THE DAILY RECORD-UNION.

SATURDAY.....FEBRUARY 2, 1884

THIS MORNING'S NEWS.

In New York Government bonds are quoted at 122⅞ for 4s of 1907, 114⅞ for 4½s, 101 for 2½s; sterling, $4 83@4 85; 100⅛ for 5s, 100 or 5s; silver bars, 111⅛.

Silver in London, 50½d; consols, 101 11 16d; 5 per cent. United States bonds, extended, 105; 4s, 127; 4½s, 117½.

In San Francisco Mexican dollars are quoted at 87½@88 cents.

The mining share market was rather lifeless in San Francisco yesterday morning, except Bodie, which carried the price of that stock up to $11 37½. It rose to $14 25 last month, and then went back to $6. Alta got up to $2, a gain of 50 cents within a week.

The condition of the inhabitants of Takar, in the Soudan, is said to be most deplorable.

Disastrous fires are reported from Toronto, Ont.

A cockpit was raided by the police in Philadelphia Thursday night, and sixty-five spectators captured.

During the last seven days 373 business failures occurred in the United States.

Bertha Bicer, who married the "Living Skeleton" in Philadelphia, has repented of her bargain, and desires to return to the home of her father.

A fire in Paris Thursday night rendered 100 families homeless.

High water is troubling the people in the vicinity of Pittsburg.

H. E. Packer, President of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, died suddenly at Mauch Chunk, Pa., yesterday.

Patrick Hartnell killed his wife with an ax near Mount Auburn, O., and then endeavored to chop her body to pieces.

The case of Troyville Sykes, for the murder of Kate Townsend, his mistress, was given to the jury in New Orleans Thursday night.

Rain fell throughout the State again yesterday.

The police of Portland, Or., during January, made 429 arrests.

The winter in eastern Oregon and Washington Territory has been quite open.

R. O. Dewitt, a prominent citizen, died yesterday in Ukeka.

Patti will not accompany the Mapleson opera troupe to California, but Gerster will be of the party.

The strike at the Pacific Nail Works, Oakland, is still in progress, neither side showing a disposition to yield.

Malicious persons are poisoning valuable horses in Wasco county, Oregon.

The House of Representatives yesterday passed the Fitz John Porter bill by 184 to 78.

A gasoline explosion at Alliance, O., yesterday, demolished a building and caused a lamentable loss of life.

Two notorious counterfeiters were arrested in Missouri yesterday.

The execution of John C. P. Collins, for the murder of William F. Cummings, took place in Nevada City yesterday at half-past 1 o'clock.

At Leadville, Col., yesterday, the Denver and Rio Grande round-house and six locomotives were destroyed by fire.

Six residences, a livery stable and twelve horses were burned yesterday in Pueblo, Col.

An unknown disease is killing large numbers of sheep on the ranges in Montana.

E. G. Lindley is in jail at Princeton, Ind., on a charge of ravishing his thirteen-year-old daughter, and there is talk of lynching him.

James Powell died suddenly at Smartsville, Yuba county, yesterday.

Albert Roley committed suicide Thursday at New Era, Or.

It is proposed in the Wyoming Legislature to tax bachelors and lawyers.

The Coroner is holding an inquest in Indianapolis over the bodies of the victims of the railway disaster at Broad Ripple, Ind.

It is probable that the Kentucky Legislature will choose a United States Senator Monday.

Mrs. Barrows is on trial at Saco, Me., for the murder of her husband.

Robert W. Leonard, of Detroit, shot and killed himself on a train, yesterday, near Aurora, Ind.

Wendell Phillips is dangerously ill with heart disease in Boston.

A 70-round prize fight with hard gloves took place last night at Butte, Mont.

THE CONGO—CONSIDERATIONS CONCERNING A WONDERFUL COUNTRY.

The development of the rich and populous valley of the Congo, in Central Africa, is being accomplished mainly by the International African Association. The chief interest the United States has in it is, as President Arthur advised in his message, the maintenance of the neutrality of the valley free from the domination of any one power foreign to it. Portugal is asserting some fossilized claim to the country, and hence it is that the Association, which has cessions from and treaties with the native chiefs and their tribes, appeals to the civilized nations to guarantee the independence of the Congo country.

In the year 1484 a Portuguese ship entered the mouth of the Congo. Her Captain drove a stake on the shore and claimed for his country the right of dominion. Beyond the promulgation of a Papal bull, the encouragement of the slave trade and a feeble attempt to ascend the river, the Portuguese claim was never made good by occupancy or self-investment with any of the regalia of civilizing acts. Portugal, as we have said, still claims sovereignty over the valley of the Congo, but it has been disputed unceasingly, and will not be recognized by the powers, which treat its foundation as a myth and the superstructure as a sham.

