THE DAILY RECORD-UNION.

TUESDAY.....MARCH 22, 1881

Daily Meteorological Record—Signal Service United States Army.

SACRAMENTO, March 21, 1881—8:02 P. M.

Places of observation	Barom.	Height of Barom.	Thermom.	Humidity.	Direction of wind.	Velocity.	Character of wind force	Rain 24hrs	State of weather
Olympia	30.06	56	75	W.	1	Light	....	....	Fair
Portland	30.10	55	81	Calm		.....	....	....	Clear
Roseburg	30.14	59	70	Calm		.....	....	....	Clear
Red Bluff	30.01	64	63	N. W.	2	Light	....	....	Clear
Sacramento	30.05	66	74	S. W.	4	Gentle	....	....	Clear
*S. Fran.	30.11	49	85	N. W.	9	Fresh	....	....	Clear
*Visalia	30.09	48	93	S. E.	1	Light	....	....	Clear
*L Angel.	30.07	47	77	Calm		.....	....	....	Clear

Max. Ther., 73. Min. Ther., 53. River above low water mark, 19 ft 2 in.

*4.02 A. M.

NEWS OF THE MORNING.

In New York yesterday Government bonds were quoted at 113¾ for 4s of 1907; 103¼ for 5s of 1881; 111½ for 4½s; sterling, $4 81@4 83½; silver bars, 112¼.

Silver in London, 52d; consols, 99 15-16; 5 per cent. United States bonds, 104½; 4s, 116; 4½s 114¾.

In San Francisco half dollars are quoted at ⅛ discount to par; Mexican dollars, 90@90½c.

At Liverpool yesterday wheat was quoted at 9s 6d @9s 10d for good to choice California.

Mining stocks opened quietly in San Francisco yesterday morning. The volume of business was small, and the variations in value were of little consequence to either buyers or sellers, and much less to the general public.

At San Buenaventura Sunday night, John Mitchell shot Antonio Pratt in a saloon quarrel, fatally wounding him.

The body of M. Higby, drowned in an Oregon river a year ago, was found Sunday.

Warren Goodell, who settled in Oregon in 1848, died Friday in Douglass county.

There are 219 male and 83 female patients in the Oregon Insane Asylum.

Sulsun has a branch of the Irish Land League.

A naked negro, delirious from small-pox, created a panic on Broadway and other streets in New York yesterday.

The patents of the Singer sewing machines having expired, anybody can now manufacture them.

The President of Mexico has signed the railroad grant from the Yaku to the Southern Pacific.

A shocking scandal has occurred at Detroit in connection with the county Insane Asylum.

Trains will commence running regularly around the washout on the Union Pacific Railroad to-morrow, a new track having been built.

The trials of the Land Leaguers at Dublin have been adjourned to the summer Assizes.

Turkey now agrees to cede Crete to Greece, instead of Epirus.

Several Persian tribes have crossed the frontier and pillaged many villages.

The health of Senator David Davis, of Illinois, is said to be seriously impaired.

At the Mare Island Navy Yard yesterday the rule for ten hours as a day's work went into effect.

Amasa Stone, of Cleveland, O., has given $500,000 to the Western Reserve College.

The loss of cattle in British Columbia from the severe winter was comparatively slight.

Many Chinese laborers on the railroad in British Columbia have contracted the land scurvy, making workmen very scarce.

Another rich mining strike is reported to have been made in Cariboo.

A Chinaman was mysteriously assassinated on the streets of Salem, Or., Sunday night.

General Joe Lane is gradually sinking at Roseburg, Or., and his death may be expected at any time.

A building fell at Rochester, N. Y., yesterday, killing one man and injuring several others.

The Senate yesterday confirmed the nomination of Levi P. Morton as Minister to France.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations recommend the ratification of the Chinese treaties without amendment.

A peculiar and unprecedented case of "Tannerism" is reported from Iowa City, Ia.

A graphic description of the funeral of the Czar, at St. Petersburg, from the pen of George Augustus Sala, is given this morning, having been specially telegraphed to the RECORD-UNION.

CODIFICATION IN NEW YORK.

The New York *Times*, in discussing codification of the laws in connection with the revival of an attempt to introduce the code framed by David Dudley Field for that State, refers to California as an example of the success of this kind of measure. It is therefore in order to point out to our contemporary that there are drawbacks to the satisfaction which a code affords, and that these drawbacks appear inseparable from the American form of government. Codes have hitherto been found to work well only in countries where it was possible to keep a very tight rein upon new legislation. In the United States the trouble is that no matter how carefully the laws may be codified, the codification will in a few years be buried under a deluge of amendments. That has been the case with us in California. Every session of the Legislature has added one or more volumes of amendments to the code, to the perplexities of practice, and it is perfectly clear that in the course of time this method of supplementing and changing the codes must altogether divest them of whatever symmetry and harmony they originally possessed, and bring about a crudeness and confusion in the condition of the law at least as objectionable as that which existed before the work of codification was thought of. Codes, in fact, may be extremely useful, and even admirable, if after they have once been adopted they can be preserved from hasty and unintelligent amendment. But as under our system of government a large percentage of every legislative body is sure to consist of lawyers, and as the lawyers who seek political advancement in these times are not often the most learned and profound of their profession, it follows that the proposed amendments to the codes will quite frequently be blemishes rather than benefits, and that they will tend to make the body of law they are applied to less perfect instead of more so. Unless therefore some way can be devised by which codes may be preserved from rash and reckless changes, we cannot speak hopefully of any experiments in this direction. New York might find codification advantageous at first, but the question is how it would appear at the end of ten or twenty years.

