THE DAILY RECORD UNION.

MONDAY.....FEBRUARY 18, 1884

Weather Probabilities.

WASHINGTON, February 17th.—Indications for northern and central Pacific coast: Local rains and partly cloudy weather.

THIS MORNING'S NEWS.

In New York Saturday Government bonds were quoted at 123¾ for 4s of 1907, 114¾ for 4½s; sterling, $4 86½@4 90; 101 for 3s, 100 for 5s; silver bars, 112½.

Silver in London, 50½d; consols, 10. 11 16d; 5 per cent. United States bonds, extended, 105; 4s, 126½; 4½s, 116½.

In San Francisco Mexican dollars are quoted at 88 cents.

Mining stocks were slightly better in San Francisco Saturday, several of the Comstocks showing an advance of 5 and 10 cents over the best prices on Friday.

A portion of the iron bridge being erected near Verdi, Nev., fell yesterday, badly injuring five workmen

Fire in Chicago; loss, $150,000.

During last year the gross earnings of the Union Pacific Railroad were $29,761,100.

The Railroad Commission bill in Mississippi has been vetoed by the Governor.

In Chichester, N. Y., a man named Avery killed his wife and attempted to commit suicide.

Thomas Lynch and Michael Stephens were Drowned at Cincinnati Saturday.

Reuben Woods dropped dead in Brooklyn Saturday night.

The Illinois Supreme Court has declared the Harper high license law constitutional.

A general strike of railroad coal miners is looked for soon in the vicinity of Pittsburg.

Another family is reported ill with trichiniasis—this time from Minneapolis, Minn.

Wm. Gouverneur Morris, U. S. Collector of Customs for Alaska, died on the 30th of January.

A heavy storm of sleet and snow prevailed in Oregon yesterday.

Charles Wilson dropped dead yesterday at Astoria, Or.

Robert Devlin, recently shot in a saloon row at Colfax, W. T., died yesterday.

Two hundred children were killed by the Arabs at Siakat.

General Gordon is within ninety miles of Khartoum.

A bill has been passed by the French Chamber of Deputies for the suppression of seditious demonstrations in the streets.

The Sherman House, at Prescott, A. T., was burned Friday, S. N. Holmes perishing in the flames.

H. N. Bliss was drowned Saturday in Tulare county.

Mrs. James Hayden made a desperate attempt to kill herself in Virginia, Nev., Saturday evening.

A. M. Gillette, Town Recorder, dropped dead in Ashland, Or., Friday night.

The return of Archbishop Feehan from his visit to Rome was the occasion of a grand ovation in Chicago yesterday.

An attempt on the life of the King of Italy is reported from Rome.

Charles H. Rugg (colored), the murderer of the Maybee family on Long Island, escaped from the Queen's county jail last night.

Benjamin Hanwick, known as "Trigger" Hanwick, was recently drowned in Elk river, Virginia.

The reports from the flooded district continue to be burdened with tales of devastation and suffering.

LEVEE IMPROVEMENTS.

The RECORD UNION has stated that if it could be shown that $40,000 are needed for work on the levees, it would favor the expenditure. It did not propose to jump at conclusions, and pronounce either for or against the petition of a number of respectable citizens for such outlay, without knowing the reasons moving to that end. It has heard these reasons, and they are ample. The $40,000 should be expended, and more than that, immediately. The reports of Engineers Bassett and Pierson are specific and unanswerable. Mr. Bassett's report is a complete answer to the vaporings of our evening contemporary, the sole aim of which is to bolster a dogmatic position hastily taken, under the assumption that consistency consists in adherence to error, even after its error has been demonstrated. Editorial writers may sit in their sanctums and theorize and measure levees, or they may walk upon the embankments and point out their hight and strength, and pooh-pooh all doubts of their security; but we prefer the cold statement of the skilled men in top-boots who run the levels, and whose professional reputation is at stake in the statements they make. Above all this, so long as a feeling of insecurity militates against the credit of the city, it is a wise economy to do such work as will remove fear even if it is vain. We have believed, and do believe in the strength of our levee system; but it should be placed in still better condition, and some weak places now clearly disclosed as unsound made perfectly secure. No one can foresee the outcome of a single winter. Cincinnati laughed at the "absurd speculation" last year that the Ohio might some day rise to a sixty-foot level; but within a week it has marked seventy-one feet, and now Cincinnati mourns the folly of her want of preparation. In another column we print the sum and substance of Mr. Bassett's report. This City Engineer is not theorizing. His facts are derived from actual surveys, his estimates agree with those of other competent men. It is proposed to ask the people to vote a sum sufficient, when added to the regular levy, to create a fund of $40,000 for use on levees exclusive of drainage. That they will do so we have not the shadow of a doubt. It is not a large amount; it is to be expended among our own people; not a dollar will be disbursed elsewhere. It is a proposition in the direction of a wise economy; it will dissipate the remotest fears of danger, and prove one of the best investments this city ever made. To vote "no" will be to defy a sentiment abroad that we cannot control, and will be reckless to scorn.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