The real discovery and exploration of the river was made by those who operated in the interest of no one nationality. The river is the largest stream of western Africa south of the Niger. To the natives it is known as "Moiezzi Enzaddi," or "the great river that absorbs all other rivers." It enters the Atlantic near latitude 6° south, longitude 10° 30' east. It is from seven to ten miles wide, and over 160 fathoms deep at its mouth. In no place in all its known length is it less than one mile in width. It drains a water shed of no less than 860,000 square miles. This immense artery of equatorial Africa discharges a volume of water greater than the Mississippi, and traverses a region richer in natural wealth and more ready to pour its treasures forth than any land upon the face of the globe.

The products of the Congo basin, penetrated by as marvelous a river as ever romance pictured, are mainly copper, iron, gold, ivory, gums, palm oil, resamum, pepper, skins, nutmegs, spices and india rubber, the tree which furnishes it growing rank along the river. Its climate and soil make it the home for cotton and coffee. It is said that anything that will grow at all will here flourish luxuriantly. The President of the American Geographical Society, Judge Daly, some time since, on being asked his opinion concerning the richness of the valley of the Congo, replied that he felt very much as a gentleman might who in 1620 would have sought to impress people with the importance of a settlement which had just been established in the wilds of North America at a place called Plymouth. If that gentleman had ventured to predict that within two and a half centuries that settlement would have expanded into a nation of fifty million inhabitants he would have been regarded as a candidate for an institution then just opened in London and known as Bedlam. The possibilities which might come from the opening to commerce of the rich valley of the Congo were so great that if anything he should say was wild and extravagant he would have to ask his friends present to remember the precedent he had quoted.

Central Africa, up to a period within a quarter of a century, was a blank, but now is known to embrace sections, of which the Congo basin is the chief, marvelously rich in natural products, densely populated, and offering for our trade advantages that have scarcely been equaled in our history. The King of Belgium is a distinguished geographer and an ardent friend of exploration. He established, in 1876, the International African Association, composed of men of all civilized nations, and about that time it developed, through the explorations of Stanley, that the great river Livingstone discovered was the upper Congo, and thus it was ascertained that it was possible to penetrate the interior from the sea by large steamers. In the work of the Association the kingly geographer has now expended over $300,000 in the development of the valley of the Congo and the preservation of its neutrality. For several years this work of exploration, settlement and development has been sustained by his purse—indeed there are few, if any, records of a broader philanthropy and humanitarianism among sovereigns than that to be credited to Leopold; for his work has all been unselfish, and in the interests of humanity, commerce and civilization.

The Association referred to, and the blue flag and golden star which we are now asked to recognize and aid, has already established on the river twenty-two trading stations, and enjoys broad rights and privileges granted by the chiefs of independent territories of Central Africa. They are "the nuclei of States" to which President Arthur referred in his message. They are governed by the Association and by American officers largely, and under temporary regulations modeled after those of the Republic of the United States. These trading stations occupy positions extending 669 miles up the river, and are in the heart of a population of 50,000,000 of people according to Stanley's estimate, all of whom, as he puts it, "are thirsting for trade," and are the "keenest traders" he ever met or heard of.

The section tributary to the trade of the river, and the business of which its commerce will absorb, is a vast region, extending, says Mr. Stanley, across thirteen degrees of longitude and fourteen degrees of latitude. The native tribes are now all sincerely friendly to European and American ingress. The slave trade has been mostly broken up, much to the disgust of the Portuguese, who found the Congo basin chiefly useful for carrying on this nefarious business. The natives now flock to the stations of the Association for trade and protection, and are constantly presenting new evidences of the wealth and resources of their land. Into this country vast quantities of American products should flow. Already it is making upon us a very heavy demand for unbleached cottons and prints, which the vast population of the basin eagerly seeks. It is not improbable that under proper recognition of the flag of the Association, fleets loaded with American manufactures will be constantly moving toward the Congo. The trade of the Dutch has been of a pottering kind; England has been in advance of America in trade thus far, but the independency of the Congo valley will assure us entry into the free field of commercial competition, and the result must be our trade supremacy.

The work of the International Association is represented by nearly all the civilized Powers, and in all the great nations there are branches, ; that of the United States has its headquarters at Baltimore, and Mr. Latrobe, of the African Colonization Society, is its President. The aim of the Society is, as we have said, not in the interest of any one nationality. It invites the commerce of the world to enter the country; is extending civilization; suppressing the remnants of the slave trade, and opening up the mineral and other productive wealth of the region. The Government of the United States is invited to send to the Congo an accredited agent to counsel with the Association for the adoption of measures for free American commercial intercourse, the security of the rights of Americans who enter the country and the free navigation of the river.

The Chamber of Commerce of New York has unanimously adopted the views of President Arthur, and urges Congress to be prompt in availing of the rich opportunities offered, and which the more ardent believe will stimulate greater activity in trade than has been known since the discovery of gold in California.