THANK YOU, MR. BEECHER.

Mr. Beecher's sentiments on the modern tendency to make much of condemned murderers are eminently sound and seasonable. The practice, purely a feminine one be it said, of sympathizing with these wretches, visiting them in their cells, sending them flowers, surrounding them with an atmosphere of sham pious twaddle and maudlin sentimentality, deserves the sharpest and most pitiless reprehension. The women who do this kind of thing are not really humane or tender. They are quite capable of ignoring all the manifold misery by which they are surrounded throughout their lives. They are not the kind of people who do good by stealth, and shrink from notoriety. They are rather brainless followers of imbecile fashions, who think it is "correct" to join whatever mania may prevail for the moment. Their slobberings over murderers are not pathetic, but revolting, and Mr. Beecher's vigorous rebuke to them is just and not a whit too stern. Such follies can only be dealt with by the lash, and it must be laid on with an unsparing hand to produce any good effect.

Baroness Burdett-Coutts is so happy in her marriage that she wants to make all about her happy also. She has given $5 each to the tenants on one of her estates, spending for this purpose about $2,000. Substantial presents were also bestowed by her upon the persons employed upon her other estates.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCES.

Our local columns have recently contained some deeply interesting accounts of mysterious disappearances, in which all the efforts of the police have thus far been baffled. The mystery of these cases is deepened when we reflect upon the apparent difficulty which surrounds all attempts to remove the traces of men who have special reasons for concealing themselves. When a man commits some crime which necessitates his flight, or when he wishes to evade his creditors, the obstacles which present themselves are almost insurmountable. He is recognized in spite of disguises. The telegraph heads him off, whichever way he turns. Every act bears traces by which he may be followed. He cannot make a purchase, or go to a hotel, or buy a railroad ticket, without exposing himself. The opportunities for detecting him seem innumerable. In many well known cases such fugitives have been tracked from country to country all round the globe, and have been taken at last, when they thought their identity most effectually concealed. Yet notwithstanding the many methods by which clues may be obtained to fugitives in these days, the fact remains that men still occasionally disappear as suddenly and completely as if the earth had swallowed them, and thenceforth the utmost ingenuity fails to discover the faintest indication of their fate. Several such cases have occurred in this city, and three of these at least remain impenetrable mysteries to this day. Arthur O'Neil was last seen on the street in the neighborhood of a building which had a bad reputation. He was known to have a large sum on his person at the time, and therefore it was concluded that he had been murdered. But no trace of him has been discovered, nor has suspicion lighted on the supposed assassins. The case of Mr. Coffin is still more remarkable. He left his house at a comparatively early hour in the evening, and from that moment no man has seen or heard of him. The mystery of Thomas Purcell, the publication of the account of which has at last brought to light the whereabouts of the missing man's effects, is as deep as that of Edwin Drood. Here we find an intelligent, educated, prosperous, sober citizen, who so far as is known lived a peaceful and temperate life, vanishing from the midst of the community swiftly and utterly, and leaving behind no clues which suggest the cause of his disappearance.

In this case there are several circumstances which add perplexity to the central fact of the disappearance. It seems to be an assured fact that Purcell's baggage was taken from the Western Hotel to the Mechanics' Hotel on the 15th of September, 1879. But he does not appear ever to have gone to the Mechanics' Hotel, and the fact that he was alive and here on the 26th of September is proved by the record which shows him to have cashed a check at one of the local banks on the latter date. What was he doing between the 15th and the 16th of September? Who sent his baggage from the Western to the Mechanics' Hotel? How was it that he seems to have lost control over his own property on the 15th, and yet to have been in the city eleven days afterwards? From the 26th of September all trace of him is lost. After cashing that check he disappears. The natural presumption in such a case must be that he was murdered. But how, by whom, and for what motive, remains unanswered. He was not a man to frequent low haunts. He was not in the habit of drinking. It is therefore hardly among the habitual criminals that the supposed murderer or murderers should be sought. Who had an interest in this man's death? Who would have benefited by it? Did he have enough money with him to make his murder an object to some one who had in some way obtained his confidence? And, lastly, can it be regarded as absolutely certain that he was murdered? To none of these questions is it possible to give any other than speculative answers. The presumption is that a dark crime has been committed, but all traces of it are wanting.

