THE DAILY RECORD-UNION.

FRIDAY.....DECEMBER 17, 1880.

THREE ORIGINAL STORIES.

During the coming year, and commencing December 1st, the WEEKLY UNION *will publish three Prize Stories of California. The first, publication of which will commence in the first week of December, will be entitled, "The Ventures and Adventures of Charlie Gould." This is an intensely interesting story of the Stock-Gambling period of California, and was written by Edward F. Cahill, of Los Angeles. The price of the* WEEKLY UNION *will be $2 50 per annum.*

NEWS OF THE MORNING.

New York yesterday Government bonds were quoted at 113 for 4s of 1907; 101½ for 5s of 1881; 111½ for 4½s; sterling, $4 79@4 82; silver bars, 111⅛.

Silver in London yesterday, 51¾d; consols, 98 13-16d; 5 per cent. United States bonds, 104½; 4s 110¼; 4½s, 110¾.

In San Francisco half dollars are quoted at ½ discount to par; Mexican dollars, 91c.

At Liverpool yesterday wheat was quoted at 9s 10d @10s 1d for good to choice California.

Mining stocks were still lower in San Francisco yesterday morning, and those hitherto the strongest were the weakest. Sales were comparatively free at reduced rates.

Dr. A. G. Griersen, the Philadelphia wife-poisoner, has been sentenced to death.

The President has nominated Theodore F. Singizer, of Pennsylvania, to be Secretary of Idaho.

General Hazen yesterday took charge of the Signal Service Bureau.

Commodore Thomas S. Phelps has been ordered to the command of the Mare Island Navy Yard.

The House of Representatives yesterday agreed to adjourn from December 22d to January 5th.

The Chilians are advancing in force upon Lima, devastating the country on the route.

John Sampson suicided at San Jose yesterday with strychnine.

San Jose has a case of small-pox.

Cattle thieves are again troubling Arizona ranches.

The distance from San Francisco by rail to Deming, the terminus of the S. P. R. R., is 1,208 miles.

General Grant appeared in both houses of Congress yesterday, and was heartily welcomed.

Austria is to issue a loan of 13,500,000 florins.

Two hundred and ten emigrants arrived at New Orleans yesterday for Louisiana plantations.

During the year ending June 30, 1880, the exports of bread and breadstuffs amounted to $288,036,835.

The German Government will soon issue a loan of 54,000,000 marks.

Ex-President Grant leaves Washington to-day for New York.

The United States District Court is in session at Portland, Or.

A case of small-pox has been discovered at Walla Walla, W. T.

A collision occurred yesterday near Blalock's Station, on the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company's road, without disastrous results.

Major Gillespie, U. S. A., was fined $200 at Portland, Or., yesterday, for illegal voting.

Our general telegraphic news, domestic and foreign, will be found this morning upon the last page.

THE FORTIFICATION QUESTION.

It is perhaps of little moment that the proposal to appropriate half a million of dollars to the improvement of our fortifications should have been rejected by the House, for such an amount could not have accomplished anything. It is, however, of some consequence that members of Congress should view this question intelligently, and it is very evident from the debate upon it that several of them do not do so at present. The assertion that we do not require better defenses because a foreign war is improbable, is about as weak a position as could be taken. It is not when war is imminent that fortifications can be built. The statesman's rule is, "in time of peace prepare for war," and nations which fail to follow that rule suffer the penalty. Another member "pointed with pride" to the history of the rebellion, as showing what could be done by two combatants neither of which was prepared for war when the contest opened. The obvious reply to this is that if either side had been prepared the war would have been finished in six months. As it was, the want of preparation on the part of the Federal Government probably cost the country fifteen hundred millions of dollars and two hundred thousand lives. In the event of a foreign war, however, it is very certain that we should have nothing to hope from want of preparation on the part of the enemy. The latter would assuredly not give us any leisure to repair our fortifications or build new ones, but being fully prepared for active hostilities on the most extensive scale, immediately war was declared, would proceed to search out all our weak places, and to pay such attention to our principal ports, dockyards and naval arsenals, as would render the work of preparation exceedingly difficult, if not absolutely impossible. A member observed that General Grant had said we required rather heavier ordnance than more fortifications. This may be true, but at present we are quite as weak in artillery as in ships or forts. It was also intimated that we might rely upon torpedoes for defense. Even if that were true we have not got the torpedoes. We might begin to manufacture them when war appeared inevitable, but to arrange a system of torpedo defense for a coast-line such as ours is not a work of a few days or weeks, and long before it could be accomplished the enemy's ironclads would have passed unguarded points and begun their work of devastation. In short, it is clear that as the case stands we are practically defenseless, and that unless we begin to defend ourselves while there is no danger we shall be unable to do so when the danger comes.

POOR WADE HAMPTON.