There is still some difficulty regarding the political control of the country. Portugal has not ceased to press the claim of sovereignty, nor have the British failed until 1882 to resist it. In that year an offer to treat was made on the part of Portugal, and notwithstanding that a treaty would mean a continuation by Portugal of the horrors of slave trade, English diplomats gave heed to the suggestion, which last year brought forth so vigorous a protest from the English people who will not countenance slavery and are so jealous of the slightest encroachment upon their African trade, that it is not probable any compact will be made, or that any interference with the independency and neutrality of the country will be attempted. However, the belief obtains in several quarters that England is secretly compounding with Portugal by which the two expect to obtain control of the country. But it is not thinkable that it will be admitted by other nations to be tolerable that any nation shall exercise sovereignty over the basin of the Congo.

The latest contribution to the literature of the subject is by Sir Travers Twiss, a distinguished jurist and student of international law. He points out that while a number of countries have posts in this rich and extensive region, and the comity of nations and a common interest have thus far conserved the peace and prosperity of all, there is no law or sufficient authority over the country as there must be. There must be a Government. He advises the States of Europe and America to concert amongst themselves measures to prevent the great work of opening the country from suffering shipwreck through any rivalry or dissensions among the whites themselves. To merely neutralize the river will not do, for that shuts out ships of war of all States, when it may be much desired to have them enter "to enforce police authority, and maintain discipline over the natives." Their absence would prove an encouragement to the piratical tribes at the mouth of the river. What he suggests appears to be wise; the creation by the great powers of the world of an International Commission and protectorate, which shall not recognize the claim of Portugal to sovereignty. Single State protectorates are a common means of establishing a "veiled sovereignty, and making the protected a dependency of the protecting State."

"IT PREVENTS OUR FELLOWS GETTING IN."

There is a wide, broad and significant divergance of opinion in the Democratic party. No intelligent citizen who has observed recent events can doubt any longer that the larger part of the Democracy is opposed to the civil service reform measures. Republicans may take comfort in the fact.

The justification for the conclusion is ample. The charge made last year that the declarations of the Democratic party in favor of the civil service bill were insincere is justified, first by the choice of Mr. Hoadly in Ohio, the rebuke of Mr. Pendleton, and now in the choice of Mr. Payne. The latter gentleman, we judge, is a self-respecting man, despises subterfuge, and believes that an open fight is the best. Hence we find him expressing the belief that the "Augean stable" of Republican corruption cannot be cleaned out with the "toothbrush" of civil service reform. He believes that a Democratic President should have power to turn out 104,000 Republican office-holders and put in 104,000 Democrats, and to bring about this consummation is, in his opinion, reason enough for the election of a Democratic President.

The first Democratic paper to warn Mr. Payne that this kind of pleading would not do was the Louisville *Courier-Journal*. The lesson Mr. Waterson reads Mr. Payne on the proper course to pursue in the next campaign is a stinging rebuke. Next in the list comes the Washington *Post*, a Democratic organ of admitted ability and authority, and the party loyalty of which no well-informed Democrat will question. That journal emphatically says to Mr. Payne that his sneer at civil service reform will injure the party. It declares that "to the politicians it may be a question of office and office-holders; to the people it is a matter of deliberate Government reform. The people demand reform in the civil service, reform in the tariff, reform in the internal revenue system, reform in our foreign relations and reform in the direct administration of the Government at Washington. The difference between a Democratic spoilsman and a Republican spoilsman in the White House is a question in which the honest voter takes no further interest than is expressed in a general desire to prevent unnecessary change. If the doctrine, 'to the victor belong the spoils,' is to be the Democratic watchword in the year of grace 1884, the party no more deserves success than it will be able to attain it."

This is remarkable language, and more clearly than anything yet presented, shows the broad rent in the party, on one side of which stand Democrats honestly in favor of economy and civil service reform, and on the other side of which are arranged the partisans who look upon governmental offices as mere means for rewards, and governmental trusts as mere aids to party advancement.

But there are Democratic Congressmen quite as blunt and outspoken as Mr. Payne. One Mr. Shaw has introduced a bill to repeal the civil service law, and tells a Washington correspondent that he has done so because "the civil service is only tomfoolery, nonsense and interference with the rights of the dominant party." He added that the law will keep an army of office-holders in power, who, "when we come into power, will play hide-and-seek with us and keep our fellows out of their rights." There is a spice of humor that is irresistible in his further remarks: "If it prevents our fellows from getting in, it is bad enough, and I am against it on general principles. I want to get our fellows in and get this law out of the way. It is contrary to the spirit of our institutions."

Another Congressman, Mr. Clay, is more discreet, but his purpose is the same. His bill is for a repeal also; but he veneers his position with a thin disguise by saying that he is not opposed to civil service reform. Oh, no; he favors it; but you see in its demands for mathematical knowledge and all that, for a mere clerk, the bill is absurd. "Why," he added, "I doubt if the average Congressman could pass the examination." Probably not.

