THE DAILY RECORD-UNION.

SATURDAY.....MARCH 27, 1880.

THE WEEKLY UNION.

Regarding the great story, "Set in a Silver Sea," it is confessed that it has been a long period since an equally thrilling, unique and entrancing serial has been presented to the public. It is the greatest work of Mr. Farjeon's life. It is published in America only in the WEEKLY UNION and the RECORD-UNION. The WEEKLY UNION is issued twice each week, and each part contains eight pages, thus giving sixteen pages of matter each week. The departments of the WEEKLY UNION embrace agricultural, religious, scientific, political, artistic, mechanical, household, puzzles, news, correspondence, legislative reports, market reports, Eastern telegrams, foreign and home dispatches, State news items, mining, sporting, outdoor amusements, and varied departments relating to the progress and resources of the State and the advancement of the people. The WEEKLY UNION is furnished at the remarkably low price of $2 per year.

NEWS OF THE MORNING.

IN New York yesterday Government bonds were quoted at 106¾ for 4s of 1907; 103 for 5s of 1881; 107⅞ for 4½s; sterling, $4 86@4 89; silver bars, 11¼; silver coin, ¼ discount buying, par selling.

SILVER in London yesterday, 52½d; consols, 97 15 16; 5 per cent. United States bonds, 105⅛; 4s, 108; 4½s, 110.

IN San Francisco half dollars are quoted at par; Mexican dollars, 91 buying, 91½ selling.

AT Liverpool yesterday wheat was quoted at 11s 1d@11s 6d for fair to choice California and 11s 4d to 11s 8d for fair to choice shipping California.

THERE was no session of the San Francisco Stock Board yesterday, owing to the observance of Good Friday.

RICHARD MCPHERSON was fatally shot near Noyo Mills, Mendocino county, Thursday, by a young man named Montier.

DR. S. B. BRINKERHOFF died suddenly at Santa Barbara yesterday.

A RACE of four-mile heats, for $30,000, to be run at San Francisco, is being arranged in New York.

THE name of Rear Admiral Leroy has been placed on the retired list of the navy.

FIRE at San Francisco.

H. H. CLARK was drowned yesterday near Whitman Station, W. T.

AN attempt was made yesterday at Toronto to assassinate the editor of the *Globe* by a man named Bennett.

RUSSIA has given 6,000 francs for the relief of the refugees from Eastern Roumelia.

SITTING BULL'S people, who desire to surrender, will only be received as prisoners of war.

THE journeymen tailors of Pittsburg and Alleghany City, Pa., are on a strike.

THE election excitement is growing exceedingly intense in some portions of England.

FRENCH Canadians are leaving Montreal at the rate of 60 or 70 a day for the West.

CHARLES VIVIAN, the actor, died at Leadville, Col., on the 20th instant.

A SHOCKING case of infanticide is reported from Des Moines, Iowa.

THE Ute Chiefs, with the exception of Douglass, who will be retained a prisoner, leave Washington to-day for Colorado.

ELEVEN persons were recently massacred by Indians in New Mexico.

AT Winfield, Ks., yesterday, two buildings were carried away by a cyclone and cannot be found.

IN North Carolina two colored Sherman delegates have been elected to the Chicago Convention.

AT Mendocino yesterday two men were seriously injured by a boiler explosion.

THE Eureka Consolidated and K. K. Consolidated Mining Companies have became involved in a lawsuit at Eureka, Nev., over their respective claims

B. K. DAVIS, District Attorney of White Pine county, Nev., died Thursday.

THE Grant party have left Galveston for San Antonio.

ON the 25th of February a Chilean force of 10,000 men landed at Ilonilo, Peru, six miles from Arica, where there was a Peruvian force of about 10,000, and the position of the latter was considered critical.

PRESIDENT ANGELL has accepted the Chinese mission.

THE Rhode Island Senate has rejected the woman suffrage amendment to the Constitution.

JESSIE RAYMOND has left Washington for Georgia.

WILLIAM BARTON, 16 years old, was hanged for murder yesterday at St. Charles, Mo.

A BOILER explosion yesterday at Columbus, Ga., killed two whites and one negro.

THE Czar of Russia recently shot and mortally wounded his confidential servant.

JOSEPH MARKS was accidentally killed yesterday near White Salmon, W. T.

JACOB FREY cut his wife's throat and then his own at St. Louis yesterday.

IN the Assembly yesterday the Braunhart mining bill was discussed and recommitted. The educational bill occupied the balance of the day and evening.

THE attention of readers of the RECORD-UNION is called to the inside pages of to-day's paper. Second page—A letter from Henry George in reply to a criticism of his "Progress and Poverty;" Outdoor Amusements; poetry, etc. Third page—The Department of Agriculture; poetry; letter from Paris; "Our Letter-box;" New Publications. Sixth page—Letter from New York; "The Quiet Hour;" San Francisco market review, etc.