Wade Hampton has been goaded by the reproaches of his party friends into writing a letter in which he denies that he had any idea of challenging Secretary Sherman when he wrote to the latter that "his address was Columbia, South Carolina." This denial is said to have been evoked principally by the remarks of a California Democrat, who has charged upon Hampton's folly the defeat of Hancock. Certainly it was not Wade Hampton's letter to Sherman that caused California to go Democratic, and there is no ground for supposing that it had any influence upon the vote of New York. In short the California Democrat referred to appears to be a very poor judge of political phenomena, and to possess an exceedingly feeble insight into the motives which move men in Presidential elections. It was hardly worth while for General Hampton, for the sake of satisfying such a critic, to put forward a denial which it is impossible for the public to accept as anything but an afterthought. Had he not been a Southerner, living in a community which still maintains the "code of honor," and necessarily familiar with its phraseology and technicalities, his present disclaimer might have passed. But unfortunately for him the country knows that on the occasion referred to he employed language which has only one meaning among his own associates. We cannot and do not doubt that he intended to provoke Secretary Sherman to a duel. It was an impulsive, rash and foolish step, but it was thoroughly characteristic of the man. The incident, however, had almost been forgotten, and it would have entailed no real opprobrium upon him had he not thus unfortunately endeavored to deny what cannot with any hope of credence be disclaimed.

THE SPOILS SYSTEM IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

It is not alone in the civil service that the spoils system has been established, as a rule recently adopted by the San Francisco Board of Education shows. This rule is to the effect that whenever a female teacher marries she must resign her position in the schools. The rationale of such a regulation is perfectly clear, and it challenges criticism not only because of its pernicious principle, but because the same kind of rule has been enforced in other cities than San Francisco. The theory upon which it is based is that the public schools are to be regarded as asylums, or refuges for the destitute; that the positions of teachers are given to them in order that they may be enabled to support themselves; and that as when a female teacher marries it is presumable that her husband will thenceforth maintain her, it is no longer necessary that she should draw pay from the public treasury. This is a view of the school system which as completely ignores all considerations of capacity and usefulness in the teachers as the spoils system does in the filling of political offices. The school fund is in fact regarded as a species of charity, and those who receive it are considered as pensioners whose pittance ought to be cut off as soon as they find some other means of support. The absurdity and the stupidity of this view are only equaled by its injurious effects upon the educational system. And unfortunately its adoption has produced some effects which may seem to partly justify it, for it cannot be denied that in many cases young women have been given positions as teachers without any apparent regard for their fitness, and not seldom in utter disregard of their evident incompetence. It has indeed been remarked frequently of late years that young women and their parents look upon the public schools as a convenient means of obtaining pocket money, and of tiding over the brief period between graduation and matrimony. The opportunities and the pressure brought to bear upon Boards of Education for the installment of this class of transitory amateur teachers would naturally suggest to "practical" men the kind of economy adopted by the San Francisco School Directors. In discussing this question it is necessary to bear these facts in mind, and to realize that however desirable it may be that teaching should be treated as a profession, it certainly has not been at all uniformly dealt with in that light hitherto. This, however, does not affect the question of the propriety of the rule adopted by the San Francisco Board. If the schools are to be to the community what they should be, if the immense sums yearly expended upon them—about $1,000,000 in this State—are to be wisely and usefully expended, the profession of teaching must be treated as liberally and as intelligently as other professions are treated. A woman who has decided to be a teacher, and who has educated herself for that office, may or may not marry; but whether she does or not is no business of her employers, so long as she does her duty in the schools. Of course no presumption against her competency can be based on the fact of her marriage. It is not exactly true that a woman's business relations are as little affected as a man's, by marriage; but it is true that if she is a teacher she may continue to teach with so little interruption as to amount to nothing in the long run.

The business of the Board of Education is not to decree celibacy for female teachers, for to do so is to decree the exclusion of matured teachers from the schools. Such a rule can in fact only operate to maintain the mischievous condition of amateur teaching which we have referred to above. In truth it is at once a recognition and a perpetuation of the spoils system in the schools. It is the function of the Board of Education to see that the teachers are competent, and to encourage and retain all competent teachers. The Board ought to discourage, on the other hand, the existing practice of using the schools as a conveniency. The money of the people should not be squandered in supplying pin-money to raw girls who know nothing and care nothing of the science of teaching, and who have no intention of keeping the positions which they seek so eagerly. We are aware that School Directors commonly suppose that this class of teachers can be harmlessly employed in the lower grades, but this is a disastrous fallacy. The truth is that it is more necessary to put experienced teachers over the primary classes than over the more advanced ones, for the teachers who first manipulate the young mind give it its bent, and the success of the whole course depends largely upon the use they make of their opportunities. There is really no room for inexperienced teachers in properly administered schools, for there is no grade of instruction which is not important. It should therefore be the aim of School Boards and legislators to facilitate the adoption of teaching as a life profession in every possible way. The good teachers should be made much of, and stimulated by judicious promotion. The bad teachers should be weeded out as soon as possible. The spoils system should be discarded utterly, and the efficiency of the schools be made the test and touchstone of all educational legislation. The San Francisco School Board has blundered most seriously. It is impossible to keep up a high standard in the schools under so preposterous a rule as they have just adopted. It is not only unjust to the teachers, but it is fatal to the effectiveness of the schools themselves. Whether teachers are married or not should be nothing to the public. The one important consideration is whether they are good teachers.

