DAILY RECORD-UNION

THURSDAY.....FEBRUARY 19, 1885

The RECORD-UNION *is the only paper on the coast, outside of San Francisco, that receives the full Associated Press dispatches from all parts of the world. Outside of San Francisco it has no competitor, in point of numbers, in its home and general circulation throughout the coast.*

SAN FRANCISCO AGENCY.

L. P. FISHER is Sole Agent for this paper in San Francisco and vicinity. He is authorized to receive advertisements and subscriptions, and collect for the same. Rooms 21 and 22, Merchants' Exchange.

NEWS OF THE MORNING.

In New York yesterday Government bonds were quoted at 122½ for 4s of 1907; 112¼ for 4½s; sterling, $4 84@4 87½; 101½ for 3s; silver bars, 105⅛.

Silver in London, 49d; consols, 99d; 5 per cent. United States bonds, extended, 105; 4s, 125⅛; 4½s, 115⅝.

In San Francisco Mexican dollars are quoted at 83¾@84 cents.

A dull and sloppy feeling pervaded the mining share market in San Francisco yesterday. There was a small decline in the middle Comstocks, and the weakness extended throughout the entire list, business being confined to small traders.

The departure of the Guards from England for Suakim took place yesterday.

An iron mine and furnace have closed down in Rockbridge county, Virginia, throwing 1,200 men out of employment.

Over 7,000 tickets were sold for the Dickens carnival in Boston Tuesday night.

A strike of coal miners is threatened in Mansfield valley, Pennsylvania.

The French residents of Shanghai have been placed under Russian protection.

The weather has greatly moderated in the East.

One ballot was taken in the Illinois Legislature yesterday for United States Senator, which resulted in no choice.

Daniel Drake wound up a spree in Los Angeles Tuesday night by taking a fatal dose of strychnine.

A fire in Bisbee, A. T., yesterday morning, destroyed the entire business portion of the town.

Fire near Cheyenne, Wyoming; loss, $25,000.

Mrs. Mark Hopkins is said to have several millions in Government bonds loaned out in Wall street.

In attempting to serve writs of attachment at Marysville, Tex., a Constable was killed and a deputy wounded.

A strange series of accidents at a funeral occurred Tuesday at Wesleyville, Pa.

The death of Captain Oliver Cutts, shipmaster and merchant, is announced from New York.

The United States Senate yesterday passed the anti-foreign contract labor bill by ayes 42, noes 15.

A bridge is to be built across the Willamette river between Portland and East Portland, Or.

The bill to extend suffrage to women has been rejected by the local House at Victoria, B. C.

The Senatorial deadlock in the Oregon Legislature remains unbroken, and the session closes to-morrow night.

The next reunion of the Oregon Pioneers will be held at Oregon City June 15th.

The missing propeller Michigan is ice-bound in the lake twenty-three miles west of South Haven, Mich.

Hon. Morton E. Fost is strongly recommended for the position of Governor of Wyoming Territory.

Three vessels were burned at Memphis yesterday, two of them steamers loaded with cotton.

The obsequies of the dead musician, Dr. Leopold Damrosch, took place at New York yesterday in the Metropolitan Opera House.

The United States Senate yesterday confirmed the nomination of Emery Speer as United States District Judge of the Southern District of Georgia.

The eighteenth annual encampment of the Department of California, G. A. R., convened in San Francisco yesterday.

It is reported from Rome that Cardinal Jacobini, Papal Secretary of State, has resigned.

Great anxiety prevails at the War Office in London about Colonel Buller's force at Gubat.

The House Committee on Appropriations have agreed to recommend an appropriation in aid of the New Orleans Exposition.

TWO LOOPHOLES STOPPED.

