THE DAILY RECORD-UNION.

WEDNESDAY.....MAY 9, 1883

All communications for publication, and all letters upon business with this office, should be addressed RECORD-UNION, WEEKLY UNION, or The Sacramento Publishing Company.

THIS MORNING'S NEWS.

In New York Government bonds are quoted at 118⅜ for 4s of 1907; 112⅜ for 4½s; 102½ for 3½s; sterling, $4 84@4 86½; 103 for 3s; 102½ for 5s; silver bars, 109⅜.

Silver in London, £0 5-16d; consols, 101 15-16; 5 per cent. United States bonds, extended, 105½; 4s, 122½; 4½s, 116½.

In San Francisco Mexican dollars are quoted at 86½@87 cents.

There was a good demand for mining stocks in San Francisco yesterday morning, and at the opening the market had a strong look, but later transactions showed its deceptive appearance, as the values of the early session were not generally sustained. Evidently the arrangements for a general advance were not on a proper basis. The outside stocks were steady.

In the trial of Jere Dunn, at Chicago, for the killing of Elliott, the pugilist, great difficulty is experienced in securing a jury.

A shocking story of bestiality comes from Hartford, Conn.

The trial of Congressman Phil. B. Thompson for the murder of Walter Davis began at Harrisburg, Ky., yesterday.

The Government of Germany and the Reichstag are drifting rapidly into conflict.

The seventh annual Bench Show opened in New York yesterday, with over 1,090 entries.

The Catholic Knights of America are holding a Convention in New York.

A number of members of the Dakota Legislature have been indicted for bribery.

The sentence of Patrick Delaney, sentenced to death in Dublin for complicity in the Phœnix Park murders, has been commuted.

Rear-Admiral Calhoun has been placed on the retired list.

The President yesterday approved the civil service rules.

Bullion to the amount of £55,000 was withdrawn from the Bank of England on balance yesterday.

Queen Victoria has returned to Windsor.

Keene's Blue Grass won the Burevell stakes at Newmarket, Eng., yesterday.

In the municipal election at Redwood City the Taxpayers' ticket was completely successful.

James O'Rourke, who murdered his wife at St. Helena, died in the jail at Napa Monday night.

The trial of Matthews, for the killing of Moore, began at Lakeport yesterday.

A cloudburst at Dry Creek, W. T., Monday night, drowned a boy and girl, and did considerable damage to property.

Six fishermen were lost on the Columbia river bar, below Astoria, Or., Monday night.

A club has been started in New York by Japanese residents.

A colony of Russian Jews has been planted in Oregon.

Land troubles are prevalent in San Benito county, and bloodshed is feared.

Charles Schmidt hanged himself near Paicines, San Benito county.

Chinese immorality is causing excitement in New York.

O'Donovan Rossa pretends to be in danger of assassination — a consummation devoutly to be wished.

Six thoroughbred yearlings were burned to death in a stable at Lexington, Ky., yesterday.

A Consular Agent at Munich has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment for libel.

Owing to a failure of crops, a famine is expected in Samara, Simbeerska and Astrakhan.

Edward Mackay, one of the oldest and wealthiest merchants of Montreal, is dead.

It is thought in Washington that the Civil Service Commissioners will withdraw the name of Keim for Chief Examiner.

Congressman George C. Hazelton is critically ill at Milwaukee.

The Signal Service indications for the Pacific coast have been discontinued.

At Philadelphia, Monday, a tumor was cut from the mouth of Congressman Kelley.

General Crook, in crossing the boundary into Mexico in pursuit of the Apaches, has laid himself liable to a trial by Court-martial.

In a bull fight at Guaymas, Mex., Sunday, one of the torreros was trampled to death by the animal.

The California Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows met in their thirty-first annual session at San Jose yesterday.

A family were seriously poisoned at Pana, Ill., Saturday, by eating canned peaches.

A terrific hail-storm, accompanied by thunder and lightning, occurred at Denver, Col., yesterday. Much damage was also done by lightning at Omaha, and over two inches of rain fell in one hour.

THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE TROUBLE.