SAN FRANCISCO ITEMS.

[From San Francisco exchanges of December 16th.]

Strong efforts are being made by a few of the Democratic Ward Presidents of the W. P. C. to revive that organization.

Duties paid at the Custom-house yesterday were $40,003 49, making a total of $223,786 58 for the month.

The merchandise exports of the week were valued at $955,158, a decrease of $42,543 from those of the previous week.

The China Merchants' steamer Hochung arrived late last night, thirty-eight days from Hongkong and nine days from Honolulu. She had three European passengers and a cargo of freight.

Wells, Fargo & Co. have secured the right to carry the express and establish agencies along the line of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, which gives them a continuous route to the East.

An important improvement, consisting of a slip and large wharf for the freight steamer Garden City, has just been completed, adjoining the ferry slips on the south, at a cost of $35,000. The length of the wharf and slip on the north side is 600 feet, and on the south side 460 feet from East street, the wharf being 197 feet wide. In its construction 1,486 piles were used, 705,000 feet of lumber and 23 tons of iron.

FOR THE COUGHS AND COLDS now prevailing, Hammer's Glycerole of Tar is a specific.

REGULATE THE LIVER with Hammer's Cascara Sagrada Bitters, and health is the result.

A REMARKABLE COLLECTION OF DRAWINGS.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, has recently received as a gift from Cornelius Vanderbilt, one of its Trustees, a large and important collection of original drawings by eminent Italian, French, Spanish, German, Dutch and Flemish masters. This collection was begun in the last century by Count Maggiori of Fermo, the author of an artistic guidebook and a member of the Academy of Bologna. Additions have since been made from the collections of Signor Marietta, Prof. Angelini and Dr. Guastalla of Florence. James Jackson Jarves, into whose hands it came not long ago from a member of the Leopardi family of Fermo, also added several rare and important specimens from his own collections. The decisions as to authorship were mainly made by the original owner, Count Maggiori, and have been carefully revised. The London *Academy*, on hearing that this collection was destined to come to America, remarked that as this was held by good critics to be one of the best in Italy, the United States would at once step into prominence among the possessors of similar collections. Indeed, it expressed surprise that so large, so varied, and so really important a collection could be obtained now in Italy. No more important step could be taken in this time of awakening interest in art and in its history than the acquisition of such a large number of specimens of the work of the illustrious men of the past. The remarkably good preservation of the drawings was also commented upon with surprise and congratulation. The drawings will be put on exhibition soon in suitable glass cases, so that they may be conveniently examined, and yet sheltered from every injury. The number of the drawings is 690. The majority belong to Italian schools—Florentine, Roman, Venetian, Bolognese, Neapolitan, Sienese, etc.—while not a few are by French, Spanish, German, Dutch and Flemish masters. Among the more noted names may be mentioned those of Michael Angelo, Raphael, Andrea del Sarto, Benvennio Cellini, Fra Bartolomeo, Spagnoletto, Salvator Rosa, Il Sodoma, Perugino, Leonardo da Vinci, Parmagianino, Correggio, Andrea Mantegua, Tiziano, Giorgione, Tintoretto, Paolo Veronese, Palma Vecchio, the Caracci, Guercino, Domenicinio, Guido, Reni, Brunnelischi, Luca Giordano, Nicholas Poussin, Claude Lorraine, Watteau, Velasquez, Murillo, Durer, Lucas Cranach, Rembrandt, Rubens and Vandyck. It is stated by those competent to judge that no collection in any way comparable with this in scope or number of specimens has ever been seen in America, and that its acquisition as a permanent possession by the Metropolitan Museum of Art marks an epoch in art-study on this side of the water.

THE SEA OF GALILEE.

Some very curious researches of a zoological character have been made lately by M. Lortet in the Lake of Gennesaret, the Biblical Sea of Galilee. The level of the lake being some 600 or 700 feet below that of the Mediterranean, it was interesting to find out whether the present or past fauna in the lake resembled that of the larger inland sea. In this way M. Lortet hoped to show that at some far distant period there had been a communication with the Mediterranean, which communication had been severed by geological convulsion. The greatest depth was found to be 250 metres, in the extreme north, near where the river Jordan enters into it. Strange to say, on the banks and highlands surrounding the lake the same round stones were found, showing a sea abrasion, and at that exact elevation which to-day belongs to the Mediterranean level. This shows almost conclusively that at some former period the level of the Sea of Tiberias and the Mediterranean were the same. As to there having been any communication between the two, that is a question not so readily solved. Mr. Lortet thinks that at one time the salinity of the lake must have equaled that of the Dead Sea. As it was, the study of this water induced the French savant to spend a long time in this region, calling on the energies of languid and indifferent Arab boatmen. There are, according to M. Lotert, 42 different kinds of fish in the lake, of which seven belong to the species known as *Chronis*. One family of the kind presented the curious trait of hatching its young in its mouth, and for that act was very appropriately named *Chronis paterfamilias*. But beyond the fish, ten mollusks, two tortoises, a crab, and a shrimp were the only living organisms. But what was remarkable was the abundance of the fish. Two castings of the net usually filled M. Lortet's boat.