INJECTING NEW IDEAS INTO THE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

There has been a proposition for some time debated before the Board of Education of San Francisco to require the teaching to all girls in the primary grades the "housewifely arts of knitting, sewing and darning." The scheme should be killed off. It is off a piece with the plan to teach boys in schools carpentery, telegraphy, printing, cabinetmaking, bootfitting and other specific trades, instead of general manual training, which is a very different thing. The scheme of common school maintenance cannot be preserved if all these new-fangled ideas are injected into it. Teachers in primary grades cannot give the attention to primary instruction necessary if they are to devote any part of their time to teaching that which the child should learn at home. In the primary grades the foundation for a practical education is to be laid. It is of the highest importance that the beginners should be well and thoroughly taught in the rudiments. The matter of reading, writing and the elemental principles of numbers, etc., should engage the whole attention of the teacher of beginners. In this department there should be applied the best teaching ability. The laws of this State contemplate it, when they require that the highest salaries shall be paid to teachers in the lowest primary grades. The idea is to bring to the instruction of small children the best possible teaching ability. Yet this law is cooly ignored, and we have not learned that it is observed in a single county in the State. Unquestionably it is a wise law, and should be respected. The good effect of it, if enforced, would be very soon manifest. It is not to be denied that the vocation of teaching of intellectual branches does not embrace the art of needlework; it is rare indeed that there is such a combination of qualities as will fit the teacher for both duties, even if it can be shown to be desirable to introduce the new idea into the schools. The disposition to foist upon the schools more and more of the duties of parents, is becoming dangerous alike to the educational system and the home economy.

OKLAHOMA PAYNE.

There are two things apparantly irrepressible, Oklahoma Payne and the McGarrahan claim. The outrageous effrontery of the latter will defeat it in time, and its abstract and general injustice will bring it to a woeful end. The cool and brazen pretensions of the former, and the piratical nature of his enterprise, should work a like result in Payne's case. But unfortunately for human nature, and fortunately for Captain Payne, his scheme appeals to so many selfish interests, opens the door, if successful, to such an army of greedy fellows who are seeking the rich possessions of the tribes of the Indian Territory, that there is a possibility of success awaiting the rascally claim.

Payne is now preparing for his spring campaign. He claims to have 7,000 persons at his back, bound to each other by common deviltry and common risks, by oaths and lodge ritualism, and by a unified purpose to rob the peaceful tribes of the Indian Territory. This whole Payne gang should be jailed. Last spring we fully explained the scheme, and exposed the shallow pretense of right upon which is based its claim to enter and possess grazing and tillable lands guaranteed by the United States Government to the Indian tribes. Judge McCrary sent Payne and his adherents out of the Territory when he was Secretary of the Interior, at the point of the bayonet. This year some vigorous official should see to it that the bayonet goes in and through.

SIGNS OF DISINTEGRATION.

The Senator-elect from Ohio, Mr. Payne, is taken to task by one of his party papers for his very imprudent speech. The *Courier-Journal*, which has the courage to rebuke a Democrat, as well as the inclination to castigate a Republican, tells the new candidate for President, despite his high personal character and long devotion to the Democratic party, that he is out of armony with his times. "He is an old man, lives only in the past, and is again fighting over questions relating to slavery in the Territories." So the *Journal* proceeds to advise him that his effort to distract attention from the question of the reduction of the tariff, in preference for the conflicts with which he is so familiar, will much embarrass him? The *Journal* is of the opinion that it will be the part of wisdom to determine what is to be the policy of the Democrats if they elect a President this year, secure a majority in the Senate and retain control of the House." It will invite great risks to come into power with no definite policy concerning the most pressing issue of the hour. The people wish to know in advance what to expect of the Democrats when they come in, and in order to secure public confidence we must clearly and definitely define our purposes. It is one thing to make a platform, and quite another to make known the intentions of a great party." The newspaper is, perhaps, not so wise after all as Mr. Payne. That gentleman probably sees the futility of attempting to unify his party, on the tariff question, for instance. We are inclined to believe that he manifests wisdom in the attempt to enthuse the organization upon its traditions. He is too far-seeing not to perceive that any effort to declare a policy in advance of actual possession of the administrative power, will divide the party beyond hope of reuniting the fragments. But the threat from the Kentucky Democracy is significant, and there is deep meaning and an omen of bright promise for the Republicans in this sting with which the article from which we have quoted closes: "Mr. Payne and his Ohio supporters will not write the platform for the next national contest."

TWO OBJECTIONS ANSWERED.

It is objected by the special pleaders against reciprocity with Mexico that the treaty will, if confirmed, work great injury to the Louisiana sugar planters.

Let us see what bottom there is to this special plea, waving for the time all question of the propriety of protecting a small class, or any class, at the expense of another class.

The proposed Mexican treaty is to continue but five years. It is purely experimental. Now Mexico has never yet and does not now make sugar enough for her own consumption. It is not, therefore, reasonable to suppose that within five years she will so enlarge her produce as to ship a surplus to us so as to reduce the home industry.

But we are told that the Cuban product will be shipped to Mexico, and thence find its way to the United States.

The answer to that is conclusive. The Mexican import duty on Cuban sugar is heavier than that of the United States.

But, respond the far-South press, "It will make sugar cheaper!" Ah, indeed! And who will be benefited by such an outcome?