Experience has shown that not only strangers, but old and well-known citizens, may disappear in this way. Purcell was not known here, but O'Neil, and Coffin, and Chamberlain were. How is it that these men could vanish so swiftly and completely that no trace of their mode of exit remained? It would almost appear from such examples that the making away with any man is much easier than has commonly been supposed. It is true that in cities situated upon rivers there is an ever present means of disposing of ugly evidences of crime, or of suicide, but it does not seem probable that the river was an agent in any of these disappearances. All that is known is that these men have vanished like disembodied spirits; that they were here at one moment, and that the next they had, as it were, melted into the air. Occasionally, indeed, we hear whispered rumors that this or the other criminal could tell startling things if he would. But the startling things are not told, and the mysteries remain unsolved. How is it that when a man wants to disappear he cannot, as a rule, conceal himself, but that when others wish him to disappear he can be made to vanish so suddenly and utterly? Or is it true, as has been alleged, that most disappearances are really concocted by the chief actors in them, and that there are far more voluntary and deliberate evanishments than criminal ones? Is there in the breasts of most of our friends a latent eccentricity which may at any time develop into an uncontrollable yearning for concealment and dissolution of existing ties, or is society so poorly protected that it is possible for anybody to be knocked on the head at any moment, and so effectually made away with that all subsequent research will be unavailing? These are puzzling questions, but it is very clear that the public are interested in having them answered one way or another.

DIVORCE IN FRANCE.

The movement in favor of a divorce law in France does not appear to make much headway, though it is being powerfully supported. The old ecclesiastical doctrine of the indissoluble nature of the marital bond evidently retains its hold upon a people who have in most other respects separated themselves as much as possible from ecclesiasticism. The French view of matrimony has always been very different from that which prevails in Anglo-Saxon communities, but there are peculiarities about French social usages which would seem to render a recourse to divorce almost a logical sequence. It might be an interesting problem to investigate, whether the comparatively low ideal of the duties of married women in France which has prevailed so long is not largely attributable to the inflexible character of the marriage relation in that country. When there is no means of resenting marital infidelity, the tendency must be to condone and make light of it. It is equally true that an excessive laxity of the marriage bond may conduce to profligacy, and this has been demonstrated in some States of the Union, to the great injury of society, and to the scandal of American civilization. But it is clearly possible to establish a just medium in this regard: to permit divorce for reasonable and thoroughly proved causes, and to deny it when sought on frivolous grounds, or grounds opposed to the interest of public morality. It is a significant fact that in all the countries, save one, in which the indissoluble character of marriage is maintained, history has recorded the prevalence of infidelity among married people.

The French people may retain their old custom in this respect, but they can only do so at the sacrifice of the happiness of many lives, and at the risk of great and constant injuries to the morals of society. There occur marriages which are incapable of bringing anything but misery to both parties. In such cases divorce is the only rational mode of reparation. If, in such cases, divorce is unattainable, there must be either mutual wretchedness, or a compact for the permission of mutual immorality. The unreasonableness and cruelty of undertaking to apply a rigid and inflexible rule of life to such multifarious conditions as arise every day out of marriage, do not need to be insisted upon. Neither France nor any other country can afford to ignore human nature in the making of laws, and if divorce is refused, the consequences of that refusal must be put up with. There was a period when the Church's view of marriage was a wholesome one, but with the decline of barbarism it has ceased to operate as a cement and protection to society, and has tended more and more to operate as an obstacle to the development of a pure state of public morals. Thus far the Church in France has succeeded in keeping its hold upon the women, and to the influence of the latter is attributed the strong opposition which has been offered to the proposed introduction of a divorce law. It is, however, only a question of time for the change to be made.

HORRIBLE, IF TRUE.

A brief line in our dispatches yesterday conveyed the statement, "Roussakoff is "being tortured." This Roussakoff is the man who has confessed to having thrown one of the petards by which the Czar was killed. There can be no doubt that he is deserving of death, or that his execution ought to be speedy, but the world has outgrown the possibility of regarding such a statement as that of the dispatch without horror and disgust. Is it possible that the Autocrat of all the Russias thinks it consonant with his dignity, and with the responsibilities of his position, to sanction the application of torture to this wretched assassin? And is it possible that he thinks such an act of wanton brutality can have any other effect than to alienate the sympathy of the world from his house, and to intensify the animosities and the fanaticisms which have found their latest expression in Roussakoff's crime? To torture a miserable Nihilist, no matter what his guilt, is to put Czardom not merely on a level with, but below, Nihilism. It is to proclaim that Alexander the Third, too, is an assassin; that the skin of the Russian has this time been scratched deeply enough to reach the Tartar; that Muscovite civilization in high places is after all not much travestied by the actions of its lower elements. We had supposed that torture had been relegated to the red Indians in the nineteenth century, and that no country in the old world was any more to be discredited by that infamous recourse. Let us hope that the report about Roussakoff is a mere canard, and that the reign of the new Czar is not to be disgraced at its very outset by so shameful and ignoble a proceeding as the subjection of a human being to torture.