EATING FOR HEALTH.

One of the most prolific causes of disease is improper eating, or taking food when the stomach is not prepared to digest it. If food is taken at the proper time, and in not too great a quantity, and is composed of perfect cell structure, the stomach will faithfully perform its duties, and the process of assimilation will build up the system with healthy material. But if food fails to digest, the heat of the stomach soon rots it. A portion of this putrid matter is absorbed by the lacteals, taken up by the circulation, and deposited in various portions of the system to rebuild torn down tissue. Can such a condition of the human organism be an index to perfect health? Yet such states exists. People often eat, sometimes heartily—not because they are hungry, but because it is meal-time; and unwittingly violate a hygienic law which will result, if continued, in impaired health with all its concomitant evils. Many children are fed to death by kind, indulgent mothers—actually crammed with pastry, candy and nuts until their entire system is diseased, a mass of putrescence from decayed vegetable and animal matter. We need not say anything of the evil effects of stimulants and excitants. The thousands of slaves to this form of dissipation, the dreary homes, ruined constitutions, and physical wrecks speak more forcibly than words of the baneful effects of unnatural stimulation. Drinking and eating, in short, cause more ills than any other two things in the world. And until people learn to govern their appetites these causes will breed disease and misery.

A SCHOONER LOAD.—A correspondent of the RECORD-UNION, writing from Pleasant Grove, Sutter county, says that the recent most prominent social event in that section was the ball and festival for the benefit of the new Catholic Church now being constructed at Lincoln. A number of young ladies and gentlemen from Pleasant Grove took it into their heads to attend, but the weather being very cold and the place some fifteen miles distant, the ordinary way of driving in buggies or open wagons was looked upon with disfavor. Finally some of the young ladies suggested that they should all go together. The young men, after puzzling their brains, finally stumbled upon a conveyance in the shape of a freight wagon, commonly known as a prairie schooner, and as there were some thirteen couples, seats were arranged around the sides, upon which cushions were placed, and at half-past 5 one afternoon the happy people rolled away, provided with plenty of music and ready and melodious voices. Drawn by four horses, after a ride of two hours and a half, they arrived at Lincoln, where they were well treated and enjoyed the festivities greatly. The entry of the party of youth and beauty into the town in their novel carryall was the occasion for much merriment and good-humored chaffing. But the young people were delighted, and declare that for real, cosy comfort near three score of jolly young people packed into a prairie schooner by night just lays over and eclipses all other methods of conveyance.

TELEGRAPH INVENTIONS.—R. E. House, the veteran telegraph inventor, proposes to revolutionize telegraphy by his new instruments for transmitting, receiving and recording automatically, at the rate of from 250 to 300 words per minute. As forty words per minute is a pretty good rate at present, it is evident that the new plan, if it proves successful, will not increase the demand for telegraph operators unless telegraphic business is vastly increased, a result, however, which is expected, as it is claimed that, by the House system, messages can be sent at about one-tenth the cost by the present Morse system.

A FEW BOTTLES of your indeed valuable medicine, called Pfunder's Oregon Blood Purifier, have entirely cured my rheumatism of 10 years' standing. Roseburg, Or., January 23, 1880. H. SCHWARTZ.

WASHINGTON.

Secretary Schurz Decides that Women are Citizens.

A CAUCUS OF GREENBACKERS.

The Ovation to General Grant on the Floors of Congress.

YESTERDAY'S CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

The Educational Bill in the Senate—Pension Bill Passed in the House.

[SPECIAL BY TELEGRAPH TO THE RECORD-UNION.]