Fears have been expressed on the part of some strict party men that a Citizens' ticket will be put up at the coming municipal election. We have heard of no movement in that direction. We have been and still are a strong advocate of that reform which demands the divorcement of politics from municipal government, both for the good of party politics and of city management of local affairs. But we have not expected this to be accomplished speedily. It is one of those progressive matters that matures slowly, but as surely as the day succeeds the night it will come about. But it does not involve the deterioration of party influence; on the contrary, it will actually augment party power. Nor does it demand the complete withdrawal of party from municipal campaigns; on the contrary, it gives party men the opportunity to prove that their party esteems good government superior to party triumph. So, then, when the party subordinates the rewards, the spoils, the distribution of the offices, and the pleasure and blackmail of "the boys" to the good of the city, it will have widely separated politics and municipal government. Now, we believe that the Republican party in this city can and should succeed in the next city election. There is no reason why it should not. All that is needed is to nominate men whom the people believe esteem their duty to the town in which they live superior to the dictates of party bosses. There is no need for citizens' tickets, and they never are brought forward except on the mismanagement of party, for they are always in the nature of revolts. Let the Republican party give no cause for a citizens' ticket and there will be no revolt against the party. Let the voters of the party be consulted freely and openly as to whom they wish for nominees; let there be neither restraint nor "handling" in primaries, conventions or committees, and we will vouch for the choosing of a Republican ticket that will be elected by an overwhelming majority, and men will be chosen who will do their duty without the favor of bosses or the fear of ring-masters. But if the committee of the party mistakes its duty as a servant, and seeks to control the file of the party and dictate to them; if it happens, as has happened, that candidates are forced to walk up to the Captain's office and settle before their nomination will be permitted by manipulators, the probability of defeat will be imminent. The Republicans of Sacramento can win a triumph this spring; they are anxious to do so. Republicans have a large majority here, and will make it manifest as of yore—but they demand the right to do their own choosing and their own voting, and there is no honest man in the city who will make bold to say that this is an unreasonable demand. In the face of the fact that there is a large majority of Republican voters in this city, if there is not put up a ticket that will from top to bottom come out of the ballot box elected, a triumph without a solitary exception, the cause will be found *within* and not without the party. There is no escape from the cold logic of these statements. Let us have a better ticket than the Democracy, let us have candidates whom the people believe capable by education and experience to deal with the intricacies of our financial situation; let us have candidates who are neither favorable to the claims of bondholders, nor yet so hide-bound that they are incapable of distinguishing between business economy and stupid stubbornness. Let us have candidates whose standing will be a bond for their integrity and devotion to the interests of this city, and who, in the discharge of duty, will know no boss, draw no line between rich or poor, strong or weak, and there can be organized no other ticket that will defeat it. Precisely such a ticket can be put up. The Republican party in Sacramento is rich in capable men, men commanding the respect of voters, men of backbone and independence of character. There is, therefore, no excuse for a solitary weak man being put on the ticket. If any such are projected into the contest it will be because some sinister influence commands it.

THE SUPREME COURT AND THE BOND COUPONS.

Another review of the decision of the Supreme Court in the Sacramento bond coupon case discloses the fact that the Court did not give the case the deliberation it demanded. It orders the Treasurer of the city to pay the coupons, "because it is his duty to do so irrespective of the order of the Trustees;" but it does not explain, as we think it in good conscience should, why this is the Treasurer's duty, when the Act of 1863 specifically declares that the Auditor shall have a veto of "all demands allowed;" that *every demand* upon the Treasury except certain named ones, must be acted upon by the Board of Trustees, "and be by them allowed or rejected in whole or in part." Now the sinking and interest fund is a fund of the Treasury of the city; a coupon presented is a demand; it may be fraudulent, a forgery, have been stolen from the city, as some were, may be barred by the statute of limitations, etc., yet, according to the Supreme Court, all these matters must be passed upon by the City Treasurer, an officer the people who foot the bills do not even elect. True, the Act of 1858 creating the corporation known as the city and county of Sacramento provides that "it shall be the duty of the Treasurer to pay the interest on the bonds when the same falls due," etc.; but does that mean on mere presentation, even if it be true that the provision is now in force? Does that destroy the right of the Trustees and Auditor to pass upon the validity of the demand as is provided they shall do under a later Act which took the place of the Act of 1858? The Supreme Court holds in the affirmative, but we are not thereby convinced that it is either good law or good logic. It certainly amounts to this that the Treasurer chosen by the Trustees rises superior to them and is forced to a species of usurpation of their prerogatives.

ABOLISH IT.