THE PENALTY OF WEALTH.

[Territorial Enterprise, March 20th.]

Letters addressed to John W. Mackay daily arrive at the office in this city from all parts of the world. Very many of these come from Europe, particularly from Germany. Men or women who want to beg or borrow money write him all manner of curious yarns, also men who have grand schemes of various kinds for making millions on millions.

Not long since a man wrote asking him to furnish $1,000,000 with which to buy up all the goats in the world. Having got hold of all the goats, and secured to themselves forever all future increase of the animals, the writer and Mr. Mackay would thereafter monopolize the kid-glove trade.

Recently came a letter from a young lady, who said she was living in a very dull and stupid little country village. She was sick of the people and almost disgusted with her own mother; would Mr. Mackay kindly send her $25,000, in order that she might go forth into the world and seek some more congenial sphere.

Even the address on many of the letters is curious. Here are a few out of a batch of letters received during the past week:

"Mac-Kay, esq., Bancker, Nevada or New York."

"John Henry Mackay, North America, Big Bonanza."

"Mr. J. W. Mackay, Esquire, possessor of the silver mines of Great Bonanza, Nevada, California, America."

Here is one for Mrs. Mackay:

"To Mrs. J. W. Mackay, owner of the silver mountains, Nevada, Great Bonanza, California, North America."

The "boss," however, comes from Hungary, and is exactly as follows: "To the most respectable J. W. Mackay, Esqr., Proprietor of the silver mines in Nevada, at Great Bonanza, New York, Nord America, to own hands." On the back of the envelop is written: "I hope Mr. the Post officer will exactly know where the consignee resides."

If letters reach the United States they come on all right. Not a few are received that are simply addressed: Mr. Mackay, North America." Formerly the Postoffice clerks in New York wrote below such addresses—"Virginia, Nevada," but now they send them right along to the Mackay of North America. "Mackay, America," is about as good as the elaborate address of the Hungarian, given above.

SOTHERN'S WILL.—Horace Wall, who was Sothern's manager and who has just returned from England, says: "His will bequeaths £1,000 to his second son Edward; the interest on £1,000 to his daughter Eva, and the interest on £2,000 to his youngest son George, or 'Sam' as he is universally called, until they shall become of age. To his oldest son and to Mrs. Sothern he leaves nothing. He was certainly worth $200,000. The will will be contested by Mrs. Sothern on the ground of undue influence. Sothern's small allowance to his children, I suppose, is explained by the fact that he has seen almost nothing of them for years, while they have been with their mother."

BEECHER.—Beecher complained, the other day, that churches are a good deal like railroad trains—the passengers get aboard and hold the conductor responsible for delivering them at their destination without an effort by themselves. Accepting this situation, Mr. Beecher proposes to show a little more activity as a conductor and a little more interest in his passengers. He has canceled all his lecture engagements and will devote his whole time to the church. It is his purpose also to properly set forth the advantages of his line and increase the number of passengers if possible, holding meetings daily for some time to come with that object in view.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES TO THE RECORD-UNION.

RAILROAD TROUBLE IN THE WEST.

A Naked Negro Creates a Panic in the Streets of New York.

GENEROSITY OF AN OHIO CAPITALIST.

Fatal Fall of a Three-Story Building at Rochester.

GOOD WORDS FOR CALIFORNIA WINES.

Brave Action at Chicago in Carrying Relief to a Hungry Crew.

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

Bimetallism.

CHICAGO, March 21st.—The *Tribune* reprints Henry Cernuschi's argument in favor of bimentallism on a basis of 15½ to 1, and says: If the writer serves to show that this ratio will be most convenient for all parties concerned, it will obviate the need for coinage on the continent of Europe, which at any lower value for silver would be enormously burdensome; so costly, indeed, to all the European Governments interested, that Cernuschi conceives the proposition unworthy of consideration. On a basis of 18 to 1, for instance, it would cost France $85,000,000 to put the required amount of additional silver in her outstanding coinage, to say nothing of the expense of recoining. On the other hand, the United States, which has comparatively little silver outstanding, would gain by reducing the ratio from 16 to 15½, the difference on each dollar amounting to 12½ grains. Mr. Cernuschi's argument is very ingenious and forcible. It is directed to the consideration of equities, as well as to the expediency of bimetallism, and will repay a careful perusal. It has special value in view of the approaching conference at Paris, as it indicates a basis on which the representatives of the Governments of Continental Europe will be disposed to insist.

Railroad Affairs in the Northwest.