There has been a great deal of growling on the part of foreign agitators that the opening of the Brooklyn and New York suspension bridge was appointed for May 24th. That happens to be the birthday of a monarch known as Queen Victoria, Empress of India and Queen of Great Britain, etc. To the friends of the republic, that event has no greater significance than the birthday of any other good woman whom circumstance has made prominent in the world's affairs. The foreign patriots who assume to dictate how America shall conduct herself on about all occasions have gathered in New York and resolved that the bridge shall not be inaugurated on May 24th, and that if the attempt is made to do so the structure shall be sent skyward with dynamite. It seems to make no difference whatever with them that the committee in fixing on that day did not even remember the 24th was the Queen's birthday. The selection of that day had no earthly or other relation to its being an English anniversary, any more than it had relation to the 24th of May being the anniversary of the treaty that gave California to the republic, or the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, or the murder of Colonel Ellsworth, and other notable events occurring on that date. Possibly the fact that the same day is the anniversary of the battle of Naas may have something to do with the howling of the O'Donnovan Rossa faction, which would find equal objection to the 26th of May, that recalls the battle of Tara. The Disire was to open it speedily, and the 24th was the earliest day when the bridge could be made ready. Invitations have been sent to the President, Governors of States, and all arrangements have been completed for that day, and it will be difficult, inconvenient and expensive to rearrange for another date. No day can be fixed upon that will not be the anniversary of some event, the mention of which will be disagreeable to some of those who were not so fortunate as to be born beneath the stars and stripes. Of course if the day fixed is adhered to it will be a great compliment to Queen Victoria, though we confess to be unable to see it; and equally of course if the date is changed it will be a rebuke to that representative of monarchy, though we admit inability to comprehend even that. The 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, and so on, are anniversaries of events of far greater significance than the luck of a Queen to be born. But the dynamite cranks have said it, and it must be so, that the date be changed or trouble encountered, and American citizens must submit to the humiliation of dictation from a parcel of loud-mouthed dynamite fiends, such as P. J. Gallagher, who announces that dynamite shall be used, and the distinguished Mr. McCabe, who declares the bridge is doomed if opened on the 24th. Will these mild-mannered cutthroats permit the great highway to be opened on Decoration day, or do they think some of their friends who fought for the lost cause might possibly feel sad about it? Sensible people are beginning to think that it is about time this detestable domineering and dictation of foreign cliques and clans should cease. Clannishness has gone so far latterly that a citizen cannot mention a date, or name a foreign country, or speak of a class or race of people, without being subjected to the petty insult of the wretches who advocate the butchery of women and children by dynamite. This Brooklyn bridge business is the first threat by the bomb assassins against American institutions. Let it be hoped they will attempt to carry it out, that true Americans—foreign and native born—may be afforded the opportunity to rise in their majesty and drive the communistic scum from beneath the sheltering arm of a too lenient Government.

THE QUESTION OF ADULTERATION.

Some weeks ago attention was directed to the work of the public laboratory of Paris in exposing the adulteration and falsification of wine. The *Journal de Medecine de Paris*, in a late issue, contains a table of results of analyses for one month. It appears that the examinations in the laboratory are extended to food also. Thus, we find a group of results as follows:

Articles analyzed.	Good.	Passable.	Not injurious.	Injurious.	Total.
Wines	65	102	272	37	476
Vinegar	1	2	3	....	6
Beer	10	10	5	12	37
Cider	2	....	2	2	6
Milk	33	94	59	....	186
Butter	45	....	3	....	48
Oils	3	1	5	....	9
Flour and bread	3	....	4	....	7
Meats and preserves	6	1	1	9	17
Chocolate	3	....	22	....	25
Coffee	1	1	....	....	2
Teas	....	....	....	2	2
Vermouths(wine&worm'wd)	3	3	2	11	19

The distinction between the good and those passable, and not injurious, is to be noted: it amounts to the dissimilarity between the pure article and that which is partly "doctored." M. Girard, the Director, found also that the falsification of wines is so common in France it is quite difficult for the genuine to be procured in Paris. He has noticed for some months in the market inferior qualities of wines, including some Spanish wines, relatively rich in alcohol and some extracts. He discovered that these are adulterated very often in the country of production, or immediately after arrival in France. He notes the excessive use of sulphate of potassium in adulteration. "For this purpose," says the *Journal*, "chloride of barium is employed—a substance which is known to be very poisoneus. It can well be imagined how dangerous these wines become if this last substance is used in excessive quantities." The question agitating scientific circles in France now is, "What is the difference between a man giving his neighbor arsenic or strychnine and being hanged for it, and giving him chloride of barium and becoming rich and going scott free?" The American mind to this French problem will suggest the answer that the difference is a *vital* one so far as it affects the perpetrator of the crime, but *nil* so far as it concerns the unhappy victim. France is very deeply concerned over this question of adulteration. By her own official examinations she has made revelations that depreciate her wines at home and abroad, and it is not surprising that the producers have protested, and have attacked the integrity of the analysis made at the municipal laboratory. One effect of the disclosures will be to increase the confidence in and consumption of California wines, and to make producers take exceeding care that unscrupulous dealers do not bring our product into like disrepute by their infamous practices, and that punishment shall follow all attempts of that character.

A SAMPLE EXAMINATION.