Two loopholes were discovered yesterday in the school text-book bill as it came from the Senate, and the Assembly promptly, wisely and unanimously corrected the error and closed the holes, on the suggestion of Assemblyman Jordan, Chairman of the Educational Committee. The wonder is that the bill went through as it was framed, and that such serious errors escaped attention. In fact the bill had been amended quite to death. Our Legislature appears to have succeeded—innocently on the part of friends of the bill, we are sure—in legislating for other States, and thus set an example of broad State philanthropy that has no parallel. It made the bill read that after California has gone to all the expense of procuring the necessary MS., type, engravings and electrotypes, that any other State desiring should have the right to demand and have copies of the electrotype plates at the cost of their duplication and shipment. That is to say, we were to expend several thousand dollars, and then give the results to Nevada or Oregon, for instance. How easy it would have been for the book syndicate—the twenty houses composing it under agreement not to permit competition in school books, and the proofs of which infamy we have at hand and ready for examination by whomsoever is concerned—to go into another State and work through a bill to ask and receive California's plates at a cost probably of two or three hundred dollars. How easy, by the same influences, for the publishers to get the "job" of printing from these plates for the recipient, and thus flood the country with books at a cost to them barely above the price of the paper, and probably not to exceed one-fourth of what such books cost California. As a consequence, the State could not sell a volume, and would keep her stock on hand, and the taxpayers would have to pocket the entire loss. No wonder the book influences became suddenly quiet when the bill went through with such a generous provision in it. The Assembly corrected the blunder, however, by striking out "the whole business." That is, we propose to paddle our own canoe and to postpone missionary efforts until a "cry from Macedonia" reaches our ears.

But this was not all. Another rat-hole was found in the bill, and the Assembly corrected that also yesterday. Section 2 of the bill directed the State Board of Education to have the necessary books compiled. But it was provided that "if competent authors shall compile any one or more works of the first order of excellence, and shall offer the same as a free gift to the people of the State, it shall be the duty of the State Board of Education to accept such gift, and to expend no money for the purpose of compiling works relating to the subjects treated of in the books thus donated."

The "trouble" with this section may be thus exemplified. One of the syndicate houses having sale, in other States, for some millions of copies of a book we desire, receives back its outlay and a large profit from such sales. It is then in a position to turn to California and say, "Here is a book you admit to be of first excellence. You want it. Very well, we will give it to you. Under the law you must take and use no other on this subject." The reader will see that, while the State must go to the expense of printing the book, of making electrotypes for every page, of reproducing all the illustrations and all other cost of original reproduction, the giver, having no new expenses such as above enumerated, can sell at the end of his enormous edition the book in question at a price but little in advance of the cost of paper and binding, which would not be, as in the other case, more than one-fourth the cost per volume to the State. And so, again, the State would have its stock of books on hand, as well as the large expense bill. The Assembly, however, sat down upon this joker also, by amending the section quoted so that the generous donor to the dear people shall clinch his gift and testify to his sincerity in desiring to benefit the people, by accompanying his gift with a transfer of the copyright of the book for the territory of California, with the exclusive right to manufacture and sell the work within the State vested in the sovereign State of California. If the giver is honest he cannot demur at giving his benefaction full effect. If he is dishonest, and offers to give us something only that he may hereafter cinch us, we do not desire to be the object of his solicitude. Of course the Senate will see that the palpable errors are corrected in the manner the Assembly suggests. It is unthinkable that anyone will venture to oppose its obviously wise amendments.

THE CROSS BILL AGAIN.