The Grand Jury of San Francisco reported on Friday last, and among other things said of the Industrial School: "This department, in point of discipline, if such a thing as discipline exists, is no credit to a reformatory school. The great fault seems to be in the time-honored custom which permits the Supervisors to appoint and control the Superintendent, as well as the subordinate officers. The Superintendent, no matter how well qualified, is absolutely powerless before such political obstruction, for he dare not appoint or discharge—he can only recommend or suspend; and if he suspends it will only last till the subordinate can be reappointed by the appointive power. This institution is an eyesore to the tax-payer, and should be abolished or put in such condition as will make it a reformatory school for the inmates, who are nearly all young offenders." Precisely this view we took of the matter last spring. The school is a fraud, because it accomplishes not one of the purposes for which it was originated. It is a political machine, and a school for the developing of young criminals into adepts in crime. The miserable failure should be abolished, and the State of California should take upon itself the establishment of a juvenile reformatory system, similar to that which is proving so successful in Massachusetts, and the methods of which we some time ago explained at length. The Reformatory there is not a prison; all classes are not grouped; there is no one great building; no long retention behind walls; no uniforming with the regalia of shame. On the contrary, the plan is to find homes for waifs and unruly youth; to separate them; to locate them far apart; to disassociate them from the reformatory reception department, and to make them self-respecting, independent and self-supporting. Upon some such system the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society is conducted in San Francisco; but of course its work is that of private benevolence, limited in its scope, crippled by inadequacy of means, and less effective because it has not the sanction of law to enforce its decrees.

IF Bismarck has directed the return of the Lasker resolutions to our House of Representatives he has done a very foolish thing. But that is no reason for Congress noticing the affront in any way. It was indiscreet in our House of Representatives to direct the resolutions to the German Government. It should have been sufficient to pass them.

WE should not be at all surprised to learn that the revolt of the Egyptian soldiery against being commanded by English officers, "aliens in race and religion," becomes widespread. It is a perfectly natural protest by religious enthusiasts.

PACIFIC SLOPE.

[LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES TO THE RECORD-UNION.]

CALIFORNIA.

The Storm.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 17th.—Reports received indicate that the storm of yesterday and to-day was general throughout the State. Rain fell at all points, and in some localities considerable damage was caused by high winds.

Chinese Railroad Laborers.

YREKA, February 17th.—The Chinese railroad agent is hiring all Chinamen in this vicinity willing to work on the railroad extension above Redding at $30 per month, and large crowds are passing from Oregon to work for the railroad in California. The Oregon road will carry passengers and freight to Phœnix, 54 miles from here, on the 25th.

NEVADA.

Fall of a Bridge—Five Men Badly Hurt.

RENO, February 17th.—On the 24 of last August the bridge over the Truckee river, two and a half miles west of Verdi, was burned by incendiaries. A temporary trestle was put up, and an iron bridge ordered from Phœnixville, Pa. The men at work erecting it were raising the main post on the west end of the bridge to-day at 9 o'clock, when the guy rope slipped, and it fell into the river. Five men were on top of the scaffold, high over the top chord of the bridge, and fell the whole seventy feet, alighting on a mass of tangled timbers, ropes, bridge irons, ice and snow. A train left Reno immediately with physicians, and Mr. Higgins, the company's agent. The wounded men were brought to Reno and cared for. H. J. Varnes, of New Buffalo, N. Y., has a broken leg; Elias Nicholas, broken ribs and internal injuries; Leon Gonville, no bones broken; Frank Latilupe, no bones broken—but both cut badly shocked. Oliver Lonkey, Jr., not badly hurt. Nicholas has a family at Verdi. The rest are single men.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

BRONCO, February 17th.—Your reporter is snowed in trying to return from the scene of the accident this morning at Bridge 26. At about 10 o'clock this morning, while raising one of the columns in an iron bridge being erected near Bronco, the heavy iron, through a neglect in properly fastening a guy rope, became unmanageable, and swinging against another column displaced it and tumbled the entire span into the river—a distance of about forty feet. Five men, who were working on top of the bridge, were precipitated with the falling mass a distance of about seventy feet. Strange to say, no one was killed. One of the workmen, H. J. Varnes, had his leg broken and suffered severe injuries about the head. Elias Nicholas, who has been for a long time in the employ of the railroad company, latterly as watchman at this same bridge, was severely injured internally, and had several ribs broken. The other injured men were Frank Latilupe, Leon Gonville and Oliver Lonkey. These men escaped with their lives only by a miracle. A special with a wrecking car attached left Truckee at once, and have been hard at work trying to get the structure sufficiently safe to cross. The adjoining span is liable to fall at any moment, and the utmost efforts are being made to secure it. To add to the difficulty of the situation, the worst wind and storm of the season is in progress, and work progresses with much difficulty. At dark the bridge was not considered safe to cross, but the severity of the storm and darkness compelled the workmen to desist. Superintendent Wright has been on the ground all day, working to get the track clear. The big snow-plow was sent for to Truckee, to escort the engine and caboose back, and reports that the snow is drifted on the track four or five feet at present. The engine and snowplow are both off the track. It will require four or five hours' work in the morning before trains can pass the bridge. The west passenger will be detained at Truckee at least five or six hours. The storm shows no signs of abating, and grave fears are entertained for a blockade. A portion of the telegraph lines are down, and the line repairers are busy trying to keep them up. The wounded at the bridge have all been taken to Reno, where they are being cared for. No loss of life is anticipated.