THE SAN FRANCISCO DEMOCRATS.

The "workers" among the San Francisco Democracy have evidently resolved to put aside all sentimental foolishness, and to play their game for all it is worth. Consequently they have made advances to the Sandlotters, offering a fusion on the freeholders' ticket as well as on Freud, and cheerfully swallowing the dirt thereupon thrust into their mouths by the Kearneyites. The upper-tendom of the Democracy—that is to say, those intelligent and reputable men whose affiliation with the party is always a cause of wonder—have declared their purpose to put an independent ticket in the field, and to repudiate the action of the County Committee. The latter, undisturbed by this menace, have proceeded with their Sandlot affiliation, and count confidently upon carrying the rank and file with them. The papers which are fighting the Sandlots strive to create the impression that the Democracy is thus rent in twain, but unhappily experience has too often shown that the secession of the better element from the Democratic party makes a very slight change in its numbers. It is to be feared that the action of the County Committee will be approved, or at least followed, by the mass of the party. It must be remembered that Democratic fusion with the Kearneyites is not a new experiment, and that therefore a repetition of it demands no great conversion on the part of the unterrified. Their regard for the safety of the city, and their attachment to law and order, are probably not so strong as their instinctive disposition to obey orders and follow their leaders; and they are far more likely to recognize as leaders such men as compose the County Committee than such men as compose the State Club. Unless, therefore, this is one of the political seasons when all signs fail, it must be expected that Democrats and Sandlotters will vote together next Tuesday with practical unanimity, and that the withdrawal of the better Democratic element from the Sandlot programme will add but little to the vote cast against the anarchists. The people of the State at large, however, will do well to observe and remember the present proceedings of the Democratic County Committee of San Francisco, for the light now being thrown upon Democratic attachment to good government will be very useful as a guide presently, when issues of broader import come up for settlement, and the claims of the two parties to public confidence are being considered.

THE INTEREST OF CAPITAL IN GOOD GOVERNMENT.

Capital, like labor, is liable to miss the perception of its truest interests, sometimes, and if indeed there is any serious leaning on the part of capital in this country towards that state of things comprehended in the phrase "a strong government," it must be concluded that there is here a fresh illustration of this kind of error. The genesis of such a mistake is doubtless simple enough. Capital needs peace and external order, and when it does not stop to think it is apt to suppose that the shortest way out of the troubles which democratic society suffers from, is also the best. But the proposition will not bear analysis, and it is one which is no more compatible with an intelligent defense of the real interests of Capital than a war upon property is compatible with an intelligent defense of the real interests of Labor. For Capital stands in need, not of the order which follows the repression of freedom, but of the order which springs out of the guarded enjoyment of it. It is not strong government which is necessary to its well-being, but good government; and the two things are not analagous. To define what is meant in these days by the term "strong" government, we should have to trace back the history of the civil war, and to show how the contempt for the decorum which belongs to peace, inseparable from intestine or other wars, had been carried forward into the politics of the post-rebellion period, and had engendered a vague belief in a kind of constitutional government liable at any crisis to be transformed into a military despotism. For it will be perceived on reflection that the whole significance of the term "strong," as so applied, has relation to the assumed readiness of such a government to go outside of the Constitution the moment that instrument becomes embarrassingly restrictive. And though probably very few of those who talk about a "strong government" have ever endeavored seriously to realize what they meant, it is quite evident that the distinction implied in the term is in fact an acknowledgment that what is wanted is something different from a constitutional government. For it is very clear that if all governments are to be conducted in strict accordance with the Constitution, it is impossible that one should be stronger than another, in any practical sense: should be, that is to say, able to do more than another in protecting one class against another, in repressing dangerous tendencies, in exercising the powers of the government for any purpose. And this is inevitably so because the Constitution is not elastic, because it defines and limits the powers of the Executive, because it so orders things that no Administration can do more than its predecessors in any direction, without overstepping its jurisdiction. But while it is certain that no Administration can really be stronger than any other Administration, in the sense intended nowadays, it is capable of demonstration that the attempt to persuade capital into approval of this "strong" man hypothesis, is full of danger for it, and that all its truest interests point to an entirely different course. And as the interests of Capital are, strictly speaking, the interests of the whole community, it is worth while to examine this statement with some care.