Those who find such small virtue in civil service reform have time and again been importuned to advance some reason why examinations as to competency should not be had in the larger number of cases, as a prerequisite to appointment. They have uniformly failed to do so. These gentlemen may be brought to a practical consideration of the subject, however, by citing for their benefit a specific instance of civil service examination. In the first week of the present month it was found necessary to appoint two or three clerks in the Appraiser's office in New York. There were twenty-five applicants for the places. Under the old regime the men would have been appointed whom the political "bosses" nominated, and during their entire incumbency the three clerks would have been subject to them in all things political. Their votes must have been cast, their labor and their influence must have been exerted, as the "bosses" dictated, for would they not owe their places to them? They would, then, have been serving, not the Government, but the ward strikers, and thus the latter would have been, in fact, so far as these positions are concerned, the real governing power. But under the civil service reform practice the applicants were freed from slavery to the "bosses." The poor and the friendless clerks were placed on a level with those backed by money and "influence." The lists were kept open for a given period, and then the twenty-five, assurance having been given of the moral character of each, were put upon examination, and the three attaining the highest percentage were given the places. Three examiners made up the Board, and the candidates were subjected to examination in dictation, fundamental rules of arithmetic, fractions, percentage, interest, and reduction; elements of accounts, history, geography, government (general questions, principally such as relate to the United States), elements of English grammar, writing and briefing letters, and penmanship. Now, so far as these tests were concerned, what man is there who can point out unfairness? Did not the process tend to secure for the Government the most competent clerks? It may be admitted that the system is liable to abuses; the examiners may be venal; they may be prejudiced; they may record the examination credits improperly, etc., but these abuses are applicable to all human institutions, and do not affect the principles of the reform.

A GREAT deal of matter is being printed about the bravery of General Butler in exposing the brutalities at the Tewksbury Almshouse in Massachusetts, and Democratic journals point the finger of rebuke and cry, "There, that is a sample of Republican rascality exposed by a Democratic Governor." Now, that is the poorest and weakest kind of an argument. The Tewksbury cruelties are not chargeable to any party. The Republican party has never failed to prosecute for crime as quickly when the offenders were Republican as when they were Democrats.

A STATUE to Peter Cooper is to be erected in a square near the Cooper Institute. That is a mistake. The grandest monument to Peter Cooper is the splendid institution he founded and endowed, and where such a great number of poor men and women have received free industrial education. That institution needs enlargement, and every dollar is needed to effect that work. Erect no statues, but expand Cooper's splendid monument.

NEW YORK city is just now awakening to a realizing sense of the evils of a Chinese colony in the midst of the city. Perhaps our Manhattan brethren will come to think that the complaints of Californians after all had some foundation in fact.

HIGH license is now a "*live*" question in Oakland. In the last number of the *Tribune* Hon. Charles N. Fox, a distinguished lawyer, is out in a strong article in favor of it.

GENERAL NEWS.

General Crook and the War Department—Trial of a Congressman for Murder—Horrible Affair in Connecticut—Valuable Stable of Horses Burned—A Woman to be Pitied—Chinese Immorality—Chief Moses' Rights—The Case of Jere Dunn—Convention of Catholics—Items of Foreign News—Etc.

[SPECIAL DISPATCHES TO THE RECORD-UNION.]

DOMESTIC.

Chinese Immorality in New York.

NEW YORK, May 8th.—The *Herald* says: In an article published in another column will be found statements which, if true or exaggerated, demand instant investigation by the authorities. We refer to the opium dens of Mott and Pell streets, into which are decoyed young girls and mere children, who soon become victims of the opium habit and are speedily ruined morally and physically. The statements made by Father Barry can be easily investigated. He expresses himself ready and determined to fight the evil, which is annually ruining hundred of young people in his parochial district. Let him be called on for his facts and an investigation be begun at once. If one-half of what he says is true the opium dens of New York have already fastened upon this city a curse which it will be hard to eradicate in years.

At a meeting of the Catholic Young Men's Association of Transfiguration Parish last evening, which is located in the very heart of the Chinese colony on Mott street, action was taken to check the growing opium-smoking and attendant licentiousness. Father Barry, honorary President, said these heathens were corrupting children and converting the neighborhood into a hotbed of crime and debauchery. "They are," he continued, "destroying the daughters of respectable parents by an organized system. We will call to our aid all the power of existing authorities, and root out the evil at once. We will say nothing now of those we know must aid and abet these dens of infamy, for it might frustrate our purpose; but if the authorities fail to move, and if those whom we believe to be the supporters of these crimes do not help us, and do their duty, we will investigate the matter from bottom to top, and we will give their names to the world."

The *Post* gives additional details of the alleged Chinese bestiality recently exposed in Mott street, and which has shocked the community. Within a stone's throw of the Church of the Transfiguration, at Park and Mott streets, are at least fifty houses rented and wholly occupied by Chinese. The ostensible business pursued are those of grocers and tobacconists, but the real business is done in upper rooms, and consists of gambling, opium-smoking and bestial practices, which cannot be mentioned, but which form the ground for the present movement. Father Barry informed the reporter that within the last few months all disguises have been dropped, and the Chinese do not attempt to conceal their business. They begin by giving candy, dosed with opium, to the little girls who play around the street, or who go to or from school or church through Mott street. When once the child is poisoned with opium candy, she is induced to smoke by the hags attached to each establishment, and after that the ruin of the girls becomes easy. Father Barry estimates that 100 little girls have been ruined by the horrible system within the last year. Whenever the police have attempted to interfere, political power has been exercised to protect the Chinese, and in one case, which Father Barry mentioned, a policeman had been warned that he would lose his place if he molested the Chinese in their beastialities. One of the members of the Transfiguration Association said that after the meeting last night he went to Police Captain Pelty, in the Elizabeth-street station, and informed him that scores of young girls were being drugged in Chinese opium shops, and there ruined. He said he (Pelty) used profane language, and threatened to lock him up if he did not leave the station at once. On Sunday the place swarms with Chinamen from all parts of the city, and from out of town, who make of the neighborhood a perfect hell.