A protest comes to us from old hydraulic miners, who are now engaged in drift, ravine and other mining, against the passage of the Cross bill. It really appears to be a bill in the interest of a few large hydraulic mining corporations. It appears that the plans for such a scheme were put afoot six months ago, and that a desperate effort will be made to pass the bill. No such measure, fraught with so much of grave interest, should be hastily considered. Upon it there hinges, possibly, the integrity of the rivers and the occupancy of the bottom lands. It would appear to be destructive of the interests of the small miners of the creek, ravine and drift, and to a large extent, the quartz mines. In all the mining counties is a large number of creek, drift and ravine mines. Their aggregate industry is a most important total. It is rapidly augmenting, and promises to open up new sources of wealth to the State. These interests are to be mortgaged to the hydraulic miners, bound and delivered over to them. The Cross bill invests those having appropriated water for mining purposes with power to form strong corporations, to select, condemn and occupy as dumps and debris reservoirs any ravines, water drains, creeks or gulches. Now nearly every ditch company is interested in or owns hydraulic-mining ground. In most of the ravines and along creeks where hydraulic miners may desire to store debris, are small miners. The bill gives the water and hydraulic corporations power to seize and condemn their claims. Their value cannot be accurately ascertained, and damages to be awarded will only be such as will cover land value, notwithstanding that the prospective or mining value may be very great. In very many debris-charged ravines and creeks, miners are also seeking to work out the millions of gold in the detritus. They are also seeking to go down upon these places to the original placer deposits, great numbers of which, it is believed, have not been touched, and many of them have only been skimmed, because hydraulic mining flow has heretofore appropriated them and filled them up. On ravine sides are many miners working by comparatively harmless processes. Under the Cross bill, these men may be driven out and their ground filled in to their ruin. Practically all the water to be used for hydraulic or other mining has been appropriated, and hence the companies owning will possess the power, under this new bill, to shut off all the class of miners referred to, wherever a creek, river tributary, ravine, gulch or canyon is desired for a debris repository. It is developing that the mining communities are by no means a unit in favor of the Cross bill. The great hydraulic and water companies favor it, but outside of these the miners are opposing it for the reasons, in part, which we have enumerated. Practically, then, the bill puts it in the power of a few, to check or destroy the industry of the many, and put a stop to mineral development to a very great extent.

A FLAT DENIAL.

To those San Francisco journals that have spared no words to denounce the drainage claims as fraudulent, and the bill for their payment a fraud, we commend the protest of claimants elsewhere printed in this paper. These men speak out very flatly. They ask equity and justice. They deny, and with justifiable indignation, that they are robbers, have put up any job, or have defrauded the State of a dollar. They point out that not more than $10,000 of the claims have ever been sold; but we fail to see how that fact affects the question. If a claim is an honest debt, it makes no sort of difference who holds it. These claimants very squarely resent the abuse that has been heaped upon them. In good faith, under an Act of the Legislature of their State, one they had reason to believe to be a lawful Act, they worked for the State or furnished it with materials. We print a list of claims held by the original owners, aggregating nearly $223,000. This is the first list we have seen, though as all the records of the Drainage Commission are open for examination, they might have long since been ascertained. We have not thought, however, that the personal holding of the claims cut any figure in the case, nor do we think so now. The only things to be considered are: Was the work done? Is the sum asked according to the contracts made? Were these contracts free from fraud? Did the Legislature authorize the work to be done? If so, there is no plea in equity to be set up in resistance of these just demands. The State should set an example of honest dealing, keep its contracts with its citizens, and not force them to lose the money and labor they put into the structures ordered by the State. It has surprised us not a little that those so rudely and unjustly denouncing the claimants have not followed up the attack by assailing such of the press as urge the equity of the claims and advise their payment. It would be in order, according to the methods adopted by these opponents, to charge that the journalistic friends of the bill have been bought and sold. It is possible, however, that these opponents recognize the fact that there may be conscientious advocacy as well as opposition to a public measure. We are very far from charging that any opponent of the bill is actuated by selfish or unworthy motives, and we demand for its advocates equally as fair judgment of motives.

FROM FAR AND NEAR.

STRANGE SERIES OF ACCIDENTS AT A FUNERAL.

The Illinois Senatorship—Weather Reports—O'Donovan Rossa Again—Horses Burned.

[SPECIAL DISPATCHES TO THE RECORD-UNION.]

DOMESTIC NEWS.

United States Senate.

