

Table with 10 columns: Location, Wind, Clouds, Rain, etc. Includes Sacramento, Marysville, Eureka, etc.

Maximum temperature, 63; minimum, 45. River above low-water mark, 10 ft. in.

Weather Probabilities. Washington, March 12th.—Indications for Pacific coast region: Partly cloudy weather and local rains.

THIS MORNING'S NEWS. In New York Saturday Government bonds were quoted at 117 1/2 for 4s of 1887, 117 1/2 for 4 1/2 of 1892, etc.

Mining stocks were fairly active in San Francisco Saturday morning, and better prices were secured in nearly every instance.

A train wrecked by a falling building at Palmyr, Ky., Thursday night.

The Rosecrans Garfield matter still occupies considerable space in the Eastern press.

Sergeant Mason, who was discharged from the army, and is to be imprisoned eight years at hard labor in the Albany Penitentiary.

A new place has been discovered. Four men were killed by a falling building at Palmyr, Ky., Friday.

Fire at Milbury, Mass., also at San Jose. The commandant Nihilists have been allowed until March 27th to depart.

Governor-General Prud'homme, of Cuba, insists upon resigning. The compulsory primary education bill has been rejected by the French Senate.

There is great opposition in Mexico to the importation of negro labor for railroad work. Thomas E. Fitz has been indicted at Los Angeles for the murder of Fred Reuter.

At Woodland James Smith has been found guilty of murder in the second degree for killing M. F. Patterson.

San Diego experienced an earthquake about Saturday afternoon. The discovery of a wonderfully rich mineral section is reported from Tucson, A. T.

Sixty thousand were needed at Truckee Saturday for Donner Lake and Truckee River. David Miller has been found guilty at Santa Rosa for the murder of Frederick Boussau, and will be imprisoned for life.

It is probable that the Chinese bill will come up in the House of Representatives to-morrow. The complete Austrian conquest of Crivonia is announced by the Austro-Hungarian Minister of War.

Another labor demonstration took place at Omaha yesterday, attended by 2,000 people. In the evening a collision occurred between the troops and strikers, in which several of the latter were wounded and one killed.

In an accident on the Rio Grande Railroad near Hastings, Saturday night, two men were killed and four other persons injured. For Saturday's telegrams and other interesting matter, see fourth page.

GARFIELD AND ROSECRANS. The controversy which has suddenly sprung up over an alleged letter of General Garfield's, deprecating of General Rosecrans, appears to have been deliberately set on foot for the purpose of injuring the memory of the dead President.

In such a case it is for the most part impossible for the friends of the dead to write the true explanation of the difficulty. Possibly the circumstances under which this letter was written may have been known only to one or two persons.

Possibly the letter is a forgery. Unhappily forged letters are no new infamy in our politics, and, equally unfortunately, there are men high in political position who can be thought capable of consenting to the employment of even such base means to compass their ends.

In the absence of all knowledge as to the genuineness of the letter, or the facts alleged in it, it is of course impossible to suggest any explanation; but it appears that outside of this letter all that can be brought forward in evidence of the nature of Garfield's official position concerning his old commander flatly contradicts its alleged positions.

Now it is highly improbable that Garfield was going about defending and praising General Rosecrans in all companies, at the same time that he was writing accretory letters to Judge Chase about him. Indeed such a course would not merely have been that of a hypocrite, but that of a fool; and we do not think that anything the world knows of Garfield will justify it in suspecting him of having been either the one or the other.

In a comparison of creditability, in fact, it must be seen at once to be far more probable that Garfield did not write this letter, than that having written it he should have maintained toward General Rosecrans the attitude he did. We do not credit General Rosecrans with too much sagacity or good judgment, but we should have thought that he would have possessed better sense than to jump to the conclusion that this letter was genuine, apparently for no other reason than because it violated every previous conception he had formed in regard to the character of General Garfield.

Such a precipitation in forming an opinion on inadequate data indeed suggests the uncomplementary idea that if Garfield did not write the letter, he would have been fully justified in doing so.

SEBASTIAN MASON. Sergeant Mason has been sentenced to dishonorable discharge from the service, and eight years' imprisonment in a penitentiary. This is the military punishment for missing Guiteau. We are somewhat curious to know what the sentence would have been if the Sergeant had not missed him. No doubt it was extremely wrong of this soldier to shoot at the assassin without hitting him, and we are well aware that military law has no leniency for such offenses. When a soldier fires he ought to kill, since that is what he is for. We believe that the Court-martial also found fault with the prisoner for having fired upon a prisoner he was set to guard, and possibly that offense was ostensibly the basis of the judgment of the Court. The general sentiment will be in favor of pardoning the prisoner as soon as possible. While the assassin of Garfield still survives there is a very grim anachronism in visiting penalties upon one who assassinated that assassin. It would seem that though it is easy enough to punish a man who tries to kill an assassin, it is by no means so easy to punish that assassin. Mason consigned to a penitentiary, and Guiteau unchanged, are facts which do not look well when placed together.

THE RAILROAD TAX SUITS.