General Crook in a Delicate Position.

CHICAGO, May 8th.—A Washington special says: It is not beyond the range of probability that General Crook may wind up his little jaunt into Mexico with a Court-martial. At any rate the Department has washed its hands of him, and he is going ahead upon his personal responsibility. There has been a good deal of talk about the matter, and among other things it has been alleged that the Secretary of War allowed Crook to go ahead with the preparations for his expedition until the last moment, when his countenance was withdrawn in the order of eight days ago, which was delivered just before General Crook crossed the border. The War Department never countenanced the expedition, because it had no knowledge of what Crook was doing. He organized the campaign upon his own responsibility. Day after day the press dispatches from Arizona announced that Crook was organizing for a raid across the border. Finally, although not a word came from Crook himself, the Secretary came to the conclusion that something must be going on. Day after day he inquired if anything had been heard from Crook, and the report was always the same, "nothing." A week passed, and on Saturday the Secretary determined not to let the matter proceed further without setting the Department right, and he sent a dispatch reminding Crook that no crossing of troops into Mexico could take place, except in accordance with the international agreement. Crook replied that the message had just reached him at the boundary, and that nothing would be done in contravention of the agreement. With this he went on, and has placed himself in a very delicate position. The Department having so far called his attention to the law, the offense, if there prove to be any, in the end rests with the General personally.

Rights of Chief Moses.

WASHINGTON, May 8th.—It is understood the case of Chief Moses has been considered by the Cabinet, and it is the impression that he has some grounds for his complaints against the Secretary of the Interior. Chief Moses' band had a reservation set aside for them in Northern Washington, but they refused to go upon it. It was accordingly, in part, taken away from them. This made Moses so mad that he declined to receive further communications from the Interior Department unless they came through the Secretary of War, and demanded a chance to come to Washington and see the President about it. The Secretary of the Interior was inclined to refuse him permission to leave his country on such a mission. It is understood, however, that the Cabinet holds that he should be heard, and that neglect to occupy the reservation given under the treaty does not afford an excuse for taking the land away. Land granted under this treaty is vested property, and the title is not lost because it is not used. Moses seems to have the best side of the controversy, so far.

The Grandest Excursion Ever Attempted in the United States.

CHICAGO, May 8th. — The members of Galesburg Commandery, No. 8, K. T., having determined to make the pilgrimage to San Francisco on the occasion of the Triennial Conclave in a manner becoming Knights Templar, have organized a grand transcontinental pilgrimage, and have made the most complete arrangements possible for the grandest excursion ever attempted in the United States. They have secured a special train of ten Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe sleeping-cars and a baggage-car. The excursion will go west from Galesburg to Atchison on the Burlington road, and by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe and Southern Pacific roads to San Francisco. The excursion train will leave Galesburg Wednesday, August 8th.

Doubtful if He's Worth the Trouble.

NEW YORK, May 8th.—O'Donovan Rossa pretended to have received the following yesterday:

No. 1 HARTINGTON STREET, PORTSMOUTH, ENG., April 21, 1883.

Sir: I have no respect either for you or the principles which you champion. I should, however, feel myself morally responsible for your life if I did not warn you of the danger which I know to be hanging over you. Beware of two Englishmen, called Lennox and Brown, who will be among the passengers of the steamship City of Paris—though they may sail under aliases. One is short, with a gingery mustache, and wears eyeglasses; the other is middle aged, pale, and remarkable for his projecting lower jaw. The lot has fallen on them, out of forty men, to assassinate you, a doom which you richly deserve, but which I will not be privy to inflicting. Consider this a mere idle letter if you choose; at least my conscience is clear.

JOHN H. SANDERSON.

To O'Donovan Rossa, New York.

An Unfortunate Woman.

CLEVELAND, May 8th.—There is much excitement here over the treatment of Mrs. J. M. Hill by the Huron-street Hospital management. She was the wife of ex-Fire Chief Hill. Ten years ago she was stricken with bone rot. She had a leg amputated and was covered with sores. The hospital took her in charge, but when her funds had given out told her to leave. The matter was brought to the attention of a morning newspaper and was suppressed. A penny press got hold of it and the city is wild with indignation. Hill is now Chief in Oakland, Cal.