OMAHA, March 21st.—No trains have arrived here from Chicago over the pool lines since Saturday, but they are expected here to-night. The mails for Chicago and the East have been sent over the Wabash road via St. Louis, on which trains are running regularly. The Union Pacific is building a track three miles long around the washout west of Fremont, and will have it completed to-morrow night, and on Wednesday they will probably resume running through trains over the Eastern Division. Meantime they are continuing the running of through trains over the Burlington and Missouri road to Kearny without delay or change. They talk of blasting out the ice gorges in the Platte river at various points, so as to let the water have a free flow.

The Mexican-American Cable.

NEW YORK, March 21st.—The *Herald*, interviewing Capt. J. A. Scrymser, President of the Mexican-American Cable Company, recently opened, learns that the work of the company already completed consists of a land line of two miles from Brownsville to Brazos, Texas, thence a cable to Vera Cruz, via Tampico, 500 miles. The company will complete by next June a land line from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico, 262 miles. Large construction companies are now organizing under J. P. Stearns, engineer of the work, to build land lines across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, 150 miles, and to other points in Central America. These land lines will be connecting links to extend the cable system southward through Central America to Callao.

California Wines.

NEW YORK, March 21st.—The *Sun*, in an editorial on California wines, concludes: That a good California wine is far better than a vast deal of the stuff sold for imported wine is beyond question. We are therefore glad to hear of the progress and prosperity of the vineyards of the Pacific. If Californian wine-makers go on improving as rapidly in the quality of their product, the phylloxera, already become a pest in the new vineyards, will be the only active and efficient enemy against which they will have to contend.

Lost Child Recovered.

CINCINNATI, March 21st.—This morning Mrs. Gray saw a woman carrying a child which she believed was Davie Kelly, the little boy 2½ years old who has been missing since last Thursday, and for whom search was about to be made in the sewers. She followed the woman, and saw her put the child into the side entrance of premises on Central avenue. Mrs. Gray then called a policeman and had the child and woman taken to the police station, where the parents and child were overjoyed to find their lost boy. The woman was arrested, and gives the name of Kate Fitzgerald, and her residence at Newport, but gives no explanation of her possession of the child.

Fatal Fall of a Building.

ROCHESTER (N. Y.), March 21st.—A three-story brick building, 100 feet square, on Water street, owned by the Rochester Hydraulic Company, and occupied for manufacturing, fell in ruins this morning. The cause is believed to have been the explosion of a steam boiler used for heating the building. James Schell, aged 20 years, was killed instantly on the sidewalk by the falling wall, and four or five other men were injured, but none fatally.

Shocking Scandal.

DETROIT, March 21st.—Quite a scandal has occurred by the discovery that a female inmate of the County Insane Asylum is enceinte. Another inmate acknowledges the paternity of the prospective infant, but it is alleged that he has been procured to make this admission to shield a more intelligent party.

A Naked Negro Creates a Panic.

NEW YORK, March 21st.—A naked negro, delirious from small-pox, rushed through Twenty-seventh street, Sixth avenue and Broadway this morning, yelling "Small-pox" at the top of his voice. The streets were cleared at his approach, and quite a panic for the time being ensued. He was finally captured and taken to the hospital.

Blockaded by Snow.

BLOOMINGTON (Ill.), March 21st.—Stock and freight trains bound for Manitoba have been blockaded by snow at the stock yards since Saturday morning.

Stocks in New York.

NEW YORK, March 21st.—The *Evening Post's* financial article quotes Oregon Navigation between 174 and 171, and Northern Pacific between 47½ and 46⅞ and 72 and 71⅞. There is a rumor that the "blind pool" of $8,000,000, formed in the interest of Oregon Navigation to control the Northern Pacific, has failed to secure control. Whether this is true or false it induced sales of both stocks.

QUOTATIONS.

Silver bars, 112¼; money easy at 4@6; Governments strong; stocks closed weak; Western Union, 113¾; Quicksilver, 14; Pacific Mail, 56¼; Mariposa, 4; Wells, Fargo, 117; New York Central, 144; Erie, 46⅝; Panama, 212; Union Pacific, 118¼; bonds, 113½; Central Pacific, 85; bonds, 112½; Sutro, 1⅜.

Munificent Gift.

CLEVELAND, March 21st.—Amasa Stone, of this city, has given half a million dollars to the Western Reserve College. He stipulates, however, that the college be removed to Cleveland, to be named the Adelbert College of the Western Reserve University, the buildings erected to be approved by the donor, five of the sixteen present trustees to resign, and other conditions less radical.

Will Not Resign.

BLOOMINGTON (Ill.), March 21st.—A letter from Senator David Davis to private friends here denies that he intends to resign the Senatorship and retire to private life. He intends to serve out his full term, and then return to Bloomington and devote himself to his business interests, which are daily growing larger. During the coming summer he contemplates erecting a magnificent hotel in this city.

Terrible Experience of a Brave Man.