WASHINGTON, February 18th.—At 11 o'clock the only Senator in the Chamber was Edmunds, who, promptly at that hour, entered with the Chaplain. Edmunds, observing the situation, abstained from taking the chair, and he and the Chaplain took seats on the floor. After a few minutes' delay Morrill came in, and with his advent two or three others. The day's proceedings were so far begun as that the Chaplain offered a prayer. This done the few Senators present indulged themselves awhile in eloquent silence, which was finally broken by Morrill, who moved a call of the Senate. The call began with four Senators and concluded with sixteen. That not being a quorum, the names of the absentees were called, and this brought ten more. But that being thirteen short of a quorum, matters came to a stop.

Conger inquired whether it was safe to proceed with the reading of the journal of yesterday.

The Chair said no.

Conger remarked that he was not an alarmist and had only inquired for information, and Hale asked that unanimous consent be given to dispense with the reading.

The Chair declined to entertain the proposition, the call having shown the absence of a quorum.

After some further waiting, Miller of New York entered and said, "Mr. President." [The Chair recognized the Senator from New York.] Then Miller gravely remarked, "No." [Laughter.]

Gibson was similarly recognized, and with his usual gravity announced the conclusion of his mind to be "No." [Laughter.]

At 11:30 the Chair announced a quorum present. The journal was read and the morning business proceeded with.

Dawes from the Committee on Indian Affairs reported the original bill to enable the President to negotiate for the purchase from the Creek, Seminole and Cherokee nations of Indians, their remaining interest in the so-called Oklahoma lands. Calendar.

The Senate went into executive session. In twenty minutes the doors were reopened and legislative business resumed.

Lapham continued his remarks on the Des Moines river and land title bills.

Lapham's remarks were interrupted by the regular order—the anti-foreign contract labor bill.

Lapham offered an amendment, providing that the whole penalty recovered shall be paid into the United States Treasury, instead as by the bill providing for one-half of the penalty to go to the person who may bring suit.

Blair then offered an amendment making it the duty of the United States District Attorney, of the proper district, to prosecute, at the expense of the United States, every case of violation of the Act. Agreed to—yeas 42, nays 15.

The bill then passed—yeas 50, nays 9.

The Senate then went into executive session, and when the doors were reopened adjourned.

House of Representatives.

WASHINGTON, February 18th.—The House reconvened this morning on the continuation of the session of yesterday.

The conference report upon the District of Columbia appropriation bill was agreed to.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the river and harbor bill. Under an agreement, the half hour was divided among the opponents of the bill. Pending a vote on the amendment providing that a Board should examine the proposed improvement in Galveston harbor and report to the Secretary of War, the committee rose, the House adjourned and the session of to-day began.

Rice, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported the joint resolution requesting the President to provide a new Commission to pass upon the Venezuelan awards. Calendar.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the river and harbor bill.

The pending amendment, which was offered as a substitute for the entire paragraph relative to Galveston harbor, was adopted.

A large number of amendments were offered, but, with one or two unimportant exceptions, were voted down.

Pending further action, the committee rose and took a recess until 10 o'clock tomorrow.

The Anti-Foreign Contract Labor Bill.

WASHINGTON, February 18th.—Following is the text of the House anti-foreign contract labor bill, as amended and passed today by the Senate:

Be it enacted, etc., that from and after the passage of this Act, it shall be unlawful for any person, company, partnership or corporation, to in any way assist or encourage the importation or migration of any alien or aliens, any foreigner or foreigners, into the United States, its Territories or the District of Columbia, under contract or agreement, parole or special, express or implied, made previous to the importation or migration of such alien or aliens, foreigner or foreigners, to perform labor or service of any kind in the United States, its Territories or the District of Columbia.