It is to the interest of Capital that commerce should be untrammeled; that taxation should be as little burdensome as possible; that Congress should be filled with statesmen instead of demagogues; that the material welfare of the country should be fostered without the backing of any lobby; that government, national, state and municipal, should be honestly and efficiently conducted; that the public needs should be more influential than the sordid aims of Faction; that the fullest protection should be obtained for life and property, the utmost equity in the administration of the laws, the most universal respect for governmental authority, the most complete utilization of Labor, and the amplest and least restricted field for the employment of Capital. All this will be freely admitted, and it will also be admitted that if these conditions can be secured, national prosperity and progress must be guaranteed. These conditions, however, are not to be had by any dependence upon the "strong" government hypothesis. To perceive how this is so it is necessary to realize who they are who have set up this cry, and what they stand for. It is not doubtful that the demand for a "strong" government came originally from the class known as "machine" politicians. This class includes all those who have during the past ten years and more stood resolutely up in the defense of governmental corruption of the worst kind; who have hardily and shamelessly justified or condoned the Whisky Ring, the Babcock, and Belknap, and Shepherd, and Delano, and Williams, and other scandals; who have resisted reform of the civil service; who have approved the usurpations of those ring chiefs who through organized fraud have secured control of whole States; who have in season and out of season supported whatever measures tended to centralize governmental power in a few irresponsible hands, and to reduce the masses more and more to the condition of ciphers. Now we assert, as a matter open to the plainest demonstration, that any alliance between Capital and this class must be unnatural and pernicious. For the tendencies of this class are not at all towards good government, but the thing they call "strong" government is a government strong enough to keep bad men in office, to defy public opinion, and to shelter those who batten on corruption. Such a government cannot co-exist with a free and flourishing condition of Capital, for however it may preteud to be in sympathy with the latter it will regard it with a single eye to the opportunities for plunder, and if it rescues it from other dangers it will only be that it may appropriate all the spoil to itself. A corrupt civil service, a Congress resting on this corruption, the greed and rapacity of faction everywhere dominating the public interest, alien hordes seizing the government of every wealthy city, and confiscating the property of the taxpayers in order to secure the votes of the proletariat, — these are among the natural accompaniments and outgrowths of "strong" government, and yet they are but faint indications of what must follow if the country is once formally abandoned to this disastrous experiment.

History indeed abounds with instances of similar mistakes made by Capital. In seeking to avoid Scylla, it has repeatedly steered into the jaws of Charybdis. Alarmed by communistic movements in the lower strata of society, it has sought refuge in remedies which resulted in military despotism; which means confiscation and oppression through one, instead of through many. Experience therefore shows that there is no salvation in this policy, but that it affords only a choice of calamities. On the other hand, the unity of interest between capital and good government (as contrasted with "strong" government) is perfectly clear, and ought never to be missed. Good government demands reform of the civil service as the first and most indispensable measure; the entire withdrawal of patronage from Congress; the consequent elimination of the "machine;" the destruction of that formidable and dangerous system of organized obstruction to free voting which constitutes the power and supports the insolent tyranny of our modern political Satraps; the guarding of local governments against demagogism and venality, in the interest of the taxpayers; the separation of all the subordinate governmental functions from politics, absolutely; the simplification and purification of the public business by the application of the merit system; and last, though not least, the expulsion from politics of the tricky, cunning, knavish element that has made a profession of them of late years, by depriving them of those attractions whose glitter has stimulated lawless and unscrupulous ambition, and caused the statesman to be jostled out of the way by the demagogue. Whatever will bring about, or tend to bring about, these reforms, is in the interest of Capital, for the accomplishment of these reforms alone will restore honor and honesty to politics, bring upright and highminded men into public life, guarantee the extinction of that rampant demagogism which feeds and fosters communistic movements continually, secure protection for all material interests, discourage that prostitution of judicial functions which has latterly presented one of the most alarming features of the time, and by diverting enterprise and industry into legitimate channels, and breaking up the fountains of political corruption, give the normal value and weight to the cool judgment of the majority, and build up a government which would in fact as well as in name be "for the people, "of the people, and by the people." It is thus alone that the present tendencies towards conditions in no way preferable to anarchy can be checked. It will not do for Capital to take its cue from those who raise the clamor for a "strong" government. A pure government is needed. A just government is needed. A good government is needed. But a "strong" government is an anomaly for which no warrant nor explanation can be found in the history of republican institutions, and whoso wishes to find its parallel must search among the ruins of republics which have owed their downfall to reliance on that broken reed. Capital ought to include organized and accumulated Intelligence, as well as organized and accumulated labor, and it ought to be capable of perceiving that it has no real community of interest with those who are striving to secure the abandonment of republican principles. There is danger to Capital in democracy only when it is corrupted and diverted from its original functions; when like old religions its doctrines are overlaid with a paralyzing incrustment, and when faction has usurped the authority of the people to maintain itself in power. In such a case there is a way of escape and recovery, but it is not the direction indicated by the champions of "strong" government. On the contrary, it is the path which leads back to the vigorous and pure and genuinely democratic principles and practices of the past; and it can only be followed successfully by renouncing and condemning all the prevailing tendencies towards absolutism, and systematizing and urging a broad policy of decentralization and concentration of responsibility.

THE YOUNG DEBRIS SUBSTITUTE BILL.