CHICAGO, March 21st.—Dutch Fritz, or Fred Balderhauser, who, with a small skiff weighing 150 pounds, started across the fields of ice with provisions yesterday afternoon to relieve the ice-bound tug O. B. Green, three miles distant, had a terrible experience in getting there, being at times cut by the ice, nearly drowned in the rifts, knee deep in water and worn out with hauling the heavy boat. He reached the tug after four hours, however, and was heartily welcomed by the men, who had been without food since Saturday. The hardy Fritz, undismayed by his previous experience, soon launched out directly for South Chicago, and got in after six hours' work.

Peculiar Case of "Tannerism."

IOWA CITY (Ia.), March 21st.—A peculiar case of "Tannerism" is unearthed here. Nothing like it has been heard of in this part of the country before. The most reputable physicians of Iowa have examined the case. Miss Hattie Deul, a sister-in-law of Dr. A. Y. Worth, of this city, has not eaten a morsel of food for twenty-five days, nor has she spoken a word for three years. She abstained from food on the ground that it was her religious duty to do so, and from talking for the same reason. The persuasion of friends is useless, and she is slowly wasting away. Miss Deul is a maiden lady 52 years of age, and has always been highly respected.

Excursionists Coming—Experimental Trip.

ST. LOUIS, March 21st.—The *Republican's* Kansas City special says: An excursion to California is contemplated by the Directors of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad and the Pullman Palace Car Company, which will probably pass through Kansas City next Thursday. Two trains will start from Boston for San Francisco, and will be drawn from here by the locomotives, making the trip in the ordinary time required for a passenger train—114 hours. The train will be hauled by the same engines the entire distance, each having two engineers and two firemen, who will work six hours at a shift. The purpose of the trip is an official inspection of the new banana line. The object of taking the locomotives and cars through from the Missouri river to San Francisco, 2,391 miles, is to see if it can be done, so great a distance never having been yet accomplished. The ordinary work of an engine is 100 to 250 miles a day. The result of the experiment will be waited with interest. The engine boilers will be cleaned on the road, but this detention will be made up by running 40 miles an hour.

Brannan's Slice of the Mexican Debt.

NEW YORK, March 21st.—In speaking of the Mexican debt the *World* says: In the struggle with Maximillian in 1865, an issue of $1,000,000 in bonds was made at San Francisco. Of this issue the Commissioners recognize $540,000, $500,000 of which they state belongs to Samuel Brannan. Where the other $40,000 are they don't know. There is reason to believe that the $500,000 in bonds owned by Brannan have been recently exchanged by him for a grant of land in the northern part of the Republic.

Grant and the World's Fair.

NEW YORK, March 21st.—General Grant says he will resign to-morrow or the next day the Presidency of the World's Fair, because of being absent in Mexico ten weeks. However, the fair will be carried forward. They say Grant is disappointed because his name did not attract great numbers of contributors.

Northern Pacific Stock.

CHICAGO, March 21st.—The *Inter-Ocean's* New York special says: The distribution of the residue of the common stock, amounting to nearly 100,000 shares, which have been held in the company's treasury since the organization in 1875, was considered at the regular monthly meeting of the Directors of the Northern Pacific last Thursday. For personal reasons a quorum of the Board could not be kept together until the next day, and the matter was left to the Executive Committee. On the following day that committee voted to distribute the stock, and in accordance with that decision circular letters were forwarded to persons entitled to receive stock. Part of the stock has since been issued, and the certificates are ready for delivery whenever they shall be called for.

Protests Against a Called Session of Congress.

NEW YORK, March 21st.—The *Times'* Washington special says: A large number of letters have been received by the President from business men during the past three days, advising against an extra session, and many member of Congress have personally called at the White House for the express purpose of protesting against a called session at this time. The current belief is, however, that the President deems an extra session necessary, and that it will be called to meet in the latter part of April.

Nearly all the other New York journals believe that an extra session has been decided upon.

Ashore in Safety—Murder and Suicide.

CHICAGO, March 21st.—The Captain and engineer of the O. B. Green, the ice-bound tug, came ashore this afternoon over the ice and report all safe.

John M. Cram, a salesman of this city, was shot and killed at his home in Lake View to-night by Wm. Seymour, who then killed himself. No cause is known, the affair being very mysterious.

Killed in Self-Defense.

LOUISVILLE, March 21st.—Ed. M. Clarke came into Russelville, Logan county, last night, and gave himself up, stating that in a quarrel with Ed. King, about three miles from the city, he had shot and probably killed him. The Coroner and party went to the place, found King dead, with bullet-holes under each eye, and a pistol by his side. Clarke claimed self-defense. The Coroner's jury so decided. Clarke two years ago killed a brother of King's.

Three Men Killed.

MIDDLEFIELD, March 21st.—Three men were killed by the explosion of a boiler in White & Russell's mill to-day.

Suicide of an Insane Wife Murderer.