[THIRD DISPATCH.]

TRUCKEE, February 17th.—11 P. M.—The oldest railroad men pronounce the present storm the worst they ever saw on the mountains. Nine engines and a snow plow will endeavor to get the east-bound passenger train through from the summit in the morning. At least fifteen feet of new snow has drifted and filled up the cuts and places that have been kept clear before. The snow has nearly ceased falling, but the gale still continues. From the summit east will doubtless be entirely blocked in the morning. A burning chimney in the Truckee Hotel created quite a panic for a few minutes. The alarm brought out everyone in town, and the utmost consternation prevailed for a while.

OREGON.

Snow-Storm—Death of Wm. Gouverneur Morris—Dropped Dead—Fatal Result of a Saloon Row.

PORTLAND, February 17th.—There was a heavy fall of sleet here last night. It is snowing now, but the weather is moderating, and the snow is melting as rapidly as it falls.

From private dispatches from Port Townsend, it is learned that a vessel has just arrived there from Sitka, bringing the intelligence of the death of Wm. Gouverneur Morris, United States Collector of Customs for the district of Alaska. He died on the 30th of January, of pneumonia. Morris was an old and prominent politician of California. He was at one time United States Marshal of that State, and for many years connected with the Treasury Department of the Government. He was appointed Collector of Customs for Alaska about three years ago, and was superseded in office by Thomas French, of New York, who was nominated and confirmed recently.

Charles Wilson, living near Astoria, Or., dropped dead to-day, of heart disease.

Robert Devlin, the young man who was shot in the back a few days ago during a saloon row at Colfax, by a man named George Haverley, died to-day from the effects of the wound. Haverley had a preliminary examination, and was held to await the action of the Grand Jury in the sum of $2,000. He claims that the shooting was accidental.

It is reported that all the wheat fields of Lane county are covered with snow to a depth that fully protects the young, growing grain from all danger of damage by freezing.

ARIZONA.

The Sherman House Fire.

PRESCOTT, February 17th.—The Coroner's jury, which was impaneled yesterday to examine the remains found in the ruins of the Sherman House, brought in a verdict that they were those of S. N. Holmes, late editor and proprietor of the *Arizona Miner*. It is supposed that in attempting to save valuable papers in his room he was suffocated and perished. A number of guests barely escaped with their lives, losing all their clothing and being bruised and burned.

PASSENGER LISTS.

CARLIN, February 17th.—Passed here to-day, to arrive in Sacramento February 18th: Carl Rudolph, Tokio; L. Stern, San Francisco; C. A. Gregory, T. B. Clark, C. L. Jenks, Chicago; Mrs J. K. Hunter and child, Rochester, N. Y.; M. P. Hannigan, San Francisco; R. W. Smith, Toledo, Ohio; H. F. Jones and daughter, Society Islands: Capt. M. A. Baker, Frederic Lepoint, Mass.; W. H. Price, Denver, Col.; L. C. Young, Chicago; T. A. Bennett, Montana Territory; E. D. Gellett, New Haven, Conn.; Miss Martha Gordon, Salt Lake City; J. Brook, Boston, Mass.; J. E. Miller, Chicago; M. Bait, Wells, Nev., J. H. Whiting, Stockton, Cal.; H. P. Taylor, New York; Mrs C. W. Jones, Salt Lake City, J. W. Ball, St. Louis; S. Yanada, New York City; Mrs. Floventine and child, Halleck, Nev.; also 39 emigrants, including 33 males, to arrive February 19th.

SUPERIOR COURT.

DEPARTMENT ONE—ARMSTRONG, Judge.

SATURDAY, February 16, 1884.

People vs. Charles Brookbank, assault to murder—Jury return a verdict of assault with a deadly weapon.

DEPARTMENT TWO—MCFARLAND, Judge.

SATURDAY, February 16, 1884.

W. P. Todhunter vs. J. H. Carroll—Judgment for defendant by consent.

SNOW IN THE MOUNTAINS.—Considering the amount of snow that has fallen, says the Truckee *Republican*, there has been very little interruption in trains and railroad traffic. Freights have of course run on slow time, and in some cases been abandoned for a day, but, generally speaking, everything has gone on with remarkable smoothness and little delay. The railroad employes in Truckee and on this division are entitled to much credit for their prompt exertions in behalf of the public. To accomplish what they have has required persistent labor, and any one familiar with the onerous duties of the hour, can appreciate the labor required.

Our elevator man was crossed in love a few months ago. The other day, as he was superintending the shipment of the first pair of turtles to the regions below, he said, with a resigned air: "I have been praying for a long time for a contented mind, and have concluded to sit down contented without it."

