THE DAILY RECORD-UNION.

TUESDAY.....FEBRUARY 17, 1880.

NEWS OF THE MORNING.

IN New York yesterday Government bonds were quoted at 106⅞ for 4s of 1907; 103½ for 5s of 1881; 109¾ for 4½s; sterling, $4 84@4 86½; silver bars, 113½; silver coin, ¼ discount buying, par selling.

SILVER in London yesterday, 52 9-16; consols, 98 3-16; 5 per cent. United States bonds, 105¾; 4s, 109¾; 4½s, 111¾.

IN San Francisco half dollars are quoted at par; Mexican dollars, 80 buying, 91½ selling.

AT Liverpool yesterday wheat was quoted at 10s 3d@10s 9d for average California white, and 10s 9d to 11s 4d for club.

MINING stocks opened very quiet in San Francisco yesterday morning. There was a little show of confidence and activity at the early informal call, but business developed more sellers than buyers, and operators lost what little hope they had. Utah and Sierra Nevada each rose $1, but the advance was frittered away before the close of the call. The market is simply flat and listless.

A DIVIDEND of 30 cents has been declared by the Eureka Consolidated Mining Company.

THE Pioneer Woolen Mills Company of San Francisco have discharged all their Chinese employes, the jute company of Oakland following suit.

IN Long valley, Monterey county, a 13-year-old boy perished in the flames of a burning house.

A CHINAMAN died at Virginia, Nev., Saturday, of starvation.

BY an explosion of a boiler at Seaforth, Ont., a building was demolished and an engineer killed.

A RAILWAY train was attacked in Spain Sunday by brigands, but they were driven off by the guard.

SERIOUS complications have arisen between England and Persia, touching Herat.

THE Duchess of Marlborough writes that the danger from famine in Ireland now appears over.

TWO SUICIDES occurred in Chicago Sunday—pistol and laudanum.

CHARLES LANE killed his wife at Balsbridge, Pa., poisoned his three children, and then committed suicide.

A HEAVY snow-storm prevailed yesterday at Portland, Or.

JAMES MATTHEWS was killed by falling from the royal yard of a vessel, Sunday, near Astoria, Or.

THE losses to farmers of the United Kingdom during 1879 are estimated at from £100,000,000 to £150,000,000.

THE Pope has issued an encyclical letter condemnatory of divorce.

SEVERAL chiefs have revolted against King John of Abyssinia.

THE white steerage passengers of the City of Peking were released from the quarantine hulk at San Francisco yesterday. The Chinese must stay.

ELWOOD, who shot Penter at Shingle Springs Sunday, has been arrested and is in jail at Placerville.

G. W. CARLTON, the slayer of Brummett at Hollister, has been held to answer without bail.

ONE of the columns in pursuit of Indians in Arizona was compelled to retreat on the 8th inst., losing their rations, etc.

A GREAT conflagration was raging on the 1st inst. at the capital of the Republic of Salvador.

THE unemployed Workingmen held another meeting in San Francisco yesterday, which was addressed by Mayor Kalloch.

CALEB JOHNSON stabbed and killed Benjamin Joiner at Mokelumne Hill yesterday.

ENGLAND is to advance Ireland £750,000, instead of £50,000, as originally intended.

A WOMAN at New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, yesterday gave birth to five finely developed children—three girls and two boys—all doing well.

THE Superintendent of Census knows of no legal reasons why women should not be appointed as Enumerators.

A desperate, though unsuccessful, attempt was made by the prisoners in the jail at Cheyenne last night to escape.

IN the State Senate yesterday a very large amount of business was transacted and the file entirely cleared.

IN the Assembly yesterday there was another noisy scene, which culminated in the arrest of one member.

DR. MAY ON PRESCRIPTION COMMISSIONS.

Dr. May yesterday let in considerable light upon the subject of the percentage or commission paid to physicians by druggists, and in doing so enforced the arguments in favor of the bill directed against that practice. He disclosed a professional secret by informing the Assembly that when some doctors wrote prescriptions for their patients they added to them certain letters which indicated to the druggist how much he was to charge for the medicine. The method followed is that used in trade-marks ordinarily. A word is selected containing ten letters, or a number of words which together contain the same number, and each letter is made to represent a numeral. In the case cited by Dr. May the word used was "republican," and in the instance quoted by him the letters taken from this word and put in the prescription informed the druggist that he was to charge $2 50 for medicine not really worth the odd fifty cents. Of course it is evident that if the physician has the power of fixing the price to be charged for drugs, he can graduate his charges in accordance with his knowledge of the patient's financial condition. It is a method which dispenses with all the commercial principles which govern ordinary business, however, and partakes largely of that refreshing freehandedness which we are accustomed to associate with the habits of the extinct order known as knights of the road, or, vulgarly, highwaymen. Patients do not pay, under such a system, the commercial value of the medicines prepared for them, but they pay whatever their doctor thinks they can stand, or whatever will leave a sufficiently handsome margin for commission. It is, we think, sufficiently clear that this abuse has reached the stage which justifies legislative interference. It is one of those evils which cannot be left to their own working for correction, for the reason that it is a combination by which two persons profit at the expense of a third, who, from the very nature of the conditions, can exercise no influence upon the result.