ST. PAUL, March 21st.—A special to the *Pioneer Press* says: James Tolen, an insane wife murderer, committed suicide in his cell at the asylum at St. Peter yesterday. He had appeared quite rational, but Sunday morning, when the attendant entered his room, he was found dead upon the floor. He had taken a sheet from his bed and twisted one end of it, which he tied around his neck and drew it so tightly that he was soon choke1 to death.

Sheriff Probably Killed.

KANSAS CITY, March 21st.—It is feared that Frank McLaughlin, a mule thief, has killed Sheriff John E. Murphy, who was taking him to Beatrice, Neb.

Labor Trouble in New York.

NEW YORK, March 21st.—The sash and door makers demand an increase of wages or they will strike. Other trades are moving for an advance in wages.

First Train Since Saturday.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, March 21st.—At 5 o'clock this evening the first through train from Chicago since last Saturday arrived. Great quantities of west-bound freight is waiting here, in consequence of the overflow of the Platte on the Union Pacific road.

DAVENPORT (Ia.), March 21st.—One snow-drift on the Western Union Railroad, forty miles north, is fifteen feet deep and a mile and a half long.

Trains All Right—Republican Primaries.

CHICAGO, March 21st.—The trains are all running to-night nearly on time.

The result of the Republican primaries today will be the nomination for Mayor to-morrow of John M. Clark.

Death.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 21st.—Hon. John N. Pettit, ex-Minister to Brazil, died at Wabash to-day.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

The Senate yesterday confirmed Henry W. Dwight, of La Grande, Or., as Register of the Land Office there; Levi P. Morton as Minister to France; S. D. Horton, of Ohio, as Secretary of the United States Commissioners to the Monetary Conference.

The President yesterday sent to the Senate the name of Moses M. Bane, of Salt Lake City, to be Receiver of Public Moneys.

The Brush Electric Light Company yesterday opened books at Cincinnati, and $150,000 of the stock was taken.

Judge Treat, in the United States Court at St. Louis yesterday, decided that, the Singer sewing machine patents having expired, anybody can now manufacture the machines.

Dispatches from the City of Mexico dated yesterday say that the President has signed the railroad grant from the Yakee to the Southern Pacific.

The Chicago *Daily News* yesterday morning began the publication of a two cent morning edition. This does not, however, interfere with its afternoon edition.

An excursion party from Canada has been gotten up by the Grand Trunk Railroad, and will consist of 750 persons in 20 coaches and with 65 cars of baggage.

BERNHARDT IN INDIANAPOLIS.—The Bernhardt played in Indianapolis not long ago. On her arrival in the city she was surrounded by a howling mass of hoodlums, who greeted her with "Hello! Sally." The car containing herself and party had to be detached from the main train and taken to another part of the city, in order to escape from the attentions of this mob of howling wretches. As the hotel was in a state of seige from the curiosity-hunters, the party took a walk until such time as the coast was clear. This enthusiasm was not shared by the attendants at the performance. There was a "beggarly array of empty boxes," and speculators who had rushed in and paid $3 per seat were offering them, at the end of the second act, for 50 and 95 cents.

ELECTRICITY IN SURGERY.—Added to its other valuable functions, electricity may yet perform wonderful services in surgery. At the Toronto General Hospital the other day a young man's leg was amputated with neatness and dispatch by an electric current. Having placed the patient under the influence of ether, the customary flaps were made, and then a platinum wire, attached to the two poles of a galvanic battery, was encircled round the leg under the flaps. In a moment this wire was brought to a white heat, and began to cut its way through the limb. By the great heat the ends of the arteries were contracted, and only the larger ones required to be tied. Many of the leading surgeons of the city and a large number of students were present.

A road is to be built from Lewiston, Idaho, to the Potlach country.

WASHINGTON.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES TO THE RECORD-UNION.

THE NEW CHINESE TREATIES.

Recommendation for Ratification Without Amendment.

THE QUESTION OF AN EXTRA SESSION.

President Garfield Denounces Polygamy as a "Plague Spot."

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

WASHINGTON, March 21st.—The newly-constituted Senate Committee on Foreign Relations held their first meeting to-day, and promptly acted on the Chinese treaties by agreeing to report them back to the Senate with a recommendation for ratification without amendment. The treaties were accordingly reported to the Senate this afternoon, and placed on its calendar for consideration in due course hereafter. The committee's action to-day, although nominally unanimous, was essentially formal, as it was not preceded by any detailed consideration of the merits of the treaties, nor accompanied with any understanding that a member should thereby be precluded from offering amendments, or indeed from opposing favorable action in the Senate. It being universally conceded that these important treaties, which had already been examined by the former committee, must be disposed of during the present session, and it being equally evident that any discussion which might arise in this committee concerning them would have to be gone over in the Senate, the favorable report was ordered by the committee consequently, as the readiest means of expediting final action. It should be added, however, that aside from conjecture and some rather vague intimations which may or may not prove to be significant, there is no special reason to anticipate that there will be any considerable opposition to the ratification of the treaties in their present terms, and on the other hand there is strong reason to believe, in spite of all criticism of the opposition now considered possible, that they will both be ratified by the requisite two-thirds majority without amendment.