The Assembly having ordered the third reading of the Young substitute debris bill by a vote of 54 to 21, there is some prospect of its final passage. In the discussion which preceded the vote on Thursday the objections urged against the bill were not such as should weigh against its merits and the clear necessity of action. The measure is avowedly a compromise, and therefore it cannot be expected that it should be entirely free from defects, but it is already evident that it commands a support such as could not be obtained for any of its predecessors, and therefore it should be accepted by all who seriously desire to have the question settled. There are some members who appear to make objections for no better purpose than to prevent all legislation in the premises. They are opposed to State taxation and they are opposed to district taxation. They do not want anything to be done towards reclamation even though the owners of swamp lands pay for the work. They profess to desire to save the farmers from the debris, but they resist every proposition capable of saving them. It is naturally among those who are most hopelessly ignorant of the nature of the problem to be dealt with that this kind of stupid opposition appears oftenest. We are compelled to say, however, that there are some members of the San Francisco delegation whose intelligence should have prevented them from taking the ground they have, and who might have been expected to recognize the directness of San Francisco's interest in this subject. How little certain members have studied the question was curiously shown the other day when one of them observed, "We "want to clean out the rivers and stop the "debris, but we do not want the State to "pay for draining swamp lands." This speaker had not the remotest idea that the drainage of swamp lands is an incident to the process of cleaning out the rivers and stopping the debris, and that the latter work cannot be done effectually without reclaiming the swamp lands. It is necessary to the cleaning out of the rivers that they should be leveed, and the building of these levees will reclaim the swamp lands whether or not there is any special purpose to do so. At this stage of the discussion such objections appear peculiarly captious and frivolous, and ought not to be regarded. The Young substitute is an effort to divide and distribute the cost of doing the necessary work in such a way that special benefits and special responsibilities shall be specially taxed. The interest of the State in the stoppage of the debris is recognized by the imposition of a State tax which, while it is so light that it cannot press upon any one, yet in the aggregate will furnish an important assistance to the undertaking. The miners are next subjected to a special tax, which it is calculated will make them pay to the limit of their ability. The swamp land owners are taxed also, if necessary to the extent of $3 per acre. And lastly the districts are taxed, but not heavily. Through this distribution of burdens a sufficient fund is provided for, and yet no onerous or oppressive impost is levied on any class or district.

Perhaps if the Legislature had a couple of months longer to sit, it might be possible to frame some better bill than this, though when we consider the difficulties which have arisen hitherto, and the impracticability which has been so marked a feature of much of the opposition, it may well be doubted whether anything more than such a compromise could in any case have secured the support necessary to its enactment. There are two facts in regard to the Young substitute which we think ought to settle the matter in its favor. In the first place, it provides for the carrying out of that relief system which all the engineers unite in declaring to be the best and surest; and in the second place, it avoids all danger of oppressive taxation. It promises effectual relief, that is to say; and at a cost which can injure no interest or class. To secure these conditions much should be conceded. To secure these in any other way than the one proposed, has clearly been shown to be impossible. There is one other consideration which calls for notice. It is now possible that Congress may make a small appropriation for this purpose. If it is made, however, it will only be a small appropriation, and it is very improbable that it will be made at all unless the State first undertakes to deal with the question. A Congressional appropriation of one or two hundred thousand dollars can of course be utilized in carrying out the work, but it cannot be substituted for State legislation. It may lighten the burden of State and district taxation, but it cannot stand in the place of that taxation. California must show that she is resolved to do her duty in this matter first, and then Congress may come forward and help her. But the passage of the Young bill must be secured to begin with, and nothing can be regarded as justifying any other view of the situation. The Young bill, as we have said before, is the best thing circumstances admit of, and we thefore trust that it will be enacted without further delay or hesitation.

TAMMANY HALL.