Dr. Deems says kissing is a purely American habit. Then the other folks don't know what fun they're missing.—[Oil City Blizzard.

THE LEVEE QUESTION.

A Critique from a Stranger on the Discussion of Levee Matters.

EDS. RECORD-UNION: I am a temporary sojourner in Sacramento, and have no permanent interest in your city or its environs. I observe the discussions relative to your levee expenditures, and particularly that reported in your evening contemporary on Saturday. Doubtless it is none of my business, but still I venture to put in my say-so.

As I understand the matter, a committee of your Association of Citizens recommended the raising of a special amount of $40,000 for levee purposes. The evening paper opposes this item. The Association meets again, considers the question, and the City Engineer and County Surveyor make statements of facts and figures which had guided the committee in its deliberations.

The evening paper, in the same issue that reports these last proceedings, denies the correctness of the facts, asserts that the estimates are much too high, and implies that the engineers' opinions are probably not worth having.

It says: "We have calculated generously, and we have placed the figures higher than they need be. In fact, we stretch matters, and we figure up a handsome levee outlay as follows," and then follows figures aggregating $20,000, in place of $40,000.

In the first place, if your town Trustees have not accurate information, in map form on a large scale, concerning the details of fact with respect to levees, floods and adjacent channels, they have neglected an indispensable preliminary to really intelligent action on your questions.

If such information exists in proper form, your engineers have either misquoted it, or your contemporary is guilty of the most refreshing dogmatism that has come under my notice in this State of personal assurance.

If your City Engineer and the Surveyor have not such information before them, they are simply lowering what is elsewhere considered a very respectable profession, by attempting definite advice on insufficient knowledge of facts and study of them.

If it is a fact that these gentlemen have allowed themselves to be drawn into a public discussion of professional questions merely as citizens, while they are reported as engineers, doubtless they are the victims of a local misconception of what constitutes a civil engineer, and are obliged to come forward with their views, like other citizens, in open meeting, to avoid being considered stiff-backed or ignorant.

If there is anything in the engineering profession, it is that as the result of the study of natural science, of physical phenomena and of engineering experiences, the individual becomes qualified to take up a subject of this kind, marshal the facts, point out their bearing, forecast their effects, and plan for desired defense.

Upon such exhibits of facts, discussions and plannings, and advice from such sources, citizens can intelligently determine whether or not they should submit to be taxed to carry out the work. There is no mystery about engineering methods; but it takes time to become a really competent engineer, just as it takes time to be a good lawyer or a successful merchant.

It does not appear to me whether Messrs. Bassett and Pierson have been called professionally to study and advise in this case or not. If they have not, your citizens are doing them great injustice by pumping them for professional opinions, and your city will eventually suffer for want of proper guidance. These engineers should be given proper opportunity to study your problems and to bring the data into a thoroughly digested and indisputable form, if you want their opinions, and they should be paid for the service. Or else you should send abroad and get some one in whom you have sufficient confidence to trust with the study.

You certainly would not expect your lawyers and your doctors to serve in parallel cases in their profession, at public meetings, and discuss points at law or physic, for your delectation or pecuniary benefit.

If your city were going into the Supreme Court of the State with a case involving very much of the valuation of your whole property you would employ counsel and pay well for preliminary advice as well as for the conduct of the case in Court.

In the present matter you have a case on trial before the Supreme Court of Nature. You desire to get out a perpetual injunction against Jupiter Pluvius, restraining him from running over your town and destroying your property.

True, you have built your town where he was wont to spread, but you wish the doctrine declared that he must use his channels without flooding your streets.

This is a big case. This year's proceedings, at the lowest estimate, will cost $20,000. Many of your citizens think the amount should be doubled. Do you realize that the case will be on trial at every term of the High Water Court? Do you realize the fact that you are all playing lawyer? Do you remember the saying concerning the lawyer that conducts his own case?

To throw off the allegory. Under these circumstances it is not so surprising that such dogmatic and senseless articles as the one quoted from your evening contemporary should appear.

Who is this little paper, anyhow? Great Cæsar! "We calculate generously." Heavens! what a rise in paper and pencils must have followed; or was it mental arithmetic that was so strained?

"In fact we stretch matters" Great guns! Stand aside, something is going to pop! "We figure up a handsome levee outlay." God bless us, what extravagance the governments of the world are guilty of in maintaining engineering corps to study these problems, because here in Sacramento is a man who might do it all handsomely, for it is quite evident that with one sweep of his eagle eye he has surveyed the whole situation, ascertaining all pertinent facts, past and present; with a single mental effort he has estimated quantities, made out schedules, affixed rates and determined costs; with one pluck upon his store of knowledge he has drawn the key to the whole situation; and with one sweeping wiggle (or one wiggling sweep) of his pen he has put together a column of engineering literature, soaring in its ideas, profound in its wisdom, broad in its views, massive in its truth and brilliant over its entire facade. Selah! God be praised! Sacramentans, be happy; follow this shining light; bask in its rays, for while the sun continues to shine you need fear no floods!