SATTERWHITE'S WATER BILL.

A debate occurred in the Senate yesterday upon Satterwhite's water or irrigation bill, some of the peculiarities of which we recently pointed out. Though the bill is of the briefest, it is not easy to determine its "true inwardness," without special information such as is only open to a select few in cases of this kind. What is evident upon its face, however, is, that it puts the riparian proprietor at the mercy of some indeterminate snapper-up of water-rights, who may at any time step in and virtually confiscate the whole of the stream that flows through any man's land, and not leave him enough to cook his dinner or wash his face with. The apparent pretense for the creation of this right of deprivation or confiscation is the paramount importance of irrigation, but it is obvious that in such a case a great deal remains to be said on behalf of the riparian proprietor. In the face of such a law, the existence of a stream on a piece of land put in market would amount to an actual dawback to its value, for Mr. Satterwhite has reduced the riparian proprietor to his very lowest denomination by making him merely the tenant-at-will of the world at large, and vesting all and sundry the rest of the community with the power to dispossess him at any moment, by merely pronouncing the talismanic word "irrigation!" We cannot see that a law of this kind is in any way calculated to improve the existing condition of water rights, which are already tangled and confused to such an extent that apparently nobody has any real rights or privileges with regard to water but professional monopolists. To invent now a statute by which a riparian proprietor shall be made fair game for any plotting water prospector, does not strike us as in the line of sound legislation.

CORPORATIONS AND THE CHINESE.

Pending the adjudication by the Courts of the constitutionality of the law just enacted prohibiting the employment of Chinese by corporations, the statute will apparently be submitted to by those who are affected by it. But it does not appear from the developments already made that it is likely to help white labor in any way, while it is evident that in specific cases it will injure the very element it was intended to benefit. It seems probable that in a number of cases where the force of workmen employed was partly white and partly Chinese, the business conducted will be closed, thus reducing the employment of white labor. No doubt it will be alleged by the Sandlotters that these corporations ought to fill the places of the Chinese with white men, and continue their business, but that is obviously a matter which the corporations will decide for themselves, and if they conclude that it will not pay to continue work under the new conditions, there is no way by which they can be compelled to act against their own judgment. There are many young and struggling industries in the State which have only got a foothold through the advantage of a particularly cheap form of labor. In most of these cases it has been the practice to employ white men for all the less mechanical and servile operations, and Chinese for those which demanded only steady application. As without Chinese labor the fair presumption is that none of these industries would have been projected at all, it follows that the employment they afforded to white men was so much clear gain. The theory of the Sandlotters, that it makes no difference to the profits of a manufacturer whether white or Chinese labor is employed, is, unfortunately for them, one which can only be tested by the employers; and if they declare that they are unable to manufacture profitably if forbidden to employ Chinese, we do not see how any appeal from that decision is to be taken.

In regard to the railroad companies, inquiry shows that they are not now employing more than a score or so of Chinamen in the State, and therefore the new law, even if constitutional, could make no opening for white labor in that direction. In fact it seems probable that the corporations generally either do not employ Chinese at all, or employ them in such relations with white labor that one cannot be discarded without the other. It is tolerably clear that no gain to the Sandlotters is likely to come from the strictest application of the new law, therefore; while it is equally plain that in certain instances positive injury to the cause of white labor will result from it. Of the Chinese in California a very small percentage would seem to be employed by corporations. A considerable percentage is no doubt absorbed by domestic service and the laundry business. When the manufactures of cigars and boots and shoes are added to this list, the bulk of the working Chinese will be accounted for. The corporation law therefore cannot be said to exercise any appreciable influence upon the labor situation, but what influence it does exert is prejudicial to white labor. This is a curious outcome of sand-lot legislation, though it ought not, perhaps, to surprise those who have noted the vague and impractical tendencies of that kind of statesmanship. The first effect of the passage of the statute is to increase the number of unemployed white workingmen in San Francisco. So far there is no indication that it will make a single new opening to compensate for this direct injury. If manufacturers close their factories now, moreover, the chances are that they will keep them closed, for if cheap labor is indispensable to the continuance of their business, and they cannot employ Chinese, it follows that the only way white men can secure the vacated places is to accept Chinese wages, and as they are not prepared for that, the prospect of a restoration of manufacturing industry must be regarded as very poor. The Sandlotters are now trying a series of experiments of a very dangerous kind for themselves and the community, and if these experiments produce unexpected and calamitous results, they will only have their own folly to blame for it.

A NEW YORK CRITICISM.

