishers can take the products of the most cultivated brains in Europe for nothing, they are not likely to be willing to pay much for native work. When the publishers of American reviews and magazines have to compete with pirated English periodicals of course they cannot pay high prices for original matter. It is, in fact, only the thieves who can make anything out of this situation. Probably in a little while the American reviews will be suspended, and there will be no longer any field for American writers of the higher class. And then people will wonder why literature does not thrive in this country, and why we are so dependent upon Europe for our ideas.

## THE QUESTION OF MILEAGE.

Under the Codes members of the Legislature were allowed fifteen cents a mile as mileage. The new Constitution (Article IV., Section 23) provides that "The members of the Legislature shall receive for "their services a per diem and mileage, to "be fixed by law, and paid out of the "public treasury; such per diem shall not "exceed eight dollars, and such mileage "shall not exceed ten cents per mile, and "for contingent expenses not exceeding "twenty-five dollars for each session." This provision is of course inconsistent with the Codes, but the Constitution provides (Article XXII., Section 1) that "The "provisions of all laws which are inconsistent with this Constitution shall cease "upon the adoption thereof, except that "all laws which are inconsistent with such "provisions of this Constitution as require "legislation to enforce them shall remain in "full force until the first day of July, eighteen hundred and eighty, unless sooner altered or repealed by the Legislature." It is clear from this that the Legislature is not estopped from paying itself mileage at the old rate, and the committee charged with the subject has already, in the Assembly, reported in favor of fixing it at fifteen cents per mile. There is no constitutional objection to this course, but there is an objection founded on expediency, which we think members would do well to consider. It is evident that the purpose of the Constitution was to reduce the rate of mileage, and while the amount of money involved is not large, it would certainly make a better appearance if the Legislature manifested a determination to accept this and other intended retrenchments frankly. The question is of no great consequence, but members who desire to stand well with the people must evince some disposition to deal tenderly with the contents of the State treasury.

## QUEER IDEAS OF LEGISLATION.

The other day an Assemblyman introduced a bill providing that nobody should be employed at less than $2 50 a day. That was the gist of the proposition, and of course it was thrown out, but it serves to illustrate a kind of popular ideas which are much more prevalent than is commonly supposed. The theory of dependence upon the State for everything, or, in other words, of paternal government, is not American. It was hatched in the nest of European Socialism, and it is really the result of ignorance of free institutions. No American-born man would ever think of such a device as making Government fix the rate of wages. The continental Socialists, however, never having known what liberty was, have conceived the most erroneous notions of the functions of governments. Their ambition is to make the State do everything for the citizen; find him work, pay him wages, regulate his meal hours, prescribe his diet, provide his amusements, dictate his beverages, and in short conduct him in leading strings all through life. That is the idea of Continental Socialism, and that is the doctrine which is relied upon by a great many people who nevertheless imagine that they are basing their beliefs upon American principles. Individual independence is the highest expression of human freedom; and individual independence is as far as the poles are apart from paternal government. All that the State can and must do is to secure a fair field and no favor to all the people. That accomplished, every tub must stand upon its own bottom. Men will rise or fall according to their merits. Wages will be governed by natural laws. The Government cannot take the first step in that direction without encroaching upon the freedom of the citizen.

## NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE IN HAMBURG.

A Hamburg journal has suddenly vindicated the claim of the German press to be regarded as "enterprising," by the cool perpetration of an invention which was calculated to produce serious consequences. It printed a highly sensational story of how a Russian regiment quartered at Kalisch had invited the officers of a German regiment stationed just across the frontier to dine with them; of how the Russian hosts had grossly insulted their guests during a political discussion; and of how the Russian Colonel had only averted bloodshed, (it is ingenuously intimated that the Russian officers proposed to ambush and massacre their late guests), by sending the Germans home under a strong cavalry escort. Of course the greatest indignation was caused throughout Germany by the publication of this affair, and it was roundly alleged that it had been deliberately arranged in order to intensify the already hostile sentiment between the two nations. In the midst of the agitation, however, comes a statement from the German Colonel commanding the regiment whose name had been so freely used, to the effect that there is not a word of truth in the story; that there has been no such invitation from the Russians, no such dinner, and consequently no such insult. It remains to be seen how the enterprising Hamburg paper will extricate itself. An American journal would know how to explain the whole matter in a plausible way, but it is to be feared that the practice of "journalism" has been too recently begun in Germany to expect any adroitness in this direction on the occasion of so awkward an exposure.