WASHINGTON, December 16th.—The ovation given to General Grant to-day by both Houses of Congress was alike unprecedented and unpremeditated. He came to the Capitol to see a few friends privately, but soon after he entered the Senate chamber with Senator Logan and General Beale, and quietly took a seat on a sofa in one corner. He became the observed of all observers, and Senator Edmunds' impromtu motion that a recess of ten minutes be taken for the purpose of doing honor to the ex-President was manifestly timely as well as appropriate, because fully one-third of the Senators on the Republican side of the chamber had already left their seats and gone over to speak with him. The adoption of the resolution was quickly followed by the hearty hand-shaking of General Grant by all the remaining Republican Senators, and all the Democrats except four or five. The only ex-Confederates who kept aloof were Vest of Missouri, and Walker of Arkansas. The subsequent ovation in the House of Representatives was studded with sundry amusing incidents. General Grant entered the hall in company with Congressman Fort, of Illinois, whom he had accidentally met in the corridor, and General Beale went in with Blount of Georgia. Fort, leaving the three in the rear of the hall, presently rose in his seat and offered a motion for a recess similar to that which the Senate had taken for the same purpose. Immediately upon its adoption there was a rush for the obscure corner where Grant was modestly chatting with some friends. The ex-President for a few moments was almost crushed to the wall by the enthusiastic crowd, but Speaker Randall, with ready tact, came to his rescue, and walking arm in arm with him to the space in front of the Clerk's desk, they took the positions usually occupied by the Tellers when the House divides upon a vote, and then the members filed between them, each one giving Grant a handshake, while Randall did the honors of a formal presentation. Many, of course, needed no introduction, and among the number Physter of Kentucky, forgetting the crowd behind him, placed both hands on the General's shoulders and commenced a leisurely talk with him about old times, like the man at the White House in Mark Twain's story, which he continued for several minutes, until his laughing colleagues by main force shoved him forward. All the members present except about twenty—nearly all Northern Democrats—then passed between the General and the Speaker, and then the clerks and pages of the House fell into line and obtained their share of the hand-shaking. Several of the little fellows, not content with one shake, proved themselves to be able repeaters by running round to the end of the line again, and when detected in this frolicsome fraud there was merriment all around, in which the ex-President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives laid aside their dignity and smilingly participated. General Grant will leave Washington to-morrow morning for New York.

RELIEF OF GENERAL ORD.

WASHINGTON, December 16th.—The bill introduced in the Senate to-day by Maxey for the relief of General Ord recites in the preamble that at the date of Ord's retirement from service he had served his country in the army honorably, efficiently and continuously for more than forty years. His services when in command of the Military Department of Texas were also referred to as of great importance and value, and especialy in bringing comparative peace to the disturbed frontier. It is therefore proposed to authorize the President to place General Ord on the retired list according to his brevet rank, with the pay and emolument of a Major-General of the army on the retired list.

CAUCUS OF GREENBACKERS.

WASHINGTON, December 16th.—An informal caucus of Greenback members of the House of Representatives was held to-day. The main object was to devise methods for extending their party organization throughout the country and decide upon a plan of united action in opposition to the pending funding bill. The line of action to be pursued in regard to other measures now pending before the House of Representatives, and which they may endeavor to bring before it, such as the inter State commerce, the national bank question, and the unlimited coinage of silver, was also considered. No definite action was reached, and the caucus adjourned after authorizing General Weaver to call another meeting.

WOMAN A CITIZEN.

WASHINGTON, December 16th.—The Secretary of the Interior to-day decided that a married woman, whose husband is still living but who has exhausted his right under the laws, can make an entry and acquire title in her own right under the desert land Act. This decision of Secretary Schurz is based upon the broad ground that a woman is a citizen just as truly as a man is, and as the law in question provides for entries of desert lands simply by citizens of the United States, the enjoyment of its benefits cannot properly be restricted to male citizens.

UNAUTHORIZED AND UNTRUSTWORTHY.

WASHINGTON, December 16th.—Senator Booth says the statements attributed to him in an alleged interview recently published by the Washington *National Republican*, and telegraphed to California, concerning the Senatorial contest, were manufactured by the writer of the "interview" from a few casual remarks made in a private conversation, which were either imperfectly understood or intentionally misrepresented, and that he therefore, without entering specifications, pronounces the alleged utterances unauthorized and untrustworthy.

EXPORT STATISTICS.

WASHINGTON, December 16th.—The annual report of Joseph Nimmo, Jr., Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, is complete in regard to the export trade. Nimmo says the five leading articles of export during the year ended June 30, 1880, were as follows: Bread and breadstuffs, $288,036,835; cotton, unmanufactured, $211,535,905; provisions, $127,043,242; mineral oils, $26,218,625; tobacco and manufactures thereof, $18,442,273. The United States, he says, already surpasses every other country in the magnitude of its exports both of breadstuffs and provisions.

THE HOLIDAY RECESS.

WASHINGTON, December 16th.—The resolution passed by the House providing for a recess of fourteen days from the 22d instant will encounter some opposition from the Senate, but it will undoubtedly be agreed to by that body without any amendment, except, possibly, a shortening of the time two days, fixing next Thursday as the date for adjournment and the first Tuesday of the new year for reassembling.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, December 16th.—The fortification bill was received from the House and referred to the Committee on Appropriations; also the joint resolution for adjournment from the 22d inst. to January 5th.

Hoar presented a petition for woman suffrage in the Territories, which he said was signed by ladies of the highest attainments and occupying places of the highest respectability in society, and which contained arguments that to his mind had never received any answers worthy the name of respectable arguments.

March introduced a bill authorizing the President to place General Ord on the retired list, with the rank and pay of Major General.

The Senate refused to adjourn until Monday by 11 to 31.