Mr. Van Buren Denslow has an article in the *International Review* on Tammany Hall, which sets forth in a very strong light the increasingly difficult problem of the government of large cities. It is made conspicuously apparent that in New York the common remedies for bad government, namely, attendance at the primaries of taxpayers, and more steady participation in political movements, can be of no avail whatever. The reason of this is, that out of 140,000 voters in New York, only about 20,000 are taxpayers. The rest belong to the proletariat. They constitute the material with which Tweed ruled and robbed the city so long, and with which Tammany Hall still rules and robs it. These non-taxpaying voters have by their steady support of thieves in the government increased the rate of taxation in New York from $2 50 to $40 *per capita*. Tammany Hall has known how to manage them. The principle has always been identical with that which controlled the Roman proletariat. *Panem et circenses* has not lost its hold on the mob through the lapse of time, and there does not appear to be any accessible remedy for this intolerable state of things. The reviewer whose paper we cite proposes a second municipal chamber, in which the taxpayers alone shall be represented. But it does not seem to have occurred to him that this reform, even if it was effective in principle, would demand the renunciation of power on the part of the present rulers of the city, and that Tammany Hall is little likely to accept such a proposition. Tammany, indeed, has got New York State as well as New York city by the throat. It controls the Legislature at Albany as well as the Mayor and city Government. And what Tammany Hall is in New York, that similar institutions promise to be before long in all our great cities. One of the most formidable facts in the New York case is the preponderance of the foreign element. That element, mostly Irish, is really alien in all important respects. It consists of men who are densely and hopelessly ignorant of American governmental doctrines, who have no patriotic attachment to this country, who are clannish in the extreme, who are venal almost beyond belief, and who therefore afford at once the most malleable and dangerous material that demagogues can handle. And what has already happened in New York threatens to happen in San Francisco. The latter is no longer an American city. Its foreign voting element exceeds its home voting element, and its foreign voters, as in New York, are for the most part Irish, and have shown themselves to be less amenable to American and republican influences than anywhere else in the Union. Kearneyism is emphatically an alien and an Irish agitation. Everybody sees that. No such movement could have been made by Americans, for the methods and the policy are wholly opposed to American habits and practices. And in San Francisco as in New York it is plain that demagogues are rapidly controlling the government through the manipulation of its foreign voting element, and that in a short time it will be no more possible to prevent the inauguration of a Boss Tweed regime than it was in New York. And the question arises, what remedy is there for these enormous evils? We can see none save in the stimulation of the whole country to the purification of politics and the reform of education. Propositions to repeal the naturalization laws, or to institute special chambers for taxpayers, are not open to serious discussion, because they are manifestly impossible of accomplishment. The only way to find a practical remedy is to ascertain what is susceptible of actual application under the existing conditions. This is very difficult, but we are inclined to think that the thorough and determined reform of the public service, not Federal only, but State and municipal, and the application to it of such principles as new govern it in England, afford the most feasible solution. This policy, with the adoption of better educational methods, may in the course of a generation make it possible to overcome the worst of the present evils.

THE INSURANCE QUESTION.

A strong effort is being made to persuade the Assembly into passing Senate Bill No. 188, but a dispassionate review of the measure ought to convince members that it would be against public policy to do so. It was a very bad bill when introduced. It was shorn of its worst features in the Senate, but it is still by no means a salutary piece of legislation. It provides that no insurance company with a less capital than $300,000 shall be allowed to do business in the State. The assumption here is that the security of insurance companies is measured by the amount of their capital, and this is an entirely false assumption. The truth is that a company with $200,000 capital may be safer than one with $500,000 or $1,000,000 capital. The amount of capital has no necessary connection with the question of security. That depends upon the nature and extent of the business done by the company. Judgment in selecting and care in distributing risks are what impart safety to the insurance business, and nothing else can. But there are two or three local insurance companies which seek to drive out foreign companies in order to secure their business, and as these local companies happen to have $300,000 capital, and as many of the foreign companies have less, it has occurred to the former that they might do a good stroke of business for themselves by setting up this false assumption regarding the relation of capital to security, and so under cover of a spurious public spirit get their job passed. Some forty-three outside companies would, it is understood, be forced out of business in California by the passage of this bill. Now, it is not for the public interest that these companies should be driven out of the State, or that their business should be absorbed by the local companies. On the contrary, it has already been shown that the local companies are doing an unsafe business even now; that they are carrying far greater risks than their assets justify, in fact. It is therefore evident that any addition to their risks would be simply an increase of danger to their policy-holders, and the Legislature is certainly not justified in thus diminishing the security of the public in order to make new business for two or three corporations. The proposition to make all companies doing business in this State show a paid-up capital of $300,000 is a mere blind. Such an arrangement would add nothing to the safety of the insurance business. If a company with $300,000 is badly managed it may easily be less safe than one with only half that capital, and the bill does not afford any guarantee against bad management. Taking it altogether, therefore, we have no hesitation in saying that Senate Bill No. 188 deserves to be defeated, and that the Assembly will do well to reject it. The public interest is not to be advanced by such measures, but by rigid provisions restraining insurance companies from exceeding a certain proportion of risks to capital, and that kind of legislation the local companies would probably be the last to solicit.

THAT PERPLEXING COMPROMISE.

The alleged compromise sought by the Citizens' Protective Union of San Francisco has perplexed distant observers as well as near ones. The *Nation*, which is much given to asking riddles, puts the following questions on the case: "If Kearney's arrest was all that was needed to "restore 'peace and prosperity,' we can-"not help asking how it came to pass that "the business of a great commercial city "was allowed to be put in peril before it "was attempted. If it was not sufficient, and the present settlement is "only a truce, does not the importance "attached to it indicate either great timidity or great simplicity? What 'mutually "'honorable' settlement, too, can the peace-"able, industrious inhabitants conclude "with a brutal mob of loafers who have "been threatening to murder them and de-"stroy their property? What negotiation "is it possible to carry on with Kearney "and his followers which will not contain "the seeds of future trouble? Is there "any 'honorable' settlement with them "possible which does not involve their "pleading guilty and going to jail?" The various attempts which have been made to explain the compromise have not in the least degree supplied any justification for it. The truth is that the committee made a fatal blunder when they consented, at the suggestion of third parties, to confer with Kalloch and Kearney at all. In agreeing to this conference they betrayed a misapprehension of the situation which proved their utter incompetence to deal with it. They failed, not when Kalloch sought to obtain preposterous conditions, but when they entered Kalloch's office. There never was any ground for conference or compromise, and not to see this was to be blind, and therefore useless. The strength of the Citizens' Protective Union lay in its single-minded determination to have peace and order at any cost. Under the influence of that sentiment the Kearneyites were actually collapsing, when the fatal mistake of a conference suggested itself to those well-meaning incapables who forthwith proceeded to tempt the committee to their fall.