STRANGER.

MRS. HILLEN'S SUICIDE.—Relative to the suicide at San Francisco Thursday of Mrs. Florence E. Hillen, formerly of this city, mentioned in our last issue, it seems that sometime after being divorced from Mr. Hillen she made the acquaintance at the Bay of E. M. Swain, with whom she became quite intimate. Swain's wife, who had been absent, returning home, he ceased to visit Mrs. Hillen, and she, suffering from poverty, friendlessness and jealousy, committed suicide. Entries in her diary showed that she had been in desperate circumstances financially, at one time being without food for two or three days. The *Call* of Saturday says: "The former husband of Mrs. Hillen was notified of her death by telegraph, and he arrived in this city last night and proceeded to the Morgue, where he asked to be allowed to see the remains of his once wife. He was shown into the autopsy-room of the Morgue, where the body rested on a slab. All but the face was covered with a sheet. Hillen silently approached the body, and with his right hand gently pushed from off the face and forehead of the dead a few locks of hair which were there, he the while making a strong effort to control himself; but in this he failed, for the tears, in spite of all he could do, rolled down his cheeks, and a friend who accompanied him led him away. He then gave an order for a casket and directed that her remains be placed in the Odd Fellows' Cemetery, in this city."

CURIOUS FACTS ABOUT WATER.—The extent to which water mingles with bodies apparently solid is wonderful. The glittering opal, which beauty wears as an ornament, is only flint and water. In every plaster of Paris statue which an Italian carries through our streets for sale there is one pound of water to every four pounds of chalk. The air we breathe contains five grains of water to each cubic foot of its bulk. The potatoes and turnips which are boiled for our dinner have, in their raw state, the one 75 per cent. the other 90 per cent. of water. A man is, chemically speaking, forty-five pounds of carbon and nitrogen diffused through five and a half pailfuls of water. A sunflower evaporates one and a quarter pints of water a day, and a cabbage about the same quantity. A wheat plant exhales in one hundred and seventy-two days about one hundred thousand grains of water. An acre of growing wheat, on this calculation, draws and passes out about ten tons of water per day. The sap of plants is the medium through which this mass of fluid is conveyed. It forms a delicate pump, by which the watery particles run with the rapidity of a swift stream. By the action of the sap various properties may be communicated to the growing plant. Timber in France is, for instance, dyed by various colors being mixed with water and poured over the root of the tree. Dahlias are also colored by a similar process.—[Exchange.

BRIEF NOTES.

The Board of Supervisors will meet this morning.

A room at the International Hotel was entered Saturday night by a thief, who stole $85.

The rainfall in Sacramento for the present storm had reached 3 66 inches up to 8 o'clock last evening.

The Elite Opera Company returned yesterday from a trip through the northern portion of the State.

The funeral of the late Thomas Curley, of Colfax, which took place last Saturday, was one of the largest known in Placer county.

I street, from Second to Fifth street, is full of deep mud holes. Trucks in unloading cars Saturday were drawn by four horses instead of two.

Water is running through the Todhunter break, a short distance above the town of Washington, upon the lowlands of Yolo county.

Room No. 17 in the Russ House was robbed Friday night last. The thieves got away with a small amount of money and considerable clothing.

There was but one case before the Police Court Saturday—that of Annie Kerwin, convicted on the previous day of disturbing the peace. She was fined $5.

The Irish residents of Sacramento and vicinity will meet at St. Rose's school-room next Sunday, at 2 P. M., to arrange for the celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

Rev. E. R. Dille, of San Francisco, will deliver a free lecture this evening at 8 o'clock in the Y. M. C. A. Rooms, 1009 Fourth street. Subject, "Ghosts—Ancient and Modern."

The remains of the late Nathaniel Mitchell, journalist of Grass Valley, who died at that place on the 14th inst., were taken to Auburn last Saturday for interment. There was a large funeral.

The Sacramento river at 12 o'clock last night was 17 feet 3 inches above low-water mark, having risen about 5 feet in 24 hours. It was an object of interest to a great many people yesterday.

In Department One of the Superior Court Saturday, in the case of Charles Brookbank, accused of an assault to murder A. E. Craw, a verdict of guilty of assault with a deadly weapon was rendered.

The strong wind Sunday night blew down a large poplar tree at the corner of the alley on Tenth, M and N streets, and a large eucaliptus tree on the south side of O street, between Ninth and Tenth.

The only arrests recorded on the Station-house slate last night were those of Mary Farley and Maud Wood, by officer Dillman, for enticing, and Henry Harris, by officer Frazee, for petty larceny.

The Forester Gun Club will meet at 7:30 this evening to consider matters relative to their shoot next Friday (Washington's Birthday), and to take action on another subject requiring prompt attention.