THE PRESIDENT AND POLYGAMY.

WASHINGTON, March 21st.—The President said yesterday to a prominent Western Senator: "Polygamy must and shall be stamped out. This plague spot on our institutions must be banished. I ask you, as my friend, to take your stand in the Senate and fight this evil until it is crushed out of existence. We must, however, save from illegitimacy the children born in Utah of polygamist parents. I feel bound to do this, because two of my predecessors saw fit to recognize the institution by the appointment of Brigham Young, the head of the Church, as Governor of the Territory."

THE EXTRA SESSION.

WASHINGTON, March 21st.—A Democratic Senator asked the President to-day if there would be an extra session. The President did not answer positively, but the Senator says he intimated, in language not to be mistaken, that an extra session would be called. The President also gave Sunset Cox to understand that the calling of an extra session had been determined upon by the Republican Senators. All agreed to-day that the session should be called, and several said the proclamation would be issued next Wednesday. The best informed say Congress will be convened on May 20th, to give time for special elections to fill vacancies in Maine and New York. Morton, it is understood, will not go to France until after the extra session meets This would leave only Fernando Wood's vacancy to be filled in New York. The report has reached the Democratic leaders that Cornell would not call an election this spring, thus preventing the election of a Democrat in Wood's place. The Democrats communicated with Governor Plaisted of Maine, and it is reported that he will not order an election to fill Frye's place until one is ordered in New York to fill Wood's.

SENATE OFFICERS.

The Democratic Senators say there has never been any difference of opinion in their caucuses on the question of testing the changes of Senate officers; that the only differences were as to the plan of procedure. They are apparently determined to filibuster against any change. Two Representatives are absent, and Anthony is confined to his room with a severe attack of rheumatism, reducing the vote of that side to 33—3 short of a quorum. If an extra session be called, however, the indications are that the Democrats will then submit to the new officers.

OPPOSITION TO THE EXTRA SESSION.

CHICAGO, March 21st.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says: The President has certainly not yet decided on calling an extra session. The opposition is much stronger than he believed, and he is very anxious not to make a mistake in the matter. Robeson, Keifer and others have represented to him that it would be unwise and impolitic. They say the entire amount of outstanding six per cents, can be paid before next December with the surplus revenues and a portion of the cash now in the Treasury, and that it would be better to reduce the interest charge by redeeming $200,000,000 or even $150,000,000 of these high rate bonds, than to disturb business and put the country to the expense of an extra session. The Treasury officials estimate the surplus revenues for the ten months of the calendar year at $100,000,000, and should this be realized without doubt the Secretary of the Treasury could redeem and cancel $150,000,000 of the outstanding sixes before January 1st. This saving would equal what any measure passed by another session would effect, and the Republican party would never be held responsible for any imperfect refunding bill, and would suffer no damage in consequence. The Treasury officials have made the following computation: The 4½ per cent. bonds sold at a price slightly more favorable for the Government than that which could be realized for the 4s and 4½s are respectively 112.5 and 111.33. Computations based upon these prices show a rate of interest yield to the investor, if carried to maturity, of 3.29 and 3.20 per cent. per annum, respectively, and this shows that apart from the desirableness of as short an option of redeemability as possible, the 4½ per cents are slightly more advantageous to the Government in point of annual interest cost. It is probable that $100,000,000 of 4½ per cents could now be sold for 111¼ or 111½ and accrued interest, at which price the actual cost to the Government would be less than 3½ per cent. per annum. In other words, it would be equivalent to placing a loan at that rate.

The Republicans threaten to retaliate on the Democrats who refuse to allow them to elect officers of the Senate by having the Democrats in the Departments summarily removed.

CONDITION OF SENATOR DAVIS.

WASHINGTON, March 21st.—David Davis is said by intimate friends to be in a more feeble state of health than for years. It is known that he is uncomfortable on account of his peculiar political condition, and some friends say that he will probably resign.

THE CHINESE TREATIES.

WASHINGTON, March 21st.—The Senate Committee of Foreign Relations to-day reported back the Chinese treaties, with a recommendation in each instance for ratification without amendment. The treaties were thereupon placed on the Senate calendar of executive business.

UNITED STATES SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 21st.—The Vice-President presented a communication from the Governor of Wisconsin relative to the death of M. H. Carpenter. Read and laid on the table. The Senate then went into an executive session, and afterwards adjourned.

NOT AN AGENT.

WASHINGTON, March 21st.—The Bank of England, through Secretary Blaine, denies that it has authorized A. H. C. Prudence, a St. Louis Notary, to act for them in the United States in respect to unclaimed dividends in the bank. Prudence was dismissed from the bank's service some years ago.

BORN.

Yreka, March 9—Wife of W. A. B. Mills, a daughter.

Nevada City, March 19—Wife of J. R. Collins, a son.

DIED.