GENERAL SHERMAN MAKES A POINT.

General Sherman has made a strong point on the imbecile Indian policy which systematizes Indian wars by taking the squaws and children under Government protection while the warriors are fighting the Government troops. At present the non-combatants of Victoria's band are being fed by the Government in this way, and General Sherman observes incisively, "The Indian Bureau is feeding at a heavy "cost the families of Victoria and his band "of Apaches, while the War Department "is fighting, at an awful cost in money "and life, the warriors and bucks. Does "not this magnanimity verge on the "borders of folly?" This is certainly putting the case as mildly as possible. It is an amazing state of things, and contemplation of it is calculated to engender despair of the whole Indian question. How can the War Department subdue the Apaches while another department of the Government is relieving them of all responsibilities, and taking care of the families of the men who are doing their best to kill American soldiers? Victoria and his band are thus enabled to fight all through the summer, and by winter their wives have stored enough rations away to subsist them in comfort until it is time to take the warpath again. Of course as long as this extraordinary arrangement continues there is likely to be chronic trouble with the Indians. It is only by making them see that they must choose between peace or extermination that they can be got to behave themselves. What they think of the United States Government under existing circumstances it would be interesting to know, but probably they laugh at it as a machinery which they find no difficulty in utilizing for their own purposes.

CHINA AND RUSSIA.

The probability of a war between China and Russia does not diminish, and the former power is evidently taking far more energetic and practical measures than are her wont. The efforts of Russia to goad Japan into a conflict with her neighbor will apparently prove fruitless. It is not likely that the Western Powers who have Ministers in Japan would consent to such a programme, and England is certain to employ all her influence to baffle it. The possession of Kuldja by the Russians would possibly have been received with less concern by the Pekin Government had not English counsels pointed out the danger which this annexation created. The truth is that Lord Beaconsfield is trying to make England's fight in Central Asia through the Chinese, and while the plan is certainly deficient in moral recommendations, it is not wanting in a certain element of astuteness. It is probable that China would prove the most embarrassing antagonist under existing circumstances, for she possesses an enormous prestige in Central Asia, derived from centuries of conquest and military rule, and any Russian reverses might therefore cause all the Khanates to rise upon the defeated army and cut off its communications and its retreat. China, too, can afford to expend two or three millions of men in a war, and Russia cannot, and in such a case victory would be very apt to rest with the side that could bring most troops into the field, without much regard to their equality in other respects.

THE COPYRIGHT QUESTION.

We are unfeignedly glad to see that the copyright question is becoming more embarrassing to American publishers all the time, and that whereas they formerly profited so greatly by piracy as to be unwilling even to hint at fair play toward foreign authors and publishers, they are now so seriously injured by piratical enterprise and competition that they are quite ready to talk about the advantages of reciprocity. Until their cow was gored they never could see the wrong which piracy involved, nor had they the least compunction in the business. Now, however, they are rapidly developing sensitive consciences, and they exhibit quite a refreshing concern for the poor foreign authors whose works are so cavalierly appropriated on this side of the Atlantic. In fact it is clear that unless copyright is soon arranged for, the publishing business in America will be ruined, for the various firms are no longer able to secure a monopoly of the market by mutual agreements, and so there is no longer any certainty of profit in pirating a foreign book. Reciprocity is what our pirates propose now, though, of course, they do not mean reciprocity as regards their own methods and records. It is probable that international copyright will ultimately grow out of this cut-throat business among the thieves.

PACIFIC SLOPE NEWS.

DISPATCHES OF LAST NIGHT.

POLITICS IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Card from the Executive Committee of the Citizens' Protective Union.

PASSENGERS FROM THE EAST BY RAIL.

Two Lawyers Waylaid by Robbers in Los Angeles.

HOMICIDE IN MENDOCINO COUNTY.

Items of News from Oregon and Washington Territory.

CALIFORNIA.