The morning hour having expired, the educational bill came up again.

Teller approved the purpose of the bill, but proposed a material amendment. He showed that the chief beneficiaries under the bill were the Southern States, where there was the most illiteracy. There were perhaps 5,000,000 children of the age contemplated in those States, and the interest of the proceeds referred to, if distributed yearly among them, would give only about seven cents apiece to these children—an amount practically useless. He favored devoting the principal at once to the establishment of schools, so that the present generation could be educated therewith. Illiteracy, of course, would slowly decrease from year to year, but not appreciably faster on account of the small aid proposed. A wise policy was to make it possible for every child to be educated at once. The evil was one of to-day more than of to morrow. He did not favor the appropriation of part of this money to colleges, and wanted it all to go to the support of common schools, where the poor could get a practical education.

Hoar defended the bill in opposition to Teller's suggestions.

Pugh advocated the bill in a written speech, saying that he would not, so early in his service, attempt to influence the action of the body were not the subject of such vital importance, and especially to the part of the country which he in part represented. A centralized government rested upon the fear and suspicion of the people and their subordination. A republican and representative government rested upon confidence and trust in the people, and their intelligent co-operation. Hence the importance of measures looking to popular enlightenment. Slavery and the results of the civil war have incorporated into the population of the Southern States over 4,500,000 colored people, who, without their fault, are manifestly disqualified by ignorance from exercising intelligently the right of suffrage and discharging the duties of citizenship. The mutual distrust and fear of the North and South are chargeable mainly to ignorance—ignorance of the real feelings, dispositions and purposes of the business of the law making and civil administration. The people of the South have been comparatively united in their voting power, not for an object or purpose unfriendly to the rights, interests or pursuits of any station or any people, white or colored. They have been and are comparatively solid for self-defense and self-preservation against unfounded distrust by the majority of their fellow-countrymen of the North, and the dire evils that have followed, and must again follow, the dominion of ignorance in the State Governments in the South. The unavoidable and unalterable results of the war have made my convictions deep and unconquerable that the highest interests and greatest safety and prosperity of the people of the South are to be found in a harmonious, confiding nationality—not a nationality resulting from a centralized government, but a nationality secured by fidelity to the Constitution, with all its delegations, propositions and limitations of power, and the promotion of the great objects recited in it as reasons for the formation of our indissoluble Union of indestructible States. No legislation within the range of the constitutional power of Congress can become uniformly beneficial than that proposed by the bill.

Garland also supported the bill.

Vest declared himself an earnest champion of universal education, but thought it a matter for the States. He claimed in this respect to share the views expressed by the President-elect.

Senator Edmunds here, with the permission of Vest, announced General Grant, and a recess, by unanimous consent, was taken for ten minutes, and the Senators of both parties gathered about the ex-President, who sat in the rear of the hall.

After this had been done, Vest resumed.

Hill next expressed dissent from Vest's view This bill infringed upon no right of States. His only objection was the inadequacy of the amount.

Maxey advocated the bill as a common-sense plan of education. The Federal Government had made the negroes citizens, and should educate them.

Eaton objected to the rate of interest (four per cent.) on the fund, for the Government could borrow a thousand million dollars at three per cent.

Hill and Maxey thought the Government could well afford to pay that interest in view of the destination of the money.

Morgan spoke warmly in favor of the admission of women to the colleges established under this bill. He, too, argued that the establishment of technical schools might lead to the employment of large numbers of women in the manufacture, for instance, of jewelry in California, where gold abounds; of silverware and trinkets in Colorado, where silver is produced; in the sampling of cotton in the South—work requiring great delicacy of touch; and all the improvements of methods of cooking and nursing. Thus fields of light, elegant and useful employment would be opened to women. The technical education of women, making them independent, would tend to the elevation of both sexes.

No vote on the bill was reached, when the Senate adjourned.

House.

WASHINGTON, December 16th.—Hood reported a concurrent resolution for a recess from the 22d of December to the 5th of January. Agreed to—125 to 74.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Pension Appropriation bill.

Hubbell said it appropriated the exact amount of the estimate, $50,000,000. He said when the bill for arrearages of pension was before the House it was stated that it would require only $1,000,000. The Government had already paid, up to November 1, $27,000,000, the average being $560 per pensioner. There had been 281,579 pensioners, and there still remain 197,000, and the estimates show that it will require about $217,000,000 to satisfy them. The average age of these pensioners is only 41 years. Under the present system any one willing to take a false oath can get a pension.

Sparks defended the Act for the payment of pensions as one of justice.

Hubbell acknowledged that frauds might be committed under the law.

There was some dispute as to the authorship of the bill, and some sharp interchanges as to patriotism, etc.

After rejecting some amendments the committee rose and reported the bill to the House and it passed.

A ten minutes' recess here took place, during which General Grant was received with applause and hand-shaking, only a few Northern Democrats failing to take his hand.