Searching for His Wife.

NEW YORK, May 8th.—Henry Williams, a real estate agent of this city, requests the police to find and arrest his wife for making a successful attempt to poison his children, who are now lying very sick. Williams has discovered that his wife was married to a man named Hinkle, in Germany, from whom she ran away. In Philadelphia she married a man named S. Sueltzer. He discovered her former marriage and went to Milwaukee. She then married Williams. Previous efforts to poison the children had failed.

The Star Route Case.

WASHINGTON, May 8th.—In the star route case to-day, when Bliss began his concluding remarks to the jury, he made a particularly bitter attack upon Brady, and then turned upon the other defendants. "This prosecution," said Bliss, "was intended to protect the treasury. Such trials must take place. The eyes of the country were upon the trial, to ascertain if a jury could be found in the District capable of understanding a case of this magnitude."

As Bliss took his seat, Merrick said the Government had closed its opening.

Wilson immediately inquired of the Court whether the Government would claim two arguments in closing.

Merrick replied in the affirmative, and as showing the sentiments of the Attorney-General, Merrick read a letter from Brewster, wherein he (Merrick) is directed to ask the Court to allow the Government two closing arguments, for in his opinion they were entitled to it, in this of all other cases. If the Court declines to allow the motion, then the Attorney-General is necessarily excluded.

Wilson declared that he would refuse to argue in the case if the Government were allowed two closing arguments.

Ingersoll made a vigorous protest against the motion to allow two arguments.

The Court said it had seen nothing to satisfy it that there was any reason to justify a departure from the established practice in such matters. The universal practice in jury cases was to allow but one reply by the Government, and that order would be preserved in this case.

Ingersoll explained that perhaps the defense could arrange to make place for the Attorney-General. They did not want to deprive the Government of the services of its highest officer.

Merrick said he should refuse to enter into any arrangement with the defense, as they had uniformly rejected his propositions.

"That's what we want," retorted Ingersoll, "to make them responsible for keeping out the Attorney-General."

At the request of the defense, the Court adjourned.

Frightful Storm at Denver.

DENVER (Col.), May 8th.—A hail-storm which visited Denver to-day was the heaviest ever known. The day was ushered in by a heavy shower of rain, but at 9 o'clock the sky cleared, and the day promised to be exceptionally fine. However the sky again became overcast, terrific thunder and lightning announced the approach of the storm, and with increased fury. Soon rain drops and hailstones were coming down together. The streets were immediately deserted, the violence of the storm rendering it unsafe for any one to be out. Incredible as it may seem, fully eight inches of hailstones—some as large as plums—fell in the lower part of the city in thirty minutes. The street car drivers unhitched their horses and sought shelter where they could. Horses insecurely hitched broke loose, and went tearing through the streets, which being deserted, no one was injured. The storm lasted fully an hour. Countless windows were broken, gardens dismantled, trees stripped of foliage and cellars flooded. Lightning struck in several places in the city, and strange to say no one was fatally injured. A Chinese house was crushed by the weight of the hailstones, and the inmates dangerously hurt. From the fact that the storm was entirely local, the damage to crops and fruit trees is comparatively light.

Thunder and Lightning at Omaha.

OMAHA, May 8th.—At 3 o'clock this morning a very heavy rain-storm, accompanied by terrific thunder and lightning, began, and continued several hours, doing considerable damage. The Central Telephone Exchange was struck by lightning, and the building took fire, but the flames were extinguished by the Fire Department. All telephone communications will be suspended for ten days. Several houses were struck by lightning, and were more or less damaged; but no persons were seriously injured. A new brick building erected by the Woodman Linseed Oil Company was undermined by water and demolished. Loss, $10,000. Numerous cellars were flooded, and stocks of goods damaged. Over two inches of rain fell in one hour.

Across the Atlantic in Five Days.

NEW YORK, May 8th.—The *Times* says: The last feat of the Alaska is sufficient proof, if any were needed, that ocean passage can be reduced to five days. Had the Alaska sailed from Milford Haven instead of Queenstown, and landed her passengers at Fort Pond Bay, instead of New York City, they would have reached here Saturday instead of Sunday. There is good reason to believe that the steamers which are to make the passage between Montauk Point and Milford Haven will be running in the course of another year. They are to be built by John Elder & Co., the builders of the Arizona and Alaska. Doubtless Austin Corbin would have preferred to have his steamers built in this country, but to expect him to pay Roach more money for steamers, the speed of which could only be guessed at, than he will have to pay John Elder & Co. for steamers guaranteed to surpass the speed of the Alaska, would be the hight of folly.

Labor and Capital.

NEW YORK, May 8th.—Hard coal shovelers having got an advance of wages, the trimmers and soft-coal shovelers now ask an increase.

PITTSBURG, May 8th.—It was reported last evening that several lodges of the Amalgamated Associations have inaugurated a movement which it is thought will result in an offer to compromise the dispute of wages of mill workmen next year on the basis of a general reduction of 10 per cent. Officers of the Amalgamated Association refuse to affirm or deny the report. The manufacturers say that the offer to compromise would be accepted.