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

There has been favorably reported to the United States Senate a bill by General Sewell increasing the appropriation or gratuity to the National Guard of the several States to $600,000 from $200,000. The apportionment of the sum is to be made by one of the departments of the army under direction of the Secretary of War on the basis of the representation of the States in Congress, 500 enrolled men to be the maximum allowed for each Congressman in making the calculations. The sum thus given is to be applied by the States to the purchase of equipments, stores, ammunition, etc., for the Guard. The bill will, without doubt, pass the Senate, but in the House its fate is problematical. The dominant party there is not especially favorable to the militia organization, if we may judge from its past history. The bill should become a law, and it would be a wiser measure if the sum set aside was twice as large.

INSUFFERABLE TWADDLE.

There are possibly a few people who really believe that such twaddle as we quote below, from the Tuscaloosa *Gazette*, is sincere, patriotic, and all that. Hear it: "All minor issues should sink before the great one of the preservation of our form of government, and with it the Constitution and the liberties it gives to all. The profligracy of a corrupt and tyrannical party, which has ruled the country with a rod, will destroy the last hope of the republic unless it is driven from power by the honest exertions of an indignant people." If there is a sensible, self-respecting citizen in the land who can look abroad over it and view this happy, prosperous and prospering nation and not feel disgust and nausea over such miserable campaign trash as the above extract, we are greatly mistaken in our estimate of ordinary intelligence.

THE support the Spanish throne has had from the Liberal party is weakened by divisions in the ranks, and such divergence of views that harmony appears to be an impossibility. The real and main issue is that regarding the suffrage. The King favors a restricted right, but so little restricted that in the whole Kingdom universal suffrage would give but 635,000 voters more out of a total voting capacity of 3,650,000. But in Spanish politics a small thing only is needed to make a broad division.

THE *Plaindealer* is the chief among all the Democratic papers of northern Ohio. The *Plaindealer*, enraged at the rabid action of the Democratic Legislature in pushing Mr. Hoadly to the wall for not "firing" Union soldiers out of office, says: "The law-makers had not better interfere with Governor Hoadly's way of making appointments. The Legislature will have all it can do to attend to its own affairs."

WHAT does Monsigneur Capel know about it? In a lecture at Washington he advised all spinsters over thirty to snap at any chance and get married, as there is no happiness for an old maid. The next day a committee of the fraternity "went for him" and the priest fled. In that alone he displayed wisdom.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in several States to send unpledged Republican delegations to the Chicago Convention. Right. With unpledged delegates all around the two-thirds rule for nominating would find few opponents, and would give us men whose success would be certain.

THE General Court (Legislature) of Massachusetts is seriously thinking of abolishing the time-honored "election sermon." Don't do it, gentlemen; it will not harm you to sit under the droppings of the Orthodox pulpit one hour per year.

SAN FRANCISCO LETTER.

TRIPPING IN GOSSAMERS AND TRUNDLING IN CARRIAGES.

The Archbishop's Lecture—Emily Faithfull—A Queen's Ruse—Some General Notes—Etc.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 30, 1884.

Both Sullivan and the fate of Mooneysville-by-the Sea are naught by the side of the enduring cause for joy in the fact that it rains, has rained and looks as if it would continue to rain. People slap about in the strange abbreviated parachute-assisted costumes that a storm calls out, but greet each other with beaming looks, uninfluenced by considerations of costume, the wet weather is so welcome. The panorama of the streets is not so bad a study on a rainy day. These light india-rubber circulars, with large hoods that cover the hat and all and pucker around the face—the ladies call them gossamers—are quaint little nun-like garments, as becoming and expressive on a small pretty face and figure as they are incomplete and ridiculous on a severe and uncompromising young person. Never shall I forget the independent lady with red "bang" wetted off into three or four distinct locks by the atmosphere, the hood of her gossamer working back farther and farther, and the cloak part of the same too short for purposes of protection to her costume. From the severe scrutiny which she bestowed on the passer-by I inferred that she was wearing the water-proof for the first time and defied criticism.

ANOTHER SIGHT THE WET STREETS

Afford is the descent of Mrs. and the Misses Million from their carriage, drawn up in front of one of the large dry-goods house. No gossamers, if you please. Over them the obsequious footman holds a huge umbrella, and they much complain that their paper soles must come in contact with the three or four yards of wet sidewalk that intervenes between the carriage step and Mr. Velvet's establishment. It looks very luxurious, and the cynic might draw invidious comparisons, but it is more than likely that next day the carriage will be lent to the Flower Mission girls to go their hospital rounds, and the Misses Million give up going to Sheridan's opening night, because a sense of duty impels them to go to swell the numbers at

THE ARCHBISHOP'S LECTURE.