# A MARVELOUS TALE.

### A FRESNO COUNTY SMALL FARMER TELLS OF A WONDERFUL GROWTH.

### Interesting Information for Intending Immigrants, and Statements of Plain Facts.

SANDERS (Fresno co.), Jan. 12, 1880.

In presenting this series of articles to show to people coming into our State, and others unacquainted with our soil and climate, that an improved farm of twenty acres here will support a family, and enable a man to lay up money besides, I must first show what can be successfully raised here, its cost and its value. To lead a man from the northern Mississippi valley to believe that twenty acres here will equal the average farm there in the production of wheat and Indian corn would be the grossest deception. Yet I've often heard just such misrepresentations. Another kind of deception is one that the new-comer too often practices upon himself. He comes, say from southern Illinois, where corn, mules and pork are the cash products of the country. He is bound to make the same succeed here.

HE TRIES IT AND FAILS.

His corn doesn't yield as it did back in "Egypt;" his hogs require feed during the long dry season, and his band of young mules, bred with great care and expense, cannot be kept except within fences made at enormous cost; so, after losing whatever means he began with, he finds, too late, that this is not a corn country; that the "hog men" only can raise pork profitably, and that they do it by herding immense bands of hogs in the foothills, where they fatten on acorns and roots while the ground is wet, and then driving them to the tules, where they fatten on the masses of marsh-growth of roots and plants during the dry season; that the country's supply of horses and mules is raised much in the same way that hogs are raised, by "hog men," or "mule men," as the case may be. Perhaps the collapsed farmer has tried irrigation in his corn, mule and hog farming, so he considers himself amply competent to pass judgment upon that, too, as a failure and a humbug. So he decides and proclaims that the best farming business of our State can only be successfully conducted by people leading barbarous, wandering lives, and that the country generally is overrated and a humbug. That no system of small farming, giving near neighbors, good schools and society, with general thrift and advancement in wealth, can ever be developed here. All this he feels himself amply competent to decide, because he has failed to make Illinois rules apply to California farming. There are plenty of just such

SELF-APPOINTED JUDGES

In the world, especially in California. Having given this glance at the way *not* to succeed, I will now consider the twenty-acre farm and what to raise on it. Our lands are perfectly level, so that when the ditches are once made by the proprietor of the colony, a simple furrow will convey water anywhere over a twenty-acre tract. Our true home-maker reasons thus: I must have four head of cattle, including at least two cows—one to be fresh in milk in the autumn and the other in spring. I must also have from two to four horses—work horses and a saddle horse. What can I plant to keep my six or eight head of stock in the best condition on the least possible area of land? If he is not one of the kind that already knows it all, he probably reasons somewhat in this wise: Portions of India, China and Africa, with a light soil and hot, dry climate, represented to be the counterpart of what I find here, support the densest population on earth. How do they do it? What is their feed for the domestic animals? He consults authorities for information. He probably among others reads the article "China," by Dr. Wylie, in the New American Cyclopedia. He sees there that "millet" is the principal crop of that densely populated region. He soon finds, however, that he is not the first to gather this knowledge; that the same "millet," so long grown in that populous region of ancient civilization, is now the principal grain of our Fresno irrigated small farms, where it yields from 40 to over 100 bushels per acre; that it is suited only to a hot, dry climate; that it will give a larger yield on poorer land, and with less moisture, than any other grain; that the grain is of the greatest value for stock feed; and when ground makes most excellent hot-cakes, muffins, etc.; or cooked whole, is an excellent substitute for rice. He also finds that its near relative, the dhoura, the veritable

"CORN OF EGYPT,"