Section 2. That all contracts or agreements, express or implied, parole or special, which may hereafter be made by and between any person, company, partnership or corporation, and any foreigner or foreigners, alien or aliens, to perform labor or service, or having reference to the performance of labor or service, by any person in the United States, its Territories or the District of Columbia, previous to the migration or importation of the person or persons whose labor or service is contracted for, in the United States, shall be utterly void, and of no effect.

Section 3. That for every violation of any of the provisions of Section 1 of this Act, the person, partnership, company or corporation violating the same, by knowingly assisting, encouraging or soliciting the migration or importation of any alien or aliens, any foreigner or foreigners, into the United States, its tributaries or the District of Columbia, to perform labor or service of any kind under contract or agreement, express or implied, parole or special, with such aliens, or aliens, foreigner or foreigners, previous to becoming residents or citizens of the United States, shall forfeit and pay for every such offense $1,000, which may be sued for and recovered by the United States, or by any person who shall first bring his action therefor, including any such alien or foreigner who may be a party to any such contract or agreement, as debts of like amount are now recovered in the Circuit Courts of the United States, the proceeds to be paid into the Treasury of the United States, and separate suits may be brought for each alien or foreigner being a party to such contract or agreement aforesaid, and it shall be the duty of the District Attorney of the proper district to prosecute every such suit at the expense of the United States.

Section 4. That the master of any vessel that shall knowingly bring within the United States on any such vessel, and land, or permit to be landed, from any foreign port or place, any alien laborer, mechanic or artisan who, previous to embarkation on such vessel, had entered into a contract or agreement, parole or special, express or implied, to perform labor or service in the United States, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than $500 for each and every such alien laborer, mechanic or artisan so brought, and may also be imprisoned not exceeding six months.

Section 5. That nothing in this Act shall be construed as to prevent any citizen or subject of any foreign country, temporarily residing in the United States, either in private or official capacity, from engaging, under contract or otherwise, persons not residents or citizens of the United States, to act as private secretaries, servants or domestics for such foreigner temporarily residing in the United States, nor shall this Act be so construed as to prevent any person or persons, partnership or corporation, from engaging, under contract or agreement, skilled workmen in foreign countries, to perform labor in the United States in or upon any new industry not at present established in the United States; provided, that the skilled labor for that purpose cannot otherwise be obtained. Nor shall the provisions of this Act apply to professional actors, artists, lecturers or singers, nor to persons employed strictly as personal or domestic servants; provided, that nothing in this Act shall be construed as prohibiting any individual from assisting any member of his family or any relative or personal friend, to migrate from any foreign country to the United States, for the purpose of settlement.

Section 6 repeals all conflicting laws. The bill now goes back to the House for concurrence or non-concurrence in the Senate amendments.

Anti-Masonic Lunatics.

WASHINGTON, February 18th.—A printed protest of large proportions, against permitting Masonic societies to participate in the dedication of the Washington monument next Saturday, has been received by the Congressional committee charged with the arrangements. The signers claim to have 13,000 signatures. The protestants say the Masonic Order has no more right to such distinction than the Hibernians, or any other secret Order. The stone sent by the Pope for the monument was, they say, broken up and thrown in the Potomac. Why, they ask, are Catholics snubbed and Freemasons honored? Freemasonry, they say, is of foreign birth, and is entirely unAmerican and unrepublican. Its public displays are pompous and barbaric, its titles extravagant and lordly, its constitution despotic, its oaths extra-judicial, which Webster said should be suppressed by law. They pray that only such ceremonies as are national in their scope and American in their character be permitted. The protest came too late for action by the committee.

The Opposition to the Grant Retirement Bill.

PHILADELPHIA, February 18th.—The action of the Democrats in the House, and of Rosecrans especially, toward the Grant retirement bill, is severely censured by independent journals here and elsewhere. The *Times* says: General Grant has passed the point when the shaft of partisan warfare can be hurled against him. Neither political nor business errors can justly weigh against his undimmed fame as the first soldier of the land. The *Press* reminds Rosecrans that behind the view of forgetfulness which peace has generously cast around a certain episode in his military career is a skeleton which it is not well for him to force upon dress parade.