The New York *Insurance Monitor* is the best of that class of special publications in the country, and is recognized as high authority on all questions relating to insurance. In its February issue it has a brief article on the insurance bills before the California Legislature, in which it remarks that Senate Bill No. 107 "appears to be "one of those vicious measures which "short-sighted men will advocate when "they attempt legislation on those topics "with which they have no real intimacy." The *Monitor* characterizes the following as "among the objectionable features" of the bill: "(1.) That all the local companies "shall increase their capital to $500,000. "(2.) That all foreign companies whose "paid-up capital is less than $500,000 "shall be excluded. (3.) The maintenance of an office in California "where transfer of stock shall be "made. (4.) The valued policy feature. "(5.) The nullification of the arbitration "and appraisement clauses in policies, as "well as the requirement to submit to "examination under oath of the insured. "(6.) Providing for the personal liability "of stockholders in all companies doing "business in the State. If the law passes, "and its requirements in detail should be "sustained by the Courts, it would banish "the bulk of the companies now doing "business in that State." The *Monitor* does not seem to realize that this is precisely what the bills now pending are intended to do, and that if that result can be attained, the supporters of the bills will be entirely satisfied, though in such a case the interests of the public must be sacrificed. It is, however, somewhat reassuring to observe that the Senate Committee on Corporations (as will be seen by our legislative report this morning,) does not intend to recommend these bills for passage in the shape they were in when referred. Our only doubt is whether it can be possible to make a really safe and good bill out of either of them, for while, as we have pointed out, there are existing abuses in the insurance business which call for abatement, it is very questionable whether the remedies for them could be satisfactorily engrafted upon such conspicuously bad foundations. It would probably be both the wisest and easiest course to draft an entirely new bill to meet the requirements of the case.

MORE BAD BEHAVIOR.

Two members of the Assembly yesterday renewed the disgraceful conduct which at the beginning of the session brought that chamber into so much discredit. Maybell began the offensive business, and Tyler followed suit. The first was very properly rebuked by the Speaker, and thereupon subsided, but the second had to be taken in charge of by the Sergeant-at-Arms, brought to the bar of the House, and there severely lectured, before he could be persuaded to behave himself properly. If, as seems probable, the members who have too little self-respect to conduct themselves with propriety are beyond the reach of remonstrance and protest, the Assembly ought to give the Speaker a prompt and general support in curbing their intolerably bad behavior. It is impossible that the public business can be transacted properly while such scenes as that of yesterday are permitted, and it ought not to be necessary to point out that every member is insulted and discredited whenever the dignity of the Assembly is thus outraged, and the rules of parliamentary procedure are thus brutally violated. The very next time any outbreak of this kind occurs the Speaker should inflict a punishment sufficiently sharp to bring the unruly and turbulent members to their senses, and the House should sustain him resolutely in the infliction of it. If this course is not taken it is clear that the Assembly will soon be degraded to the low level of a ward club or a common "dive."

NEWS TAILINGS.

There are said to be 5,000 Germans in Leadville.

Coasting accidents are of daily occurrence in Bodie.

Mumps are prevalent in many of our California towns.

The Vallejo public schools are attended by 1,000 children.

Rev. Mr. Anderson, late of San Jose, has been engaged as pastor of the Episcopal church at Eugene, Oregon.

Father Veatch died at Cottage Grove, Western Oregon, on the 3d inst. He was 93 years of age, had been married seven times, and was the father of 23 children.

The Truckee river is running full of sawdust. No wonder the fish do not come up. And yet the Truckee people persist there is no sawdust in the river.—[Reno Journal.

Much building is in progress throughout the Willamette valley, and almost all the local sawmills are running on extra time. Many old rail fences thrown down by the storm will be rebuilt with lumber.

Some black sand, containing gold dust, has been exhibited in Seattle, which is said to have been obtained in the Black hills, not over ten miles from Olympia. Some parties propose investigating the matter.

The Indians all through the mountains of San Diego are very near starving. The failure of the pinyon and acorn crops last year left them without any winter supplies. They have been killing cattle here and there.

The mills are both idle at present, owing to the high price of wheat, the farmers demanding 95 cents per bushel. It takes five bushels of wheat to make a barrel of flour, making $4 75; and four sacks at 6¼ cents to sack it, making $5 in all. The market is full of Walla Walla flour at $5 per barrel, hence it does not pay our millers to grind wheat just for the bran and middlings.—[Dalles Inland Empire.

A business man of this city, who is prominently connected with a church and has no faith in spiritual manifestations, can produce rappings and table-tippings by a simple laying on of hands. He resorts to no trickery whatever, and for several days after so doing his whole system is prostrated from the effects. There is also a minister here whose sister possesses the same powers, and is similarly affected by displaying them.—[Nevada Transcript.

Lucius Suckeforth, who recently returned from a trip to that section, says that several days since some school children at Brown's valley, Yuba county, while playing, unearthed $65 in gold coin at the foot of a large tree. The oldest coin was dated 1853, and the newest 1855, thus making it apparent that they were buried there many years ago. The treasure was but a short distance below the surface. The children have since "mined out" the ground for some distance around, but without making another strike.—[Nevada Transcript.