Judge Wymire, of the Superior Court of San Francisco, has dissolved the injunction restraining the Sheriff of Sacramento county from selling the Central Pacific Railroad property for taxes, on the ground that the remedy sought is not the proper one. The tax suits which have been instituted have been the theme of much declamation against the railroad company, which has been routinely accused of a desire to escape taxation. In some of the counties where payment of the railroad taxes has been resisted, the death of county revenue has so endangered the continuance of proper government as to add greatly to the popular feeling on the subject. We admit that this is by no means unnatural. Whenever a wealthy corporation is concerned there is a disposition to regard it with unfriendliness, and to suspect it of a desire to evade the fulfillment of its duties. But though it may be hard to realize that a corporation is entitled to precisely the same fairness of treatment in these matters as individuals enjoy, the fact is so, and unless it be admitted it will never be possible to avoid misunderstandings. In all these tax cases it is claimed, on behalf of the corporation, that it has been unjustly assessed, and it must be said plainly that the proof of this assertion appears to have been made in nearly every case. The assessments seem to have been based on an extra-legal hypothesis that the corporation was rich in that it ought to pay higher taxes in proportion than other taxpayers. The State Board of Equalization has proceeded on this assumption, and the result has been the addition of perhaps 40 per cent. more taxes than the justice justified, to the assessment roll. The popular theory seems to be that the railroad ought to have paid whatever was demanded, and that because it has not done this, but has protested and resisted, therefore it is highly culpable. In some counties there has actually been a disposition to deprive it of the ordinary protection of the law because it declined to pay what it held to be exorbitant taxes; and almost everywhere it has been disseminated as though there could be no question on its side. But it must be recognized that if either an individual or a corporation yields without protest or opposition to a method of taxation which he or it believes to be in the nature of confiscation, the result will be to sanction and perpetuate the wrong, and even to facilitate its further extension. The real question at issue is whether or not the railroad has been assessed too high. If proof is advanced in support of that position the justification of the company's resistance cannot be regarded as complete; for it certainly cannot be expected or required by a justice-loving people that any of their members, whether joined as corporations, or individually, shall be singled out for discriminating and excessive taxation.

And it is necessary to lay stress upon the fact that the alleged failure of the railroad to pay its taxes is attributable, in the case above stated, not to its own indisposition to meet any just demands, but to the inequity of the proceedings by which it has been sought to make it bear more than its just share of the common burden. Had the assessments been reasonable; had they been made upon the same basis as those of individuals; had they followed the provisions of the Constitution faithfully; there would not have been any reason to them, and consequently the county treasurers could long since have been replenished. And though the people of any county are apt to regard their own interests alone in a matter of this kind, it must be remembered that the interests of the railroad are involved in every county in which they are taxed, and that the aggregate of their State and county taxation is a very considerable amount—so considerable that they are bound, by every business principle, to keep it as low as possible.

Nor does the company appear to have any remedy in the Courts, save by such recourse as may be made of action. The existence of just ground for remonstrance and complaint on the part of the railroad has been recognized by the Courts; but at the same time these tribunals have declared that the methods adopted to prevent the consummation of the wrong were improper or inadequate. Under the circumstances the company is hard bested; but even if it should be compelled eventually to pay the excessive taxes demanded of it, it is clear that the question will not be permanently settled, because nothing is ever settled until it is settled right. The establishment, no matter under what color of law, of the power of the State or the county to discriminate unjustly against corporations in matters of taxation, would really be quite as injurious to the people as to the corporations. That is the only tolerable method of taxation which falls so equally upon all that none can find in it any justification for resistance. When greed or unfairness or prejudice breeds about unfair assessments, there must be opposition, and it is scarcely possible that in such cases the superior power of the people can be so summarily exerted as to prevent great waste and loss through the withholding of funds which otherwise would have been made available at once. The moral of these tax suits, in short, is, that for the maintenance of the most satisfactory relations between the State and its component parts, exact and even-handed justice is indispensable; and that whenever this requirement is ignored or disregarded, the sure advantages of such a course are to be much more than counterbalanced by the friction which injustice always sets up. Those who seek justice must do justice; and those whose conscience wrongs because of prejudice will find it a costly indulgence in the end.

THE SUNDAY LAW DECISION.

Four Justices of the Supreme Court have decided the Sunday Law constitutional, and three Justices have expressed the opinion that it is not constitutional. This establishes the validity of the law so far as the statute book is concerned, but so far as public opinion is concerned it leaves the question pretty much where it was. The Supreme Court, indeed, has managed to contribute so many diverse opinions on the subject, that people of both sides can equip themselves with arguments. Some of the Justices think the religious question does not enter into the decision at all. Others hold that the religious question constitutes the foundation of it. Some think that the Legislature has a perfect right to make Sunday laws. Others maintain that it has no such right. The strongest consideration on this side of the question appears to us to have been advanced by the dissenting Justices, and its clearest presentation is in the opinion of Justice Sharpstein, who observes: "It is necessary that people should rest one day in seven, and unnecessary that they should rest two days in seven, and wholly immaterial on what day they rest, it was

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Verdict of Guilty in the Santa Rosa Murder Trial.—Wonderful Mineral Region in Arizona.—A Sutter County Man Murdered.—Case Against Officials Dismissed.—Discharged by the Grand Jury.—The Remains of Senator G. F. Baker.—Work of a Grand Jury.—A Missing Man.—The Rogers-Aron Case.—The Miller Murder Trial.—Death of a Postmistress.—The Quaking Earth.—Chosen Friends.—The Supreme Court Decision in regard to the Sunday Law.—Arizona.—Rich Mineral Region.—Bath Wounded.—The New Governor.—Oregon.—Bloodshed in Lake County.—British Columbia.—Advices from Victoria.

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