That lecture, by the way, was one of the most successful ever given here. His grace gave the Catholic view of Luther and the Reformation, and he was given the Grand Opera House in which to deliver his lecture. The Grand Opera House, which seats nearly 4,000 people, was once considered capable of annihilating any thing given in it, but it would seem that Archbishop Riordan has broken the spell. The rain was falling in torrents Monday night, and yet the Opera House was literally packed. Any other sect or denomination might learn of the Catholics in respect toward their dignitaries and the enthusiasm for the undertakings of their church. The lecture was given for the benefit of the Children's Day Home, and every Catholic in the city not only took tickets but went to the lecture. We are promised a lecture from Emily Faithfull,

THE GREAT ENGLISH WOMAN REFORMER.

I had the pleasure of meeting that famous woman. She is here on the important mission of finding out the adaptability of California for a colony, and for English emigration. She is not oppressively English, has not the Englishwoman's nickel-alarm-clock-going-off way of talking. She is immensely fat, and yet she is tall enough not to appear unwieldly. Her head looks like a man's, partly due to her short hair, which is not shingled, but in locks about her neck and ears much as Henry Ward Beecher wears his. Her features are masculine too, not in the sense of being coarse but of being powerful; a woman with such a forehead couldn't care much for bonnets and love—she simply couldn't. She could advise the countless thousands who do, though, and advise them well, and console, too, with that generous full-lipped mouth of hers, and look all the silliness out of one with her soft, penetrating eyes. She is an impressive-looking woman without a particle of beauty, except that of character and good sense, which always express themselves in the face more or less. She has a Secretary with her, Miss Robertson, also short-haired; a very tall young lady with a head which looks small for her hight, and a considerable awe of Miss Faithfull. What a charming name that is for a woman philanthropist, and a clergyman's daughter; in a novel it would not seem natural at all.

A QUEENLY RUSE.

It was a usual but successful ruse that our other distinguished woman visitor, Queen Marau, of Tahiti, practised upon us, that of having it given out that she was but the sister of the Queen, and that the royal consort herself had not come at all. She is most frankly disgusted with San Francisco. I saw her when I did not know she was the Queen, and thought her a splendid specimen of a semi-barbarian, tall and large, haughty, very dark, her black hair doubled two or three times at the back of her head and secured with a bright silk kerchief that knotted on the forehead, and dressed in the loose flowing robe of her country.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

The Pomeroy German was one of the prettiest small things of the season. Some of the favors were serious and some comic; among the former were the hand-painted satin bags, and among the latter the red toy balloons that children affect. The ladies attached these to their hair, and one permitting her novel coiffure to come too near a gas burner was considerably startled by the explosion with which she seemed to be in some way connected, though for the moment she could not imagine how. We have had our fill of explosions, having just passed through the fiery ordeal of China New Year, that most movable of feasts, which the Chinese house servant vainly endeavors to explain annually to his mistress, only making intelligible that the event has to do with a full moon of some date, an astronomical effect which he expresses with many grunts by the words, "The moon's a fool." She takes his word for it and dismisses him to become full also—of sam chu. Chinatown was one blaze of bombs and fire-crackers, the extinct bodies of the latter lying in the streets thick as leaves in Valombross.

Yesterday evening Mrs. J. B. Haggin gave a farewell reception to Miss Mary Smith, a sister of Hamilton Smith, the President of the Hydraulic Miners' Association. Miss Smith goes East—that is, to St. Louis—on Thursday.

You hear by telegraph that the squatters on the sea beach have been warned to depart, and that they meditate organized resistance. It is thought that the immortal Denis Kearny will be licensed to keep a coffee stand out there because his influence will be used in persuading the rest to go away peaceably—a sort of State's evidence proceeding, apparently the usual thing among the Irish. It is very funny to read in the New York papers that Denis Kearny is defying aristocracy by selling pies at a California health resort.

PHILIP SHIRLEY.

FRANKLIN ITEMS.

The RECORD-UNION'S correspondent says: Jacob Korn has returned from Byron Springs, improved in health.

Klaus Webster, who has been ill for several weeks, died last Wednesday and was buried Thursday in Franklin Cemetery.

On Friday morning a party consisting of P. R. Beckley and his sons, John and George, and Henry Dalrymple, of Franklin, and George Johnson, of Sacramento, passed through Franklin village, en route to Calaveras county. They intend prospecting in mines there.

After all, Franklin is not to be allowed peaceable possession of its "haunted house." The thoroughly practical brother of Mr. Evans, who has found out that the ghostly rappings were nothing but the foundation of the house settling, may receive many thanks from those whom he has benefited, but we cannot help feeling aggrieved that such a common-place explanation should destroy the only sensational story that we have had in Franklin for many a long, weary year.

ASTHMA and bronchitis cured by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. Trial bottles free.

"LET THE RAILROAD COME RIGHT ALONG."

[San Diego Union, January 15th.]

We have read with interest the exhaustive report of Chairman Cobb, of the House Public Lands Committee, accompanying his bill to forfeit the land grant to the Texas and Pacific Railway Company, now claimed by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company as the assignee of the Texas and Pacific. We have, we say, read it with interest, as it reviews the history of a railroad war in which San Diego bore no small part, and, though defeated, left the field with honor.