Fire at San Francisco—Card from the Citizens' Protective Union.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 26th.—Shortly before 6 o'clock this morning a fire broke out in the rear of 612 Jackson street, between Kearny and Dupont. The building was occupied below by Chinese stores and in the second story as a cigar factory and lodging house. The spread of the flames was so rapid that a number of Chinese in the upper story were obliged to escape by the windows. Several were injured, and others were removed insensible from suffocation, but no lives were lost. The damage amounted to $10,000. The building was formerly the engine house of Pennsylvania Fire Company No. 12, of the volunteer department.

The evening papers will publish the following card:

To the Public: We desire to say that no negotiations are going on, and no communication whatever is being had, between this committee and the representatives of the sand lot, all rumors and statements to the contrary notwithstanding.

By order of the Executive Committee of the Citizens' Protective Union.

JENNINGS S. COX, Secretary.

San Francisco, March 26, 1880.

It will be seen that the card is couched in the present tense, and is unquestionably a strictly correct statement of fact.

Political Outlook at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 26th.—It is reported this evening that the straight Democrats will run Dr. Shorb for State Senator. This will work to the interest of Freud, who has the Workingmen and County Committee wing of the Democracy at his back. There is considerable excitement among the Citizens' Union people over this move of the Democracy, as it had been hoped that the better class of Democrats would make common cause against the sand lot and its Democratic following.

Democrats and Workingmen — Brains, Not Bullets—Blood Horse Association—Declared for Blaine.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 26th.—The County Committee wing of the Democracy having demanded, as a condition of coalition with the Workingmen on the freeholders' ticket, that the latter take off the names of the Republicans, Bruck and Sherrett, on their ticket, the Workingmen this evening received the resignation of Bruck, and put on a Democrat, Judge Pennie, in his place, and appointed a committee for further conference with the Democrats.

The English-speaking section of the Socialists, at a meeting to-night, objected to being saddled with the stigma of favoring disorderly or revolutionary movements, and resolved that they intended to carry out their views by the aid of brains and not bullets.

The Pacific Blood Horse Association met to-day and arranged for a spring meeting, to come off on May 22d, 26th and 29th, at the Oakland race-track.

The Twelfth Ward Republican Club tonight declared for Blaine.

Municipal Nominations.

SAN JOSE, March 26th.—The Republicans have made these nominations for city officers: For Mayor, Judge D. S. Payne; for Chief of Police, W. H. Brown; for Treasurer and Collector, J. A. Lotz. Councilmen—First Ward, Archie McDonald; Second Ward, Abraham King; Third Ward, F. E. Smith; Fourth Ward, W. E. Kelly. School Trustees—First Ward, J. R. Lowe; Second Ward, C. W. Breyfogle; Third Ward, Geo. M. Schuck; Fourth Ward, Mrs. Dr. Hooker. Central Committee—W. L. Coombs, W. B. Baker, James McG. Patterson, E. K. Dunlap, T. E. Kennedy.

Boiler Explosion.

MENDOCINO, March 26th.—The boiler of a hoisting engine on the wharf at this port exploded at half-past 6 this morning, precipitating the boiler on to the caboose of the schooner Galatea. John F. Taylor and Robert Boajo were seriously, but not fatally, injured.

Homicide in Mendocino County.

MENDOCINO, March 26th.—Richard McPherson was shot yesterday afternoon about three miles south of Noyo mills by a young man named Mortier, and died in consequence in the evening. An inquest will be held today

Sudden Death.

SANTA BARBARA, March 26th.—Dr. S. B. Brinkerhoff, one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of Santa Barbara, died suddenly this morning of heart disease. He was 55 years old, and had been for 25 years one of Santa Barbara's most enterprising citizens.

Highway Robbery at Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES, March 26th.—Henry M. Smith and General R. H. Chapman, two well-known lawyers, were met about 9 o'clock this evening on the bridge leading to East Los Angeles, and ordered in the usual parlance to "throw up their hands." Considering the matter in the light of a joke, they did not obey the order promptly, when Smith was knocked down, and while a revolver was held to his face was relieved of his watch. Neither gentleman having any money, the robbers got nothing. This is the second robbery within a week.

NEVADA.

Passengers Passing Carlin.

CARLIN, March 26th.—The following passengers passed Carlin to-day, to arrive in Sacramento to-morrow: A. Heilbronner, San Francisco; W. A. Murphy, New York; J. C. Meussdorffer, San Francisco; Mrs. Morris and child, Richmond, Va.; A. M. Dederick, Albany, N. Y.; Mrs. Peery and family, Trenton, Mo.; Mrs. Egenberger and child, San Francisco; Geo. F. Manning, Boston; Mrs. A. Reed, Portland, Or.; Chas. Klyman, St. Louis; Joseph Zaver, Boston; S. Heilbrun, wife and child, San Francisco; E. P. Bender and wife, W. C. Mitchell, Ottawa, Canada; A. Haines, U. S. A.; J. W. Heckman, H. B. Smith, Ottawa, Canada; E. A. Jaeger, St. Louis; W. H. Dall and wife, Washington; Mrs. J. W. Ransone, San Francisco; Mrs. H. M. Tolles, Rushville, Ills.; T. S. Van Volkenburgh, Mrs. P. Van Volkenburgh, New York; J. B. Holden, Boston; M. Baker, U. S. Coast Survey A. McDonald, San Jose; J. P. Howe, Ottawa, Canada; G. F. Becker, Berkeley, Cal.; T. J. Buckwaller, Richmond, Va.; B. Blumenthal, San Francisco; Paul Marmette, Quebec, Canada; Miss Little, Arlington, Ills.; R. Lyman, Forest Grove, Or.; Maggie Simmons, Chicago; 61 emigrants, including 50 males, to arrive in Sacramento March 28th.