Spoken of in the beautiful story of "Joseph and his Brethren" in the Old Bible, has also been brought here and is, by its perfect adaptability to our soil and climate, vieing with its yield in ancient Egypt in the "seven years of plenty." Baker, the great African traveler, speaks of this as yielding 500 bushels of grain per acre, in one season, along the Nile; and, incredible as this may seem, one here can well believe it after seeing a crop of ripe heads gathered from the same stalks every thirty days from July till frost comes, new crops of heads constantly forming on limbs growing out of the joints of the stalks, or on the top of suckers growing up from the roots. A few days of examination of what he can see anywhere about him here, and he resolves that whatever the "dent corn" may be for Illinois, these are certainly better for the dry plains of California. When our most intelligent seeker after truth, who wishes to apply his knowledge in the making of a small farm home here, has gone with me thus far, perhaps he is prepared to learn from the men in coarse clothes, doing their own work here about their homes, how to make a living, a home, and lay up money on a twenty-acre Fresno farm. If so, as one of the number of

LABORING SMALL FARMERS,

He'll find me here at work. I'll drop the form of description followed so far, and confine myself to concise statements of facts about our county products—such facts as I shall be most happy to verify to immigrants and others calling on me here, who may think of making our county their home.

The China corn was introduced by me from interior China four years ago. I got only a spoonful of seed in a letter. From this I sold over $150 worth of seed. It grew on three square rods of ground. In 1878 I sold $100 worth of that and dhoura together to the Agricultural Department at Washington, D. C., grown from less than ten rods of ground. Now everybody raises it. This year a portion of mine that received neither irrigation nor culture yielded at the rate of 3,600 lbs. of clean grain per acre. It cost no labor till it was gathered, except the dropping of the seed in every third furrow while the ground was being plowed. The most ordinary of this grain is now selling in lots for feed at 1¼ cents per lb., while choice lots are selling at 5 cents per lb. for seed. The cost for harvesting and thrashing is less than for barley or wheat, and besides, it can all be done by a man's own labor, thereby enabling the farmer to turn his time into money at home during autumn.

OF FORAGE PLANTS,

We have the alfalfa in perfection. But we also have a half dozen better ones. Years ago I learned that the chief forage plant of hot, dry, interior India is a millet of immense growth, bearing the ponderous botanic name of *Pernicillaria spicata*. I subsequently found that, like wheat, oats and other grain long under human control, it consists of many varieties, some of gigantic growth, some dwarf, some suited to growth under conditions of extreme heat and drought, and some of a nature the very opposite. Two years ago I obtained some seed from the region of greatest dryness in that country. I planted it, and but for the fact that thousands who read this article will hereafter see its growth and verify my statement, I would not give a statement of its growth. From a single seed a bunch grew

SEVENTEEN FEET IN HIGHT.

It contained at time of frost 307 heads, including the ripened ones already cut off; 176 heads matured their seeds. From less than two ounces of seed I raised over 400 pounds of seed that year. It required 178 days, from the time of planting, to mature the first heads, but from that time on they were constantly ripening. A bunch of it can be grown from a single seed that will weigh over 100 pounds at the end of its year's growth. Allowing such a growth on each square foot of ground—which is possible, as it is 20 feet in hight—and you have the enormious yield of over 2,000 tons of green feed per acre. For hay it should be cut every thirty days, while yet in leaf growth, and irrigated if possible after each cutting. When so treated the yield is so

ENORMOUS,

Compared with our ideas formed from the growth of other plants, that a mere statement of it seems to invite doubt and incredulity, but with the old stalks which have produced seed still standing in my field, and the certainty of producing a like crop next year, I send this statement out to the world: Fifty tons of hay, or 2,000 tons of green feed can be produced on an acre of ground. Perhaps the amount of hay is given too small, but on account of the tender juiciness of the leaves they dry away more than any other plant I ever saw.