In the words of the eloquent Ingersoll, "The past rises before us." The elaborate argument of Mr. Cobb; the burning indignation of the "anti-monopoly" politicians and newspapers; the strong espousal of the cause of wronged San Diego by the *Chronicle* and other California journals—all these bring very vividly to memory the time when the battle raged vehemently at Washington between the armies of Huntington and Scott. It was a real war, in which blows were dealt in earnest, and there was no compromise. Where, in that day of battle, were the men whose outcry is now so clamorous? Where, among all of Mr. Cobb's committeemen, was the man who in that day lifted his voice for a competing road? Where, in all California, was the newspaper that had one word of cheer for San Diego in her contest for a terminal position? Did we get any help from the Sacramento UNION? Were we encouraged by the *Chronicle*? Surely the rights of San Diego were just as real *then*, when she was fighting, single-handed, for them, as they are now, long after her defeat in the contest.

What utterly base and contemptible hypocrisy is all this present clamor. There was a time when we needed help; when, as the records now published abundantly disclose, we were very near success; when even one friendly hand—now valiant to strike—would have counted for a thousand men; when but one word of encouragement from the press—now blazing with valorous rage—would have cheered our way to victory. But the friendly hand was withheld and the word of cheer unspoken. Nay, more. The hand was uplifted against us, and the voice of the press was one of derision and scorn.

Knowing, as we do, every detail of that fight; remembering who were our enemies and who our friends, we say to-day that we place more faith in the honor and fair dealing of the great California corporation that was opposed to us than in all of the "anti-monopoly" howlers on the continent east and west. We made a gallant fight and lost it. And we know it. Better, far, rely upon the business common sense of the railroad men of California to recognize and avail themselves of the advantages presented by our port than accept the hypocritical condolence of the pack of cowardly demagogues whose yelpings, like those of the coyote of the hills, are inspired by an unappeasable hanger.

We have had our little fight for a competing road. We made it alone, and were whipped. Now let those fellows that are sorry for San Diego get out of the way. We have no use for them. Let the Southern Pacific come right along and put us in connection with the California system.

SAN FRANCISCO ITEMS.

The rains have caused many streets to become impassable and unsafe for travel.

John Kane, the printer, has been arrested for caressing his wife over the eye with a billet of wood.

On Thursday Owen W. Sullivan was found in a dying condition on the street, and soon afterward expired at the hospital.

W. B. Bradbury's statement shows that he received $4,761 42 last year from supplying water from his artesian well works, and expended $2,408 36.

Colonel James A. Laven, License Collector, died at 1 o'clock Friday morning at his residence in this city, of consumption, a malady from which he has long suffered.

During the present month the Justices of the Supreme Court have rendered seventy-six written decisions, varying in length from a few lines to over three hundred pages.

Chief Engineer David Scannell, of the Fire Department, was the recipient Thursday of a magnificent dressing case from friends on the occasion of his sixty-fourth birthday.

The Supreme Court has affirmed the judgment awarding Samuel Bloom $1,800 damages for injuries caused to the health of his family by defective sewerage from the City and County Hospital.

A woman was arrested on Market street on Wednesday night in a beastly state of intoxication. She was leading by the hand her little boy of three years, who was dripping wet from the rain and crying piteously from cold.

There are now only twenty-three ships in this port under engagement to load wheat. Probably seven of these are loaded. Of the remainder six are at Port Costa, three at Vallejo and three at Mission Rock, all of which are presumed to be loading. One of the other four is at Main street, and three are laid up for the present.

A reduction of the working force of the Mint has been made by Superintendent Burchard. Among those discharged were Frank Blair, assistant weigher, and Frank P. Cooper, John McIntosh, E. P. Schell and Charles M. Wheeler. In the Adjuster's department Eliza West, Mary Harvey, Amelia Nightingale, Josephine Beatty, E. Fitzgerald, janitor; R. P. Franklin and D. J. Culler in the Refiner's department. For some time the coinage has not exceeded $400,000 per month. Formerly $1,000,000 worth of coins were turned out in the same time.

Attorney-General Marshall, accompanied by District Attorney Sullivan, appeared before Judge Toohy Thursday morning and moved that the two charges of embezzling money from the State against Charles D. Bunker, while he was a Commissioner of Immigration, be dismissed. He said that Bunker had paid the money he was charged with embezzling over to the State. The speaker concluded by saying that he believed Bunker had no criminal intent, and on the motion to dismiss, consented to by the District Attorney, the Court dismissed the charges of felony, discharged the defendant and exonerated his bail.