C. A. Sawtelle, who purchased the building on J street, between Seventh and Eighth, lately occupied by Waterhouse & Lester, is having it refitted, a new front put in, and it is understood it will be used as a book and stationery house.

Walter Shear, aged 21 years, son of Charles H. Shear, died Saturday morning, of consumption. Deceased was a pleasant, quiet, unassuming and yet energetic young man, with many friends and no enemies. The funeral takes place at 2 P. M. to-day.

The ladies of the M. E. Church at Galt gave an entertainment and supper in Whitaker & Ray's Hall Thursday evening last for the benefit of their pastor. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the attendance was quite good, and the proceeds amounted to about $100.

Superintendent Wright went up last night to assist in the snow fight on the hill, which, as will be seen by reference to the telegraph columns, is a very serious matter to the railroad men just now. The freight trains are laid up, and every exertion is being made to get the passenger trains through.

The thoroughbred stallion Patsey Duffey, recently brought down from Oregon, and for some time quartered at Agricultural Park, has been purchased by Matt. Allen for $4,000, and is to be delivered to him at the Oakland track to-day. Mr. Allen intends to take him East after the Blood Horse races in April.

Saturday evening a man who was passing the corner of Fourth and K streets had his hat—a new one—snatched from his head by another man, who immediately ran down Fourth street. The owner of the hat supposed at first it was a joke by some friend, and before he found out his mistake pursuit was useless.

Mayor Brown, City Attorney Anderson, and probably the City Auditor and Dr. H. S. Nichols, will leave for San Francisco this afternoon to be present to-morrow morning at the hearing in the United States Circuit Court of the case of Meyer vs. Brown, in which suit is brought to compel the city to levy a tax of 1 per cent. for bond purposes. Judge McKune, one of the city's counsel, went down yesterday.

While ducks and geese are few and scattering in other localities, they appear to be plentiful on the Yolo side of the river. Two men went over to Green's Lake Saturday and killed fifty ducks, including a number of canvasbacks; and yesterday morning a man went out to Swingle's on the early train, shot about sixty white geese, and returned at noon with as many as he could carry, having to leave a large portion of his kill over there.

Mrs. John Jury, a widow with three little children, applied at the station-house Saturday evening for shelter. They came to Sacramento, where they formerly resided, a few days ago, but she was unable to get anything to do, had no money, and was compelled to seek shelter from the storm as best she might. The matter was brought to the attention of Supervisor McLaughlin, who quartered the family at the International Hotel temporarily, and will take steps for their further relief.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

M. Taylor has gone to San Francisco for a brief stay.

C. H. Woods, of Chico, came down yesterday, going to the Bay.

Senator Filcher, of Auburn, was visiting Sacramento last Saturday.

Judge O. H. Pratt went up to his ranch at Durham Saturday from San Francisco.

Sheriff Huntley, of Placer county, passed through the city Saturday, going to San Francisco.

Hon. W. M. Cutter, of Marysville, who had been in the city a week, returned home Saturday.

Andrew Wright, of Chico; M. L. Morris and Sam Brannes, of Oakland, are at the Capital Hotel.

S. J. Nathan, having closed out his business in Sacramento, will leave for New York to-night.

James Quinn, of the Cosumnes; Alex. Wallace, of Yolo, and D. W. Welsh, of Folsom, are in town.

Fred. Frolich, of Sacramento, was among the passengers who arrived by last evening's train from the East.

S. A. Tucker, agent of the Parker Gun Company, who had been spending a week here, went down to the Bay yesterday.

Mr. Robinson, proprietor of the stage line between Truckee and Lake Tahoe, went down to San Francisco yesterday.

Mrs. S. S. Neal, of San Francisco, who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. I. G. Crum, of this city, returned home yesterday.

Mr. Egbert, of Colfax, came down yesterday, on his way to see how his ranch on the lower Sacramento is prepared for high water.

E. E. Smith, of Michigan Bar; Chas. Clark, of Red Bluff; G. Dipler, Clarksburg; A. Bexman, Napa, and J. B. Whiteside, of Chico, are in the city.

Hon. J. K. Luttrell, who had been attending to mining interests in Butte county, passed through yesterday, on his way to his ranch in Sonoma county.

The St. Helena *Times* says: James Maddox, of St. Helena, for a long time in the employ of J. H. Steves, and a very clever gentleman, went to Sacramento recently and brought back a brand new wife. He was married in that city on the 12th instant to Miss Georgie Wilson, and the happy pair arrived here on Wednesday night's train. They were the recipients of quite an ovation at the Palace from their friends.

Saturday evening at the residence of the bride's parents, No. 716 O street, George M. Johnson was united in marriage with Miss Carrie B. Morrison. None but relatives of the contracting parties were present. The wedding dinner was gotten up in the old-fashioned style. The happy couple were the recipients of many handsome, useful and costly presents. After the festivities were over the newly-married retired to their new residence at Ninth and N streets.