Stock eat it with the utmost avidity; and it shows the most valuable qualities as a forage plant in the production of flesh, and also butter and milk of superior quality. So our small farmer has narrowed his pasture, hay-field and grain-field, necessary to keep his farm stock, down to an area of less than four acres. At the same time he has, doubtless, added to his stock a band of a half-dozen Angora goats (worth here about the same price as sheep), these to supply his family with fresh meat occasionally, and their hides to make neat and useful buggy robes and floor mats. So he is now supplied with a home, let us hope a residence surrounded by evergreens, which grow so quickly and beautifully on our irrigated plains; and has his fat farm animals, and has a constant family supply of butter and milk and meat, and has not yet used a quarter of his twenty acres.

W. A. SANDERS.

## THE DEBRIS QUESTION.

EDS. RECORD-UNION: I noticed in your Thursday's issue what I considered to be a fair and candid statement of the mining debris question by a citizen of Marysville, under the signature of "Taxpayer." I wish to dissent from the views expressed by "Granger," as they appear to be more in the form of special pleading by an attorney than that of a person who seeks to redress great public wrongs. "Granger" says that the injury resulting from the mining debris is local. I object to any such premises being assumed. I would ask "Granger" if the navigation of our rivers is local; if the destruction of their free navigation is a local question? Is the destruction of our inland commerce also local? Is the reclamation of our swamp land local, when not only the State but each and every citizen has a direct interest in its reclamation, and also in free navigation and inland commerce? In my judgment the Legislature is the only power that possesses the right to act summarily on this subject. There is too much "red-tape" at Washington to hope for a speedy remedy, though I fully indorse Representative Berry's bill for relief. If the State has not the right to protect its property, and also to redress public wrongs and legislate for the general welfare, then I should like to ask "Granger" where that right is vested? No statesman or eminent jurist will, I think, deny either the right or power of the State to control such questions. I will only say that all the law authorities support this position and also deny the right of any individual company or corporation to carry on business in such a way as to injure or destroy either the rights or property of other persons. They also declare that the destruction or obstruction of navigable water is a public wrong—that the destruction either of commerce or public property is a public wrong. It is not alone the great valleys which are threatened, but also our inland commerce and State property. Will any one deny but that the State has the right and power to protect these interests? All such questions have long since been settled by the intervention of the State power, and that power has been exercised for centuries in England. Who can doubt the right or power of the State's General in Holland to bar out by taxation the wild waves of the North Sea to save their Fatherland? Congress assumes the right to tax its citizens for the general welfare and sometimes when the benefit is strictly local. Hundreds of millions have been appropriated by Congress for the public benefit or welfare in the improvement of harbors and rivers, also in fortifications, with large grants of lands and subsidies for railway purposes. This has been done by Congress when there was no danger to existing public rights. How much greater the necessity for legislative action when our inland navigation and commerce is threatened with destruction by mining debris. This question is a great State question—overshadowing all other questions of State policy or State interest. The Supreme Court of the United States has never expressed any doubt either as to the power or right of Congress to legislate upon all such subjects, and also to make appropriations for all such purposes. If there is any question over which the Legislature has supreme control, it is that of legislation for the general welfare of all its citizens. Hydraulic miners have no vested right to commit a public wrong. They have no vested right to destroy free navigation or inland commerce. They also have no vested right to destroy State property. The city of Sacramento includes within its limits millions of State property. Is this property to be destroyed by the present system of hydraulic mining? Has the State no power to intervene to save this property from destruction? Must free navigation, inland commerce and our railway system be swept away because the State is powerless? That is a problem which I believe it is the duty of the present Legislature successfully to solve. Not only the valley of the Sacramento, with its towns and cities, but also that of the San Joaquin, is imperiled; the destruction of one entails the loss of the other. Is the city of San Francisco willing to sever her connection with the East overland? Will that great commercial city have no voice in the matter of her eastern and southern railway system, in the loss of her inland commerce and Eastern trade? Other nations, as well as other States, have successfully solved problems by action. I agree with the RECORD-UNION that it will require a general system of drainage and reclamation under the supervision of the State, to save our valleys and preserve our inland commerce. I also deeply regret that California is the only State that does not possess the right or power to legislate for the general welfare of all its citizens.

E. S. HALL.

Plymouth, January 12, 1880.