This afternoon Secretary Flannery, of the Coal Miners' Association, filed a petition in the Prothonotary's office for the appointment of a Trades Tribunal, under the Wallace Act, to settle the differences between railroad operators and miners.

ST. LOUIS, May 8th.—The strikers of the Western Co-operative mines in West Belleville set fire to the mine last night, when uncovered by workmen, and the fire has been burning all day. Last night there was much trouble, and those who attempted to work were intimidated by the strikers. The Western Co-operative is the largest mine in Belleville district. The loss will amount to nearly $100,000.

Ruffians Who Should be Skinned Alive.

HARTFORD, May 8th.—At 1 o'clock this morning the residence of Mrs. Moore, at West Hartford, was entered by two burglars. After ransacking the house one of the ruffians, with a drawn pistol, stood on the top of the stairs and kept Mrs. Moore and a crippled granddaughter on the second floor while the other outraged another granddaughter on the lower floor. The girl was then assaulted by the burglar who kept guard, his companion taking his place on the stairs. The girl is in a precarious condition.

Grain Probabilities.

COLUMBUS (Ohio), May 8th.—Official dispatches received from the other States by the Ohio Board of Agriculture, give the following as the total probabilities—that is, acreage and condition combined: Winter and spring wheat in the following States: Kansas, 93; Minnesota, 76; Indiana, 70; Iowa, about 80; California, 87; Michigan, 64; Ohio, 56; Illinois, April estimate, 68; Kentucky, April estimate, 66. From the above date, Secretary Chamberlain of Ohio estimates a probable total shortage of 100 000 000 bushels from the last crop of 500,000,000 bushels.

Untrue Reports.

NEW YORK, May 8th.—C. P. Huntington said to-day that there was no truth in the reports of a railroad war begun among the Western lines. The reports probably originated among the Wall street bears. There has been no cutting of freight rates, but some dissatisfaction has been expressed at the rates of the Southern Pacific to New Orleans.

Catholic Society Convention.

NEW YORK, May 8th.—The biennial Convention of the Catholic Knights of America will convene here to-day. About seventy-five delegates, representing thirty-three States and four Territories, are expected to be present. Those delegates already here have been given an informal reception at the club-room of the local Knights, at which quite a number of well-known citizens were present.

The Trial of Jere Dunn.

CHICAGO, May 8th.—In the trial of Jere Dunn, for the murder of the pugilist Elliott, the forenoon session of the Criminal Court was consumed in trying to secure a jury. One juryman thus far has been accepted by both sides. It is estimated that two days will be consumed in obtaining a full panel.

Destruction by Fire.

LEXINGTON (Ky.), May 8th.—The stable of James A. Grinsted, containing six thoroughbred yearlings, all by imported Thunderstorm, was burned to-day, and all the animals consumed. Loss, $10,000; the work of an incendiary.

A Congressman on Trial for Murder.

HARRISBURG (Ky.), May 8th.—The preliminary trial of Congressman Phil. B. Thompson, for the killing of Walter Davis, began to-day. D. W. Voorhees, of Indiana, and J. S. C. Blackburn, appeared as counsel for Thompson.

The Massachusetts Legislature.

BOSTON, May 8th.—The legislative committee appointed to investigate the facts regarding the invalidity of Governor Butler's first veto, held a secret session this morning. One of the Governor's private secretaries was summoned to testify, but he refused point blank to make any statement. The committee is considering the advisability of ordering him under arrest.

The House this morning suspended the rules, passed and sent at once to the Senate all charters and appropriation bills before acted upon, including the bills for Tewksbury, Concord Prison, Monson, Sherbourne, Bridgewater and Lancaster.

That "Robbed" Paymaster.

SAN ANTONIO (Tex.), May 8th.—Quite a sensation was created in this city to-day by the confession of Major Wasson, the Paymaster alleged to have been robbed of $24,000 on a train near Fort Worth, that the whole transaction was a fraud, to cover up his short accounts with the Government. Wasson is now here at headquarters, under arrest.

A Threatened Mayor.

MILWAUKEE (Wis.), May 8th. — Mayor Stowell, who has just issued orders to close the saloons at midnight, and that the police shall not drink liquor while on duty, to-day received a threatening letter, in which it was declared that the saloon-keepers had decided to kill him if he enforced the order.

An Editor Shot and Killed.

MEMPHIS (Tenn.), May 8th.—An Oxford (Miss.) special says: This afternoon at 4 o'clock City Marshal C. E. Butler shot and instantly killed Captain S. M. Thompson, editor of the Oxford *Eagle*, who was resisting arrest. Butler immediately surrendered.

FOREIGN.

Affairs in Germany.