Shooting Affray at Virginia.

VIRGINIA, March 26th.—A shooting affray occurred this evening between Henry Bawden, Superintendent of the Julia, and W. J. Wildbahn, telegraph operator at the depot of the Virginia and Truckee Railroad. The parties met on C street and hard words passed, when Wildbahn struck Bawden over the head with a cane. Then both drew pistols and three shots were fired, only one taking effect, which went through Wildbahn's thigh. An old difficulty was the cause.

Death of a Lawyer.

EUREKA, March 26th.—B. K. Davis, District Attorney of White Pine county, died at Hamilton yesterday of dropsy. He was a pioneer of the Pacific coast and an old resident of Nevada. He was serving his second term as District Attorney of White Pine at the time of his death.

Extensive Mining Suit.

EUREKA, March 26th.—The papers in the much-talked-of suit between the Eureka Consolidated and K. K. Mining Companies were filed in the Clerk's office yesterday. Copies have not yet been served on Mr. Porter, the Superintendent of the K. K., though service will probably be made in a few days. The action is commenced by the Eureka Consolidated Mining Company against the K. K. Consolidated Mining Company to recover possession of a certain portion of the Eureka lode, which it is claimed the K. K. Company has for a number of months past been working, and extracting therefrom large quantities of silver-bearing ore, and for $100,000 damages for ore extracted. An injunction is also asked for in the complaint, restraining the K. K. Company, during the pending of the action, from extracting or taking out any ore from the ground in dispute.

UTAH.

Affray at Fort Douglas—A Surgeon and Captain Wounded.

SALT LAKE, March 26th.—At 10 o'clock this morning an altercation took place at Fort Douglas between Captain Western and Surgeon LeCompte, of the Fourteenth Infantry, in which the former was dangerously wounded. There has been trouble brewing between the two over some trifling matter, and, meeting at the time stated in front of the officers' quarters, the fight was opened by Western. The surgeon responded promptly, shooting the Captain in the shoulder and back, causing him to fall, and while attempting to renew the shooting was covered by the surgeon, who threatened to kill him if he made any further effort. The surgeon was wounded in the side, arm and fingers, but not dangerously. He offered his services to the prostrate officer, but the latter refused his assistance. Both are well known. The unpleasantness has created a big sensation in the city and fort.

OREGON.

Items from Portland.

PORTLAND, March 26th.—By a private dispatch received to-day from Tacoma it is learned that John Starr, formerly of this city, died at that place this morning. Deceased was a brother of Captain L. M. Starr, of the steamer North Pacific.

Intelligence is just received of the death by drowning of H. H. Clark in Pine creek, near Whitman Station, W. T. Clark attempted to ford the creek, which was swollen by the recent rains. He was washed from his horse and drowned. The body was recovered. Deceased formerly resided at Portland. He leaves a wife and three children.

The Court of Inquiry on the loss of the Dilharree found this morning that the fault was with bar-pilot Hewitt, who gave Peacock Spit too wide a berth and ran the vessel on the sands. The evidence shows that half a minute before the bark struck the pilot ordered the helm hard aport. The report that the vessel steered badly was disproved by the evidence. Pilot Hewitt, after repeated requests, refused to testify before the Court.

PORTLAND, March 26th.—Joseph Marks, living at White Salmon, W. T., was accidentally killed yesterday while working on his farm. He was engaged in cutting off a sapling that had been bent down by the snow, when the butt flew up, and striking him on the head, killed him instantly.

D. Fargally, an old citizen of this city, died suddenly this afternoon. Deceased had resided twenty-six years in Portland.

The Republicans of Josephine county, in this State, in their County Convention, have passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That believing the nomination of General Grant for a third term to the office of President of the United States would be alike fatal to his own fair fame, the unity and success of the Republican party and the best interests of the nation, we instruct the delegates here chosen to oppose the election of any man as delegate to the National Convention who will favor placing General Grant again before the people as a candidate for President.

Another resolution instructed for Blaine. This is the first County Republican Convention held in Oregon, and undoubtedly indicates the sentiment of the State.

The jury in the State Circuit Court in the case of Annie Stompf, indicted for arson, returned a verdict of acquittal this evening.