Items from the Benicia *New Era*: The railroad company have two new stations on their route here—one at the P. M. S. S. Company's wharf, called Mail Dock, and at Arsenal Point, called Army Point.... The City Trustees issue an election proclamation, which contains the proposition to borrow the sum of $3,000 for the term of one year, at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum, pledging for payment thereof the faith and credit of the city of Benicia. The debt of $22,654 92, which has been so long standing, and for which bonds were issued in 1870, has been paid off with the exception of $3,000. This, the last installment, becomes due this month, and for the purpose of at once paying it and destroying the old bonds issued for the first debt has the election been proclaimed.... Last week Thursday six young ladies bade farewell to the world and its vanities and donned religious habiliments at St. Catherine's Convent. Following are their names: Sister Mary Gabriel Cole, of San Francisco; Sister Mary Antonia Walsh, of San Francisco; Sister Mary Margaret McNamara, of Vallejo; Sister Mary Assissi O'Riordan, of Stockton; Sister Mary Aquin Tierney, of Stockton.

SAN FRANCISCO ITEMS.

[From our San Francisco exchanges of February 16th.]

Duties paid at the Custom-house Saturday were $36,018 22, making a total of $194,510 43 for the month.

The total rainfall in this city up to date, according to the Signal Service Observer's record, is 10.16 inches.

Between 12 and 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon 50 individuals were arrested for drunkenness.

The steamer Colima, which arrived from Panama on Saturday, brought 53 cabin passengers, and one Chinaman in the steerage.

Work on the Farrallones fog signal station has been suspended until such time as Congress shall have made an appropriation sufficient to complete what has been begun.

The Central Pacific Railroad Company advertises a reduction in third-class fares between here and New York to $35 on two days named. This they do on their own responsibility, independent of the connecting lines.

There are now in port under engagement to load wheat 19 vessels of 30,585 tons of tonnage, having a carrying capacity of 900,000 centals. There are 14,000 tons of disengaged tonnage in port and 124,000 tons on the way here.

Mr. Foster, United States Minister to Mexico, has presented to the Mexican Government the claim of Captain Metzgar, of the steamer Newbern, for damages arising on account of his false imprisonment by the officials in Mazatlan last fall, for alleged violation of the Mexican revenue laws.

The flag of the Russ House was displayed at half-mast yesterday in respect to the memory of Mrs. Russ, relict of Jacob Russ, who was the builder of that hotel. Mrs. Russ died yesterday forenoon at her residence, corner of Harrison and Sixth streets, at the age of 75.

The side-wheel steamer Shubrick, formerly tender to this light-house district, has been thoroughly overhauled and renovated and will leave to-morrow for Oregon, where she will perform the duties of tender to the Thirteenth Light-house District of the United States.

In a case where a promissory note was signed with an "X" in the middle of the defendant's name, and the words "his" above and "mark" were written below the cross, but there was no witness' name appended, Justice of the Peace Joachimsen held that the note had no signature for want of a witness.

A well-husbanded lady is now residing in the State of Arkansas. She is 65 years of age and is now living with that courageous man who has assumed the position of being her fourteenth husband! It is said that in the hall of her house are thirteen pegs, upon each of which hangs a hat duly labelled as the property of each of the defunct husbands. It must take considerable courage "to hang up your hat" in the hall.

TELEGRAPHIC.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES TO THE RECORD-UNION.

NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS.

Inquiry Into the Causes of the Removal of the Ponca Indians.

PASSENGERS COMING WEST BY RAIL.

The Outlook in Regard to the Next Presidency.

THE SOUTHERN EXODUS INVESTIGATION.

A Husband Kills His Wife and Poisons Himself and Children.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS OF FOREIGN NEWS.

Better Reports Concerning the Situation in Ireland.

Etc.....Etc.....Etc.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

National Capital Affairs.

[Special to the RECORD-UNION.]

WASHINGTON, February 16th.—Representative Page to-day presented to the House the monster petition signed by about 1,600 citizens of San Joaquin valley, and the accompanying memorial of the Stockton Citizens' Committee of Thirty-five, asking Congress for an appropriation for the improvement of navigation of the San Joaquin river. Page also had printed copies of these documents laid on the table of each member of the House of Representatives, ready for their perusal before the House assembled.

Senator Farley and Representatives Davis and Page to-day presented to Congress the joint resolution of the California Legislature, urging an appropriation for the completion of the ironclad Monadnock, now awaiting completion at the Mare Island Navy Yard.

Senator Farley introduced bills providing for the appointment of official stenographers to United States Courts, and for the payment of $890 to Julius Martin, of Gilroy, for supplies furnished to the California Battalion of Volunteers under command of Colonel John C. Fremont in 1847.

Page introduced a bill to repeal the section of the Revised Statutes which provides for a tax of one-half per cent. per annum upon all bank deposits; also, to provide for the payment of the rent of Land Offices. It appears that the San Francisco office is the only one in California for which a rent allowance is made under existing laws and regulations.