Views of a Veteran Journalist.

CHICAGO, February 18th.—The Chicago *Tribune* has the following: A cheerful view of affairs, politically and in a business way, on the Pacific slope was taken by Loring Pickering, of the San Francisco *Call* and *Bulletin*, who was at the Palmer House yesterday. "I do not think the election of Leland Stanford to the Senate," said he, "will commit California Republicans to the railroad cause. The bitter feeling against the Pacific road has of late been dying out, as other roads have been built, the general idea being that none were making too much money. That Stanford will devote his immense fortune to public ends is the prevailing impression, which seems to be well grounded. He has a man now looking over various plans. Among them are plans for a school for the mechanical training of workmen, which will be at Menlo Park, and one for a great museum in San Francisco. The latter was the project of the dead son and his ideas will be faithfully carried out. Mrs. Stanford has been on the grave's brink for several years, and I am convinced that it is the aim of both her and her husband to give the remainder of their lives, together with their fortune, to the general good of the State."

Speaking of business on the Pacific slope, Mr. Pickering said the entire labor was employed, and, all in all, it was much better than was anticipated. With the low price of wheat last fall, farmers had turned to producing other crops which had paid well, and general industries were looking up. Nevada was for a time falling back, but as soon as labor went down to $2 per day instead of $4, mines could be worked more extensively than at any time hitherto, and the State would make a shoot upwards. It was hoped that Cleveland's Secretary of the Treasury would rule differently on the admission of Chinese than had Secretary McCullough, and this would remove the last good ground for complaint against the restriction not being sufficiently operative.

Cotton-Laden Steamers Burned.

MEMPHIS (Tenn.), February 18th.—This afternoon fire was discovered among some cotton on board the steamer Ida Darragh, alongside the wharf boat of the Memphis, Arkansas City, Vicksburg and Arkansas River Packet Company. The flames soon enveloped the steamer, and were communicated to the wharf boat. The Anchor Line steamer City of Helena, which was lying at the foot of the wharf boat, was also ignited and burned. The Ida Darragh has just arrived from the Arkansas river with 219 bales of cotton and 4,000 sacks of seed, which was lost. Insured in local companies. The steamer was a little over two years old, and was valued at $20,000; insured for $12,000. The City of Helena was owned by the Anchor Line Company of St. Louis, and was valued at $60,000; uninsured. Her cargo consisted of 750 barrels of oil, valued at $15,000; fully insured in Thomas Wellford's agency of Memphis. She had also 150 bales of cotton and 20,000 feet of lumber. The wharf boat, valued at $10,000, was partly insured. No lives were lost.

A Musician's Obsequies.

NEW YORK, February 18th.—Dr. Leopold Damrosch's funeral took place this afternoon from the Metropolitan Opera House, where he so long wielded the baton. The body was inclosed in a casket upon which lay palm branches tied with white ribbon, which was borne up the aisle of the opera house and placed in a catafalque close to the black-draped chair of the dead leader, in front of which his baton lay upon the music-rest he used. The opera house was heavily draped in mourning, and thousands of people were in the building. On the stage were several hundred members of the Oratorio Symphony Societies. An abundance of floral tributes on the stage filled the air with perfumes. Some of these tributes bore suitable inscriptions. A committee from the Thalia Theater met the remains at the entrance of the opera house, and the casket was borne in upon the shoulders of a committee from the Arion Society. The procession was preceded by the Directors of the opera house, Felix Adler, Rev. Wm. H. Cook and Henry Ward Beecher, and followed by the Directors of the Oratorio and Symphony Societies. The family of the deceased occupied the proscenium box.

Steamer Ice-bound in Lake Michigan.