Arrivals at the Golden Eagle Hotel yesterday: Arthur Clements, Quincy, Ill.; H. Milton, Central City, Col.; W. H. Parks, Jr, Marysville; John Marsh, New York; G. W. Conaway, city; J. V. Miner, city; Jas. W. Smith, H. C. Marks, Miss Greer and brother, F. A. Swain, F. M. Strauss, A. Heynemann, San Francisco; Geo. E. Wilhoit, Stockton; C. H. Lawrence, Plumas; W. T. Ellis, Marysville; R. Grain, Red Bluff; F. E. Taylor, Folsom; Mrs. Wm. Beckman, city; W. A. Robinson, D. Hamburger, San Francisco.

MR. ROBT. WILSON, Surveyor's Office, Toronto: St. Jacobs Oil cured him of rheumatism where scores of other medicines failed.

GOOD NEWS.—It is now entirely unnecessary to purchase any imported perfumes, as the very best are Peck's Premium Perfumes and Elite Bouquet, of home manufacture.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED—A SITUATION AS "WORKING" Housekeeper, in city or country, by a young American lady with a little girl; references given and required. Address "X. Y.," RECORD-UNION Office. fe18-1t*

STRAYED—FROM MY RANCH, five miles south of the city, a WHITE ROAN COW; right ear cropped, swallow fork in left; branded "J. H." on hip. Reward to finder. Address J. H. HAMILTON, Sacramento. fe18-2w

FREE LECTURE.

REV. E. R. DILLE, OF SAN FRANCISCO, will lecture THIS (Monday) EVENING, at 8 o'clock, in Y. M. C. A. Rooms, 1009 Fourth street. Subject—"Ghosts; Ancient and Modern." fe18-1t*

FORESTER GUN CLUB!

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FORESTER Gun Club will be held

THIS (Monday) EVENING,

At 7:30 o'clock, to act upon matters of unusual interest. Every member is desired to be present. fe18-1t* [B. C.] H. J. KILGARIFF, Secretary.

Germania Building and Loan ASSOCIATION.

THE MONTHLY INSTALLMENTS AND INTEREST will be due and payable TO-DAY (Monday), February 18, 1884. The Secretary will be ready to receive the same at the office, No. 1011 Fourth street, from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and in the evening from 7 to 9. A. HEILBRON, President. H. J. GOETHE, Secretary. fe18-1t*

THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MASQUERADE BALL —OF THE— SACRAMENTO TURN-VEREIN, WILL BE HELD AT THE OLD PAVILION Thursday Evening, February 28, 1884.

☞ Parties intending to participate will do well to secure Tickets early, as there will be only a limited number sold. Tickets, $1 each. [B. C.] fe15-1t

IRISHMEN, ATTENTION!

THE IRISH CITIZENS OF SACRAMENTO AND vicinity are requested to meet at St. Rose School-room, on

Next Sunday Afternoon, Feb. 24, 1884,

At 2 o'clock, to make arrangements for the Celebration of the 17th of MARCH (St. Patrick's Day). All are requested to attend. fe18-1t*

"By Their Fruits Shall Ye Know Them!"

The Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Comp'y of California,

OFFICE: 418 CALIFORNIA ST., SAN FRANCISCO.

OFFICERS:

GEO. A. MOORE.....President
W. R. CLUNESS.....Vice-Pres't and Medical Director
J. N. FATION.....Secretary
SAMUEL M. MARKS.....Assistant Secretary
C. N. FOX.....Attorney

Directors:

Robert Sherwood, B. F. Langford, George W. Beaver, James Carolan, L. S. Adams, Samuel Lavenson, Columbus Waterhouse, George A. Moore, W. T. Garratt, J. F. Houghton, W. R. Cluness, Hugh M. Laktue, D. W. Earle, Henry T. Scott, Charles N. Fox.

Assets, Dec. 31, 1883- $1,182 151 98

DEATH LOSSES PAID A. D. 1883.

John P. Scott	Deer Creek, Cal	$10,910
Bartuel Miller	Stockton, Cal	1,012
Henry M Osgood	San Luis Obispo, Cal.	1,045
Edgar Mason	Crescent City, Cal.	1,015
Joahnn Meyer	Stockton, Cal	5,720
Robert C. Clark	Sacramento, Cal	10,000
Charles Maynard	Placerville, Cal	1,029
Patrick Hogan	Portland, Or	10,000
Richard Astill	Antelope, Cal	1,000
Augustus Ash	Virginia, Nev	1,500
Owen Henry	Knappton, W. T.	1,500
Mary Donegan	Nevada, M. T.	2,560
James A. Brown	Red Bluff, Cal	2,000
John Byrns	Antelope, Cal	600
Martin Blim	Waterloo, Ia	2,000
William A. Long	Easton, Ind	1,050
James Strain	Marysville, Cal	2,000