It is intimated in official quarters that the nomination of a new Commissioner of Indian Affairs will soon be sent to the Senate, and the indications are strengthening that ex-Congressman Trowbridge, of Michigan, will be the nominee.

The measures coming before Congress now are tested in the light of their probable effect upon the approaching Presidential election, and when a conclusion is reached that harm might come of a bill its fate for the present is settled. The Democrats are anxious to avoid questions that may cause partisan debate, and this accounts for the unwillingness of the House to touch the Fitz John Porter bill. The Democratic members say that General Porter can wait until after the Presidential election for the passage of his bill, and in the opinion of many prominent members it will rest quietly without action until the next session.

The Ponca Indian Investigation—Bishop Hare's Testimony.

WASHINGTON, February 16th.—The Senate special committee investigating the causes of the removal of the Poncas took testimony this morning from Bishop W. H. Hare, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, the missionary in charge of the Poncas and other Indians. He testified that from the time of his first personal knowledge of the Poncas, in 1873, up to the date of their removal to Indian Territory, they were in trouble on account of the failure of their crops by reason of drought and grasshoppers, and on account of rains and depredations at the hands of the Sioux, and that they were anxious to be removed from Dakota. He had understood from high and reliable sources that they gave their consent to removal to Indian Territory, but when the time came they were opposed to it. The negotiations having been concluded and arrangements made, he thought it essential that the Government, having gone that far, should proceed to their removal. It was then essential, in order to preserve the authority of the United States among the Indian tribes of that region. The Poncas had for years been suffering from failure of crops and from the incursions of the Sioux, and friends of the Poncas who had long been making efforts for their welfare, to have them fed and to provide means for their protection, at last concluded that it would be best to remove them. He thought so himself, and in view of all the circumstances, although he knew it would involve hardship for the Poncas, he united with Inspector Kemble in a telegram advising the Department to stand firm in its determination to carry out the Poncas' removal. Bishop Hare, in this connection, informed the committee that he believed the course of Inspector Kemble towards the Poncas was straight, honorable and philanthropic throughout. The Sioux, in making these raids upon the property of the Poncas, violated the regulations against leaving their reservation, but they were so formidable a tribe that the Government was afraid of them, and was not afraid of the Poncas.

Senator Dawes—So it appears that the Government took the Poncas away to the Indian Territory to keep the Sioux from hurting them?

Bishop Hare—Yes; it may be looked at in that way. You know the Indians have a common saying, "The better we are the worse we are off"—the Indians who kill and steal are likely to be well provided for.

Senator Kirkwood—Is it easier to procure appropriations for warlike than for peaceful tribes?

Bishop Hare—I understand that it is.

Senator Kirkwood said he asked the question in order to show that Congress must take part of the blame for the condition of facts referred to.

Senator Morgan—Was the Government's failure to protect the Poncas due to a want of Congressional appropriations?

Bishop Hare—No; I think not. The Government authorities were afraid of the Sioux.

The Presidential Question.

CHICAGO, February 16th.—The *Tribune's* Columbus (O.) special intimates that Blaine is making strong headway there against Sherman, and that his meeting there on Thursday bids fair to eclipse Sherman's of last week; that Blaine's friends are augmenting their own number daily from Sherman's ranks, and now include the principal workers at the Capital city of Sherman's State.

ANTI-TILDENITES TAKING FRIGHT.

The *Tribune's* Washington special says: The anti-Tilden Democrats are taking fright at the new movement they think they have discovered on the part of Tilden to capture the Democratic nomination. Democrats are authority for the statement that Tilden has fixed a formidable list of State delegations, embracing New York, all of the New England States (except possibly Massachusetts), Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Colorado, Nevada and California, together with Kentucky, Georgia, Florida and North Carolina. These States are claimed as certain to instruct for Tilden, and in addition to them New Jersey, Maryland, Texas and Illinois are represented as being debatable ground between the various other candidates, with Tilden as second choice of all. According to the same authority, the programme seems to be to secure a small majority of instructed delegates, depending on the custom of Democratic Conventions of late years—which has been to concede the nomination to a majority candidate—to overcome the operation of the two-thirds rule, or in the event of an evident disposition to depart from that custom and enforce the rule literally, to abrogate it altogether.

COLORED VIRGINIA ASSEMBLYMEN AND SHERMAN.

RICHMOND, February 16th.—A letter signed by the colored members of the Assembly was sent to Secretary Sherman January 31st last, announcing their intention of supporting him for the Presidency, and expressing a belief that in the event of his election the colored people will find in him a friend ever ready to defend their interest. To-day a reply was received from Sherman, expressing pleasure at the kindly sentiments contained in the communication, and concluding with the expression that "all are alike citizens of a common country, equally entitled to its privileges and equally bound to obey its laws and usages."

A VAGUE, UNTRACEABLE RUMOR.