BERLIN, May 8th.—The debate on the budget in the Reichstag yesterday was remarkable, owing to the conciliatory tone of the Clerical speakers. Windthorst, the Ultramontane leader, said that order and true liberty could only be maintained by a powerful monarchical regime. The existence of a republic on the continent of Europe was impossible. Even that in France would come to an end. The Government bill increasing the duty on wool was rejected.

The *North German Gazette* says the German dealers will not fail to make a fitting answer to the charge made against them by Tanner, the United States Consul at Liege, that the oil, lard, flour, etc., imported from America are adulterated after their arrival in Germany, and that all articles of food and drinks sold in Germany are put through a process of adulteration.

Municipal Elections in Spain.

MADRID, May 8th.—The success of the Government's candidates in the municipal elections was due partly to the fact that many persons abstained from voting. It is stated that a great pressure was exercised to secure the election of the Goverament's candidates. Owing to the flagrant interference at the polls by the municipal officers of Madrid, a conflict arose between the Mayor and the civil government. Both officials have since resigned.

Fire at Aspinwall.

PANAMA, May 8th.—A fire at Aspinwall yesterday destroyed ten houses near the railroad station. Loss, $10,000.

PACIFIC COAST ITEMS.

Tombstone, A. T., is planting shade trees.

Yuba City is endeavoring to have a fruit cannery established there.

The Digger Indians, it is said, are predicting an unusually hot summer.

The local talent of Red Bluff are giving a series of theatrical performances.

The Montana Division of the Northern Pacific has yet about 230 miles to build.

It is reported from Idaho that the Bannocks and Shoshones are on the warpath.

Phœnix, A. T., continues the burning of coal tar in the evening as a health measure.

The buildings of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company at Colton are to be enlarged.

The Chinese laundrymen in Washington Territory are being arrested for refusing to pay licenses.

Not less than eighteen or twenty different persons in eastern Butte are beginning to raise carp.

It is now only sixty-two miles from Helena, Mont., to the end of the Northern Pacific track.

J. F. Castro, the Stockton wife-beater, has been fined $200, with the alternative of 100 days in jail.

Dr. Shurtleff, Superintendent of the Stockton Insane Asylum, is lying dangerously ill at Galt.

The aphis avenæ has reached the wheat in San Luis. A field of chevalier barley at Los Osos is also affected.

It is rumored the Central Pacific Company will soon rebuild the railroad from Knights Landing to Marysville.

About a quart of large-sized moths are daily taken from the glass globes of each electric light mast at Los Angeles.

Butte county has 155,000 acres of Government land open to settlers, and 150,700 acres of railroad land yet unoccupied.

George E. Wager made a remarkable shot with a 16-pound rifle recently, killing two buffaloes at 1,163 yards, near Cave Hills, M. T.

With the advent of a steamer on the Colorado, at the Grand Canon, the old legends of its impassable whirlpools, etc., will vanish.

The monument erected in the Santa Clara Cemetery by the Methodist Episcopal Church, in memory of Rev. Isaac Owen, will be unveiled on the 11th instant.

The Nez Perce Indians, to the number of 125 adult males, held a council the other day and declared that they were opposed to the building of a railroad through their reserve.

The Stockton *Mail* is authority for a statement that the attempt to extend the San Joaquin and Sierra Nevada Narrow-gauge Railroad from Woodbridge to Stockton has failed.

A man on Cow creek, Tuolumne county, says the Reno *Gazette*, is making money running a skunk ranch. The animal's secretion, so offensive to the Caucasian nostril, is highly prized by Chinese as a medicine, and they pay a large price for it.

A man was in town yesterday looking for a place to open a dry goods store. Oh, give us a rest—there are too many dry goods stores here already. We can stand a few more saloons, however, as there is only one to every eight or ten citizens.—[Nevada Transcript.

A PREMATURE DECISION.

Hearing so much of Courts and seeing so much of lawyers recently reminds us of an incident that our Congressman, Hon. Seab. Reese, used to tell of while Solicitor-General on this judicial circuit.

The Supreme Court was in session in one of the lower counties of the circuit, and the Solicitor, with the counsel for defense, was engaged in the selection of a jury for the trial of a man charged with murder.

As usual in such cases, some difficulty was experienced in obtaining a jury, and the Court was getting tired of such tedious proceedings.

"Call the next juror, Mr. Clerk," said the solicitor for the hundredth time.

The clerk called out the name, and an old man with an honest face and a suit of blue jeans clothes rose up in his place, and the solicitor asked the following customary questions:

"Have you, from having seen the crime committed, or having heard any of the evidence delivered under oath, formed or expressed an opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the prisoner at the bar?"

"No, sir."

"Is there any bias or prejudice resting on your mind for or against the prisoner at the bar?"

"None, sir."

"Is your mind perfectly impartial between the State and the accused?"

"It is."

"Are you opposed to capital punishment?"

"I'm not."

All the questions had been answered and the Court was congratulating itself on having another juror, when the solicitor in solemn tones said:

"Juror, look upon the prisoner; prisoner, look upon the juror."