A MOHAMMEDAN ELOPEMENT.—A singular case of murder is reported to have occurred the other day at Habiganj, in Assam. A respectable Mohammedan, it appears, eloped with the wife of a Munipuri gentleman of Assampara. The aggrieved husband, on becoming acquainted with the circumstances of the affair, proceeded immediately to the Mohammedan and demanded the instant restoration of his spouse, but on an explanation from the seducer he was induced to return with a present of 300 rupees instead of his wife. This dubious transaction came to the knowledge of the husband's fellow-villagers, and they, acting under a stronger sense of wrong than appears to have actuated the husband, proceeded in a body to the Mohammedan's residence and murdered him. The murder in due course was reported to the police, who, on investigating the matter, found that the Munipurees, some 200 in number, were anxious to take upon themselves the responsibility for the crime. They stated that they all killed the man; that no one took a more prominent part than another, and that they were all equally guilty. Under the circumstances the police had no alternative but to arrest the whole body of villagers, and the case is now under investigation. A Bengalee paper, in narrating the above circumstances, says: "What a strange unity. We are afraid in a Bengalee village the Queen's evidence would have been forthcoming as soon as the investigation began. But in a whole army of Munipurees not a single man could be found out as Queen's evidence." Alas for the degeneracy of the Bengalees!—[London Globe.

A Chicago clergyman was attending the spring meeting of a ministerial association in the Northwest. A certain minister, noted alike for his versatility and warm zeal, was opening the session with prayer. The day, which he forgot for the moment, was about as inclement as could be—rain, hail and stormy wind. He prayed: "Oh, Lord, we thank Thee for this gathering, for the privilege of meeting with each other once more, for the beautiful weather—which we had last fall."

PACIFIC SLOPE.

Execution of Collins at Nevada City—Advices from Oregon—The Strike of Nailers in Oakland—Sudden Death in Smartsville—British Columbia Items—Accident on the Comstock—Etc.

[SPECIAL DISPATCHES TO THE RECORD-UNION.]

CALIFORNIA.

Collins Hanged for Murder.

NEVADA, February 1st.—John C. P. Collins, alias Patterson, was hanged here this afternoon for the murder of William F. Cummings in September, 1879. The execution took place during a rain-storm, and was witnessed by a large number of people, the jail yard being crowded. As the time for his execution drew near, Collins showed no signs of nervousness, maintaining his usual composure, and continuing to assert his entire innocence of the crime. Last night, however, he made an attempt to take his own life. In some way unknown to the jail officers who have been very diligent in watching him, he managed to secrete the blade of a pocket knife in his cell. About midnight he took the blade and inflicted a wound in the left wrist, severing some of the smaller veins, from which blood flowed profusely. The cut was not deep enough to produce the desired effect, and after a while the blood ceased flowing. The attempt at suicide was not discovered till 5 o'clock this morning, the blood from the wound being hidden by the bedclothes. In an adjoining cell, from which Collins was removed a short time ago, was found a steel boot shank, one end of which had been sharpened to the keenness of a razor. Had he obtained this he would have made short work of himself. It was through his direction that the piece of steel was found. It was hidden behind one of the cross-bars on the cell door, the space between the bars being just wide enough to admit the thin shank. For several days the Sisters of Mercy and Rev. Father Meagher have visited Collins daily, and called on him this morning to give him spiritual consolation.

LATER.—Collins was brought to the scaffold at a quarter past 1, being attended by Sheriff Carter, his deputies and two priests. Sheriffs Huntley, of Placer, Mead of Sierra, and Davis of Colusa, occupied places on the scaffold. The doomed man made a few brief remarks, during the course of which he severely scored detective I. W. Lees and the Masonic Fraternity, saying the latter was responsible for the death of an innocent man, and claiming that blood-money was the only object Lees had in securing his conviction. He spoke about fifteen minutes without a tremble, stoutly maintaining his innocence, and displaying wonderful nerve throughout. He expressed his belief in the Supreme Being, and after a brief prayer by Rev. Father Dalton, kissed the crucifix and announced himself ready. The straps were quickly adjusted, the noose put about his neck, and the black cap drawn over his head. At half-past 1 the drop fell, and in eleven minutes Collins was dead, pulsation having ceased. His neck was broken by the fall, and not a movement of the body was made, the rope not even twisting from the strain it received. After hanging fifteen minutes the body was cut down, placed in a coffin, and given in charge of the Coroner for burial. Everything connected with the execution passed off without accident or delay. The expectation that many had that Collins would make a full confession was not realized, the victim asserting that he was innocent of all connection with the crime. About 200 people witnessed the hanging.

The Oakland Strike.

OAKLAND, February 1st.—Geo. T. Walker, Superintendent of the Pacific Nail Works, says there is no truth in the report that the works will reopen next week. The company have determined to maintain their ground, and not to reopen the works until the men accept their prices, even if the works have to remain closed for five years.

Death En Route.

SMARTSVILLE, February 1st.—James Powell, a stage passenger, en route to North San Juan, died suddenly here to-day.

Death of a Prominent Citizen.

YREKA, February 1st.—R. O. Dewitt died at 9:30 this morning. He belonged to the Masons, Red Men and Workmen, was ex-Chief Engineer of the Fire Department and also ex-County Treasurer.

The Weather.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 1st.—Dispatches received from many points in the State last night report that rain fell again in considerable quantity,