NEW YORK, February 16th.—The *Tribune* vehemently supports Blaine, and the *Times* Grant. There is a vague, untraceable rumor that Blaine will soon withdraw from the candidacy to make room for Grant, with expectations four years hence.

CONKLING AND THE NEW YORK CONVENTION.

CHICAGO, February 16th.—The *Inter-Ocean's* Washington special says: Senator Conkling says he will not attend the Utica Convention except he is elected as a delegate, and has no intimation that he will be. He was sure the Convention would indorse Grant, although a desperate effort will be made to prevent it and secure some representation for other candidates.

The National Conventions.

CHICAGO, February 16th.—The Executive Committee of the National Republican Committee, consisting of Filley, New and Cooper, report that the Exposition building, when fitted up according to the plans, will be the most perfect hall in the country for the convention.

The Democrats are making strenuous exertions to secure the Democratic National Convention for Chicago, and a committee of eleven eminent citizens will start for Washington Thursday night, to present arguments.

The Southern Exodus Investigation.

WASHINGTON, February 16th.—The Senate Exodus Committee to-day examined Green Ruffin, a middle-aged colored man from Wilson, N. C., and formerly a slave of ex-member of Congress Thomas Ruffin. He stated that he left North Carolina early in December and went to Indianapolis, and was now "aimin' to git back and die dar." This exodus was the "'bomination ob his race."

James B. Sykax, who resides near Arlington, Va., once a member of the Virginia Legislature, stated that in the testimony which he intended to give he would charge Senator Windom with originating the exodus, but as that Senator was absent, he requested the committee to postpone the examination until the Senator could be present.

The Senator Jones Banquet.

NEW YORK, February 16th.—The banquet in honor of Senator Jones of Nevada, at Delmonico's Saturday evening, by his friend and late colleague, ex-Senator Dorsey of Arkansas, brought together in social conversation the most distinguished party of gentlemen and statesmen that has ever been gathered in this city. The large ball-room at Delmonico's was decorated in the most elaborate manner, and was converted for the time into a mimic mining camp, situated in the midst of a flower garden. Among the decorations in confectionery and jellies were representations of chutes used in placer mining, a mimic drift in a quarz mine, with Lilliputian miners wielding Lilliputian picks, miniature quartz-mills for crushing ore, and several other devices which were familiar to mining men in the company, but which proved so many riddles to the rest of the guests.

Western-Bound Passengers.

OMAHA, February 16th.—The following through passengers were on to-day's train, leaving at 12:15 P. M., to arrive in Sacramento February 20th: Fred. Tucker, Cleveland, O.; G. D. Cooper, San Francisco; Miss Christine S. Watson, Mrs. T. Watson, Flora E. Watson, Willie S. Watson, Thompsonville, Conn.; Mrs. R. W. Gray, Omaha; Dr. Stein, Berlin, Germany; E. C. Mix, Charles Wright and wife, New York; E. A. Sothern, Horace Wall, E. Dee, E. Lamb, Percy Kempton, Harry Harwood, W. Blakely, W. L. Dennis, W. Bragginson, Master Hogan, A. Manning, W. H. Young, Ira Lewis, Julia Steward, Mrs. Harwood, Miss L. E. Clair, Miss Harold, New York.

Seventeen through emigrants left on Saturday night's emigrant train, to arrive in Sacramento February 22d, and 40 last night, to arrive February 23d.

New York Stock Market.

NEW YORK, February 16th.—The stock market has been more buoyant to-day than on any day for some time past, and rumors of railroad consolidations and other movements calculated to affect values have been plentiful. Prices advanced ½ to 7 per cent., the latter Louisville and Nashville, which sold up to 146 and closed at 143. Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph rose from 45⅝ per cent. to 50, reached to 46¾, and finally sold at 47⅞. The telegraph shares were conspicuously active, and trunk-line stocks were firm on slight fluctuations. Central Arizona was weak and excited, and declined to 7½ under a report that a prominent "bull" operator in the stock had turned "bear," and was selling the market down. When it was ascertained that the story was unfounded, the stock quickly reacted and closed strong.

QUOTATIONS.

Silver bars, 113½; coin, buying, ¼ discount; money easy at 5; Governments strong and active; stocks strong; Western Union, 106½; Quicksilver, 20½; Pacific, 41¼; Mariposa, 3¾; Wells-Fargo, 102½; New York Central, 131½; Erie, 47½; Panama, 184 bid; Union Pacific, 91; bonds, 111; Central, 81; bonds, 110¾; Sutro, 3; Leadville, 3¾; Caribou, 4¾.

Statement Repudiated.

WASHINGTON, February 16th.—A Western paper recently published a statement that Conkling, speaking in an executive session regarding the confirmation of Morton, nominated as Internal Revenue Collector at San Francisco, and opposing young Morton, had made remarks unjust to the late Senator Morton. Conkling to-day said such a statement was grossly false. He never in his life uttered a word except in praise of his honored friend, the late Senator.

Desperate Attempt to Break Jail.