The old man adjusted his spectacles and peeringly gazed at the prisoner for full half a minute, when he turned his eyes toward the Court and earnestly said:

"Judge, I'll be condemned if I don't believe he's guilty.

It is useless to add that the Court was considerably exasperated at having lost a juror, but the more humorously inclined had a good laugh out of the old man's premature candor.—[Elberton (Ga.) South.

THAT feeling of languor and debility that follows physical exertion, removed by using Brown's Iron Bitters.

WELLS' "ROUGH ON CORNS," 15c. Ask for it. Complete, permanent cure. Corns, warts, bunions.

OBSERVATIONS IN FRESNO.

Interesting Letter from Immigration Commissioner I. N. Hoag.

EDS. RECORD-UNION: I have spent two days very profitably in this county, in studying the irrigation and colony systems adopted so successfully here. I found the enterprising people fully alive to the importance of my mission East, and ready to place every possible facility at my disposal for gaining a correct estimate of the county's resources.

In a short letter I can give but a hurried outline of those resources. This is, as to area, the third county in the State, containing about 5,000,000 acres of territory, of which 2,000,000 have been classed as agricultural lands. This area stretches fully across the San Joaquin, about opposite the Bay of Monterey on the coast. The soil varies in its composition, but is generally a light loam, mixed well with decomposed granite, especially on the east side of the valley, where my observations have been made. The soil is rich in vegetable food, and only needs water to develop its producing qualities.

The San Joaquin and Kings rivers afford an abundance of water to irrigate the whole valley portion of the county, and, I believe, the whole valley from Visalia down. There are suits pending in the Courts to settle the claims and rights of riparian owners and appropriators for irrigation. Whatever may be the decision of the Courts the water must and will be used for rendering fertile this great valley. If the laws as they stand will not permit or sustain the use of the water for such purposes, then they must and will be changed to that end. The people of the valley have confidence in this result, and are going right forward in extending old irrigation canals and ditches, and in projecting and constructing new ones, and in a very few years hence there will be no considerable section of the valley in Fresno not under irrigation and cultivation. When this shall be the case I have reason to believe, from what I have seen of the truly wonderful productiveness of the irrigated sections, that Fresno will be the richest agricultural county in the State.

There is a hard pan of cemented soil underlying a large section of the valley portion of the county, averaging from three to ten feet below the surface, and the general slope of this hard pan and the surface is about six to seven feet to the mile. Though this slope is not an uninterrupted incline, it is so nearly so as to interfere but little with a complete and very economical system of irrigation. The climate of Fresno is one of the most agreeable and at the same time most favorable for vegetable production in the State. The only present drawback—the parched surface and driving sand and dust-storms in the summer seasons—will disappear with the general adoption and practice of irrigation.

Whenever water has been brought upon and the land properly cultivated, the most marvelous fertility and production has followed. Indeed, it has been proven by an abundance of practical instances that forty acres under application of water has with careful management brought its owner a greater net income (and this is certain) than the average of wheat-growers receive in sections where irrigation is not deemed necessary. The grape for wine and for raisins comes into bearing here the second year from the cutting, and the third year produces a fair and paying crop, and the fourth year will produce heavily, say from four to six tons to the acre. No better wines or raisins are made any where than in this county. The colony system of settling the lands has been worked up very near to perfection here, and the very best and astonishing results are being realized.

The city of Fresno—the capital of the county—is already the center of one of the most prosperous and enterprising sections of the entire State. The Burton vineyard, the Ellen vineyard, the Eggles vineyard, the Butler, Forsyth & Briggs vineyards, comprising in all some two thousand acres of vines, and the Fresno, the Central, Washington and other colonies, are in the immediate vicinity. A ride to and through any one of these will fill with wonder and astonishment every observer—even those who have resided in this State since 1849, and observed the wonders in agricultural and horticultural developments so frequently met with here. This city has a great future before it, and when there shall be a railroad built from the Southern Pacific to the Yosemite Falls or valley, I think the switch will be at the city of Fresno.

We found the business and solid men of the county engaged in a move looking to a compromise by the county with the railroad company of the taxes now in dispute, upon the basis of a proposition from the company for that purpose. It will doubtless be settled at the next meeting of the Board of Supervisors. This will place the county in funds to pay off its debts and to inaugurate a system of public improvements to keep pace with the rapidly settling up of the county and with private enterprises being pushed forward.

Permit me to remark before closing that the people of Fresno know how to place their advantages before the public and to secure a favorable impression upon strangers, and they propose to leave no stone unturned to secure their share of the desirable immigrants the Immigration Commissioner will send to this State. The real estate agents here need no instructions as to putting land upon the market and to secure purchasers. They, however, are wonderfully successful in satisfying all purchasers with their bargains. We saw no one dissatisfied with his investment here.

Fresno, May 5, 1883. I. N. HOAG.

A World of