After recess, Land obtained permission to print in the *Record* his substitute for the funding bill. [It appropriates of the coin now in the treasury the sum of $100,000,000 for the payment of the interest-bearing debt of the United States falling due during 1880 and 1881, and directs the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be coined a maximum amount of dollars in the manner now authorized by law, and to pay out such dollars in the redemption of the public debt. Section 2 repeals all laws authorizing the issuing of bonds for the purpose of funding or redeeming the interest-bearing debt of the United States.]

Martin of West Virginia offered a resolution directing the Committee on Pacific Railroads to inquire into the alleged mortgage and sale of unearned land grants by the Northern Pacific and Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Companies, and report what legislation is necessary to preserve the interests of the country. Ordered printed in the *Record*.

Adjourned.

CONSTIPATION.

It is doubtful if consumption numbers as many victims as are stricken down by the various diseases that result from habitual constipation. True consumption is an inherited disease. It may remain always dormant, but when aroused to action, decay commences at a point circumscribed, and gradually extends—unless arrested—until so much of the lungs become involved that vital action ceases. The evils of constipation result from inattention to the calls of nature, and usually commence with children whose habits are not closely looked to by their parents. The processes of nature are always active while life lasts. When effete matter is retained a moment beyond the time its expulsion is demanded the system commences its efforts to get rid of it. When the natural egress is checked, the absorbents carry the more fluid portions of the poisonous mass into the circulation, and it becomes diffused throughout the body. The more solid or clay-like portion is forced into the lower rectums, where it becomes firmly impacted, thus cutting off the circulation in the small blood vessels, causing painful engorgement known as piles and hemorrhoids. A continuance of these troubles often results in fissure, fistula or cancer. The trouble is seldom confined here. As a result of the blood poisoning we almost invariably find more or less dyspepsia, with decided derangement of the heart, liver and kidneys, accompanied by headaches and nervous debility, often verging on paralysis.—[Hall's Journal of Health.

DIGESTION IN CERTAIN PLANTS.—Dr. Lawson Tait has recently investigated afresh the digestive principle of plants. While he has obtained complete proof of a digestive process in cephalotus, nepenthes, dionæa and the droseraceæ, he entirely failed with sarrencenia and darlingtonia. The fluid separated from the droserbinata he found to contain two substances, to which he gives the names of "droserin" and "azerin." Dr. Tait confirms Sir J. D. Hooker's statement that the fluid removed from the living pitcher of nepenthes into a glass vessel does not digest. A series of experiments led him to the conclusion that the acid must resemble lactic acid, at least in its properties. The glands in the pitcher of nephenthes he states to be quite analogous to the peptic follicles of the human stomach; and when the process of digestion is conducted with albumen, the products are exactly the same as when pepsine is engaged. The results give the same reactions with reagents, especially the characteristic violet with oxide of copper and potash, and there can be no doubt that they are peptones.

Snow was a foot deep on Howell prairie, Oregon, last Sunday.

PACIFIC COAST ITEMS.

Building is brisk at Jamison, Plumas county.

Land is increasing in value rapidly in Merced county.

The jute factory of San Quentin Prison will soon be in operation.

Yamhill county, Or., produced 1,617,500 bushels of wheat this year.

A Plumas county girl weighing 285 pounds got married the other day.

The Oakland Gas Works will manufacture gas from crude oil next week.

A new church is to be built for the Indians at Klamath agency, in Oregon, this winter.

The Good Templars' Lodge at Creswell, Or., noted for its long existence, has surrendered its charter.

The son of Frank Provis, in Amador county, died last week from the effects of impure vaccine matter.

The people of Yountville are quite largely signing a petition, to be presented to the Legislature, praying for a law to prevent the wholesale slaughter of deer.

J. J. Weissenburger has assumed control of the Truckee *Republican*, and is evidently determined to keep that journal up to its former standard of excellence.

There are two old cannon at Gold Hill, Nev., and the citizens have decided to sell them for old metal and devote the proceeds to help the sick and poor of the town. They will bring about $240.

It costs Virginia, Nev., $120 a month to keep a Street Inspector to look after three men who occasionally put in an hour or so on C street. Last month $56 was paid out for work and $120 for inspecting it.

R. H. Scott of Clackamas county, Oregon, is buying apples for 25 cents per bushel. The inferior ones are used for cider and the best ones are dried for export. He bought $400 worth from one man.

Says the Lyon county, Nev., *Times*: The taxes paid in this county this year by the Central Pacific Railroad Company amounted to $2,804 04. Nearly the whole amount was paid in $5 gold pieces.

It is said that Esmeralda will be the best county in Nevada. Her mineral wealth is barely suspected as yet, and when the railroad now building is completed to Hawthorne a large population will find employment.

Articles have been signed incorporating the Puyallup (W. T.) Library Association, with a capital stock of 1,000 shares of $5 each. A reading-room will be established immediately, and additions to the library made according to the number of shares taken.