CHEYENNE, February 16th.—The prisoners in the County Jail in this city made a desperate attempt to escape this evening. When Sheriff Draper and Deputy Smith went in to lock up the prisoners for the night, a prisoner named Boyd, in for horse-stealing, attacked the Sheriff with a slungshot made of a piece of coal tied in a handkerchief. The Sheriff avoided his blows, drew a revolver and snapped it at Boyd. The weapon failed to go off. Williams, another horse-thief, then attempted to assist his companion, when the Sheriff grappled Boyd, and succeeded in securing him. The other prisoners, fifteen or twenty in number, became frightened and were locked up without further difficulty. Williams' wound is severe, but not dangerous.

Women as Census Enumerators.

WASHINGTON, February 16th.—The Superintendent of Census, in a circular to the Supervisors, says that the appointments of Enumerators must be non-partisan. He is aware of no legal reasons for regarding women as ineligible for the appointment. Each Supervisor must be a judge for himself whether such appointments in any number would be practically advantageous in his district. It is clear that in many regions such appointments would be highly objectionable, but the Superintendent is not prepared to say that localities may not be found where a canvass of population by women could be conducted without disadvantage by reason of sex.

An Unpopular Governor.

CHICAGO, February 16th.—The *Tribune's* Cheyenne special says: A big sensation was created here to-day. Late last night a large party of men hauled a heavy cannon in front Governor Hoyt's residence, and stationed it of at the gate pointing outward. The American flag was displayed thereon, also two placards reading, "The Governor must be respected, regardless of color." Hundreds of citizens visited the scene, which was one of excitement. Hoyt has become exceedingly unpopular because of an alleged liaison with a mulatto girl here, and the press demands his removal almost without exception. Hoyt is also making himself unpopular by his methods of working to secure the Congressional nomination.

Horrible Act of a Father.

BAINBRIDGE (Penn.), February 16th.—Charles Lane, aged 24, who recently removed here from Maryland, killed his wife, then gave poison to his three children and took a quantity himself. Only one child lives, and its feet are so badly frozen that it is thought it must die.

Free Transportation.

CHICAGO, February 16th.—The *Inter-Ocean's* Washington special says: The House Committee on Naval Affairs have agreed to recommend the passage of the bill authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to use a United States man-of-war to convey to Ireland food that may be purchased for the suffering people there. It is considered eminently proper that supplies of grain, potatoes or other food that may be purchased with the contributions of citizens of the United States for the Irish should be procured in this country, where they can be obtained cheaper and better than anywhere else in the world, and when this bill is passed transportation will cost nothing.

Walking Match at Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, February 16th.—A walking match began here at noon to-day with twenty-one starters, to be twelve hours per day—from noon till midnight—for six days. The score at midnight stood: Guyan 65 miles, Harriman 61, Howard 56, Krohne 57, Chamberlain 62, Vent 65, McGill 48, Beckwith 54, O'Brien 64, Hann 55, Washington 31, Arthur 66, Rogers 49, Brown 50, Buckridge 58, Covey 50.

A Feeling of Disgust.

WASHINGTON, February 16th.—Randall and other Congressmen who took a conspicuous part in honoring Parnell are disgusted to find that his American trip is more a personal political move than a mission of charity. If he returned he could by no means get the hall of the House to speak in.

Railroad Passenger Rates.

CHICAGO, February 16th.—The Union Pacific to-day notified the Western railroad managers' meeting that their proposition respecting a prorate per-mile ticket from San Francisco to New York, with a rebate at New York, was not accepted, and that arrangements had been made with the Pennsylvania road to carry San Francisco passengers via St. Louis. The Chicago roads will attempt to interfere with this plan by an appeal to the Eastern trunk lines.

Sent Back by Her Mother.

NEW YORK, February 16th.—One of the morning journals declares that the Princess Louise returned to Canada much against her will. She has never liked the country nor people, and went to England to stay, preferring London life and society, but was literally driven back by Queen Victoria.

Important Subject for Legislation.

WASHINGTON, February 16th.—A very important subject for legislative action will be laid before Congress in a few days in the form of a series of codified laws, accompanied by reports and voluminous testimony from all parts of the Western country. The Commission appointed by Congress at its last session, composed of Professor Clarence King, United States Geologist, Professor J. W. Powell, Hon. J. A. Williamson, Commissioner of the General Land Office, Hon. Thos. Donaldson and A. T. Britton, to examine into the condition of the resources of the public domain, and make such recommendations for a codification of the laws, etc., as might seem best adapted to the needs of the country, have about completed their labors. This work involved an examination of the country from the Mississippi river to the Pacific coast, and from the British line to Mexico. A vast amount of testimony was taken, which will make an octave volume of 600 or 700 pages. The codified laws will make many sections, besides many reports of a special character, relating to pasture lands, timber culture, homestead entries, irrigation, mining, improved methods of surveying and disposing of various lands, etc. The duties of the Commission have been very great, and the subjects treated and examined of such an important character that unceasing labor and study were required. The homestead system has been simplified, and everything relating to grazing, farming and mining in the West has been carefully examined and studied, and modifications, changes and every improvement recommended which will protect and benefit those seeking homes in the West.

"Love's Labor Lost."

CHICAGO, February 16th.—It has been learned that the Sergeant Nolan, about whom Congress lately had considerable debate as to whether he should be raised to the rank of Lieutenant and then pensioned for life, on account of a service in the army of thirty years, was killed in the Thornburg fight, and the debate was "love's labor lost." A case has also come to light at Mackina of a man who has been in the service fifty years, and his friends claim proper consideration for him.

Missing Papers Found in Maine.

AUGUSTA, February 16th.—Missing county returns of the last September election were found to-day in a chamber recently occupied by Governor Garcelon, and with other papers are in possession of the Investigation Committee, who will give them special attention. These papers, it is said, implicate several persons in Kennebec, Androscoggin, Oxford, Franklin and Washington counties, in changing and substituting returns.

Unanimously Exonerated.

WASHINGTON, February 16th.—The Senate Committee on Elections have unanimously agreed upon a report exonerating Senator Ingalls from the charges of bribery preferred by the Kansas memorialists.

Suspension Recommended.

MILWAUKEE (Wis.), February 16th.—The examining committee recommend the suspension of Chief of Police Kennedy for his connection with abominations in the House of Correction.

Very Much Discouraged.

WASHINGTON, February 16th.—The friends of Fitz John Porter are very much discouraged at the prospects of passing the bill to restore him to the army, and take no pains to conceal it.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The Distress in Ireland.

LONDON, February 16th.—The Duke of Edinburgh has ordered the coast guard of the west of Ireland to take charge of the relief stores and provisions deposited with them, and convey the relieving officers inland from the coast.

The Duchess of Marlborough, in a letter to the Lord Mayor of London, says: "The danger from famine appears over. If the charity of the public continues no person in Ireland need be allowed to die for lack of food. But the committee, to bring their labors to a successful close, must spend over £40,000 per week for six weeks more."

A relief committee has been formed in Paris, under the presidency of Cardinal Guibert.

The two men arrested on suspicion of shooting at Arthur Creagh, a magistrate of County Clare, have been released.

There is considerable suffering among the small farmers in Ulster, who are too proud to complain.

Fever has appeared in some districts in the south, in Tipperary and west Cork, in consequence of destitution. Relief has been given, but has come too late, and is not of the kind suited to the sufferers.

House of Commons.

LONDON, February 16th.—In the House of Commons to-day, Edward Clark, the newly-elected member from Southwark, took his seat, and received a great ovation from the Conservatives.

Upon a motion being made for going into Committee of the Whole on the Irish relief bill, Synon (member for County Limerick) moved his amendment, objecting to the use of the church surplus fund.

Sir Stafford Northcote announced that the Government would make the advance for Ireland £750,000, instead of £50,000, as originally intended.

The commission on the Irish relief bill have reported progress on clause 3. The seed potatoes bill passed the Commons.

Sensation of the Hour in London.

LONDON, February 16th.—The sensation of the hour is "Bull Run" Russell's letter in the *Daily Telegraph*, in reply to Sir Garnet Wolseley's charges. This has just appeared. It will be remembered that the gallant commander accuses the no less gallant correspondent of gross exaggeration and transparent untruth. That might have been endured, as Dr. Russell has run the gauntlet of such accusations before, and has come out scathless, but Sir Wolseley also charges that Russell was hoaxed. Russell advises Wolseley to await the official reports, which he says will confirm his allegation of the scares of troops in South Africa, the victims of which he offers to name if challenged. He makes a very strong presentation to prove that the panic, bad discipline, cruelty to the troops, drunkenness, theft, insubordination, pillage of property, even to chickens and church clocks, and insolence were prevalent features of the campaign.

A Warning from Spurgeon.

LONDON, February 16th.—Spurgeon, in his sermon yesterday, said that England's rulers were making bloody wars and oppressing nations; that they encouraged and consoled themselves with the reflection, "We are a great people, and, by jingo, will do what we like. It will all come out right in the end." But they should remember that pride is liable to have a fall.

Divorce Condemned by the Pope.

ROME, February 16th.—The Pope's encyclical letter condemnatory of divorce, just issued, insists on the eminently religious nature of marriage, and exhorts the Bishops to urge that view upon their flocks.

Railway Train Attacked by Bandits.

MADRID, February 16th.—A railway train from Andalusia for Madrid, carrying the Government treasure chest, under charge of five gensdarmes, was stopped Sunday by sixteen brigands between Alcazar and Argamasilla. Marshal Serrano, happening to be a passenger on the train, took command of the gensdarmes and fired on the bandits, who fled. One gendarme was wounded.

Splendid Banquet.

NAPLES, February 16th.—The municipality of this city gave a splendid banquet to Professor Nordenskjold and members of the Swedish