If the Mormon leaders were strictly honest they would confess that the President's blow at polygamy caused a thrill of exquisite delight in a thousand Mormon homes in Utah. A thousand men said, "Praise God," and ten thousand women crid "Glory Hallelujah."

Says the Olympia (W. T.) *Courier*: The Washington, Kansas, colony left Kansas May 4th and arrived at the fair grounds, near Olympia, on the 25th of November at noon. Lost one young man on the journey. The colony consists of between 700 and 800 people, and will all settle in about this vicinity.

In Fresno county, in the vicinity of Kingsburg, it is said the land is gradually filling up with water, the effect of the many irrigating ditches through the country. This is perceived by the water rising in wells, and the sand holes and depressions which were formerly dry are now becoming miniature lakes and ponds.

The Truckee *Republican* puts on its bragging cap and says: There is more business done in Truckee than in any town of four times its population in the southern part of the State. There one can find the quiet of Eastern country villages and a lazy atmosphere, but none of the vigor, snap and bristle of our mountain towns.

Friday morning the conductor of the passenger train saw three deer near Steamboat, Nev., and told John Rapp, who started down the track on a hand-car, and shot one. The deer at this season are emigrating from the Sierra Nevada mountains and surrounding foothills to the pinenut region, which begins twelve miles south of Carson.

The committee appointed to obtain tests of the sugar beets grown in Washington Territory during the year 1880, and distribute the premiums, amounting to several hundred dollars subscribed by citizens, held a meeting at New Tacoma on the 30th ult. The conclusions reached are to ship all samples to be tested to the Alvarado factory, California.

Says the Lyon county (Nev.) *Times*: Since the completion of the railroad, the ideas of the Daytonites have enlarged. They talk of picnics to Mason Valley, school festivals at the Big Bend of the Carson, and of decorating graves at Fort Churchill next May. Mason Valley is forty, the Big Bend thirty, and the Fort twenty-five miles away.

The late heavy snow-storm took the Susanville people by surprise. Nothing like such a blockade on the Reno road was ever seen before. Several deer and antelope were killed in sight of the town last week, driven down from the mountains by the snow. The telegraph line was down at last accounts and was expected to remain down all winter.

The road from Sierra valley to Truckee has been opened so that there is good sleighing out that way, says the Truckee *Republican*. Captain Burton, with ten men and sixteen horses, put it through. A single path had already been broken before the party started out. By hitching their horses tandem to the sleigh, so that they could follow the path already broken, and fastening a large log to the opposite runners in the rear, allowing it to drag in the snow, they managed to break a splendid road without the least difficulty. The log business is a novel idea in the way of breaking roads in the snow, and is certainly a very effective one.

THE VIRTUES OF BUTTERMILK.—Few people know, says the *Country Gentleman*, the value of buttermilk. A proper and constant use of buttermilk will entirely cure the constant craving for stimulants to which many persons, from long use, have habituated themselves. Have it handy and when the appetite says whisky or other stimulants, drink half a tumbler of buttermilk; the craving desire will be satisfied, and the stomach will be much benefited and strengthened, instead of weakened. There are many good effects from a free use of buttermilk. It alone will often cure sour stomach, and permanently. The lactic acid needed by many persons is supplied by buttermilk much more largely than by any other known food or beverage. One vital and important use of buttermilk is the prevention of valvular ossification of the heart, from which in this country so many persons die, especially old persons. There are many other peculiar so-called heart diseases which lactic acid, if partaken of freely, prevents. The so-called fluttering or palpitation of the heart, consequent upon a disordered, dyspeptic stomach, can be entirely removed by a free use of buttermilk. There are many other unpleasant feelings thus cured, all of which have their seat in the stomach—melancholy, the blues, etc.

PLAN FOR CATCHING THE EXPRESS TRAINS.—M. Hanrez of Paris is the author of a method of taking up carriages by a train en route, in order to avoid stopping trains at stations to take passengers up. A "waiting carriage," fitted with a steam engine with a special gear and space for passengers and luggage, is placed on a siding at the station, and picked up by the train as it goes past. The latter, by means of a hook on its last carriage, catches a ring supported on a post, and connected with a cable wound on a drum in the waiting carriage. Thereupon the drum begins to unwind, and in doing so compresses a system of springs, while the carriage is moved at a rate gradually increasing to that of the train. The engine of the carriage then winds in the cable, the train and carriage are connected, passengers are transferred from the joined carriage to the train, and vice versa, then the two are disconnected, and the engine of the carriage working on the wheels brings it back to the station whence it was taken.

Fifty-five acres of carrots were raised on five acres of ground in the Puyallup valley, W. T. They were planted on the 15th of June and were dug the 1st of this month.

HAWTHORNE.—A. Bronson Alcott, in one of the Hillside Chapel conversations about Hawthorne last summer, mentioned the fact that, although they had lived neighbors at Concord for so many years, Mr. Hawthorne never entered the Alcott mansion but twice, and Mr.