SOUTH HAVEN (Mich.), February 18th.—The propeller Michigan, which left Grand Haven a week ago last Monday, has been heard from. She is locked in the ice twenty-three miles west of here, unable to move. Seventeen of her crew crossed the intervening ice and reached the shore some miles north of here last night. They had a perilous and wearisome journey. One of the men gave out and was carried five miles on the back of another. They say thirteen men remain on board the propeller; that they have rations for twenty-five days and 99 tons of coal; that the ice extends westward into the lake as far as the eye can reach.

The Governorship of Wyoming.

CHEYENNE, February 18th.—A large and enthusiastic Democratic Convention was held here this evening, and passed resolutions stating a belief that President Arthur will not fill the vacancy in the Governor's office, and recommending to President-elect Cleveland Hon. Morton E. Post, the present Delegate in Congress from this Territory, for that position, in accordance with the principle adopted by the National Democratic Convention, declaring in favor of appointments to Federal offices in Territories being made from bona fide residents thereof.

New York Anarchists.

NEW YORK, February 18th.—The Anarchists of this city have called a mass meeting for this evening, to commemorate the death of August Reinsdorff, recently executed in Germany. A large bill, with a black border, which has been extensively circulated among the Socialists, contains extracts from Reinsdorff's last speeches, with comments on them by the Anarchists of this city. It directs special attention to Reinsdorff's cry to the workingmen: "Down with the ballot-box. It is time for you to act!" Also to his remarks to the Court that had sentenced him: "The social question will never be abandoned, even if there are a hundred tribunals. The people will one day have dynamite enough to blow you bourgeoisie all up."

A Strange Series of Accidents at a Funeral.

NEW YORK, February 18th.—A special from Erie, Pennsylvania, says: The remains of the daughter of John Wells were being carried into the Methodist Church in Wesleyville, Pennsylvania, yesterday by four young lady pall-bearers, when two of them slipped on the ice-covered steps and the coffin fell. The casket was burst open, allowing the corpse to roll out upon one of the prostrate young ladies, who was frightened into insensibility. The body was replaced and the service concluded. At the entrance to the cemetery the handles of the casket broke and the corpse again rolled out. As the remains were being lowered the cord slipped and the casket was smashed at the bottom of the grave. The grave-digger losing his balance fell into the grave upon the corpse and was drawn out palsied with fright. Another casket and shroud were then procured and the remains at last found rest.

Threatening to Compete With California Wine-Making.

NEW YORK, February 18th.—A special from Milton says: The failure of the peach crop along the Hudson river above Newburgh for several years, have discouraged peach-growers, and they have resolved to pull up their young peach trees and give more attention to grapes. The result, they predict, will be that the banks of the Hudson will compete with California in wine-making.

A Constable Killed and a Deputy Wounded.

NEW YORK, February 18th.—A special from Dallas, Texas, says: Johnson Cook, County Constable, with two deputies, attempted to serve writs of attachments on the grocery stock of Rainey, at Marysville, when he discovered that the stock had been removed, and went in pursuit, overtaking Rainey and his son at the bank of Red river, preparing to cross with their goods into the Indian Territory. While Johnson was reading the writs to old Rainey, the latter's son killed the Constable by shooting him through the brain. The two Rainey's then opened fire on the deputies, shooting one of them through the face and through the thigh. The desperadoes then escaped into Indian Territory.

A Sensation at a Lulu Hurst Exhibition.

ATLANTA, February 18th.—The audience which witnessed the performance of Miss Lulu Hurst, the Georgia wonder, was thrown into violent excitement when a well-dressed lady arose, and throwing her hat in the air, shrieked out, "Glory to God in the highest; woman rules the world; God bless you, Lulu." Instantly she was surrounded by persons who tried to quiet her, but throwing them off with a frantic effort she went to the stage, and grasping Lulu kissed her convulsively. It was soon evident the lady's mind was unbalanced. It required three strong men to remove her.

Death of Captain Oliver Cutts.

NEW YORK, February 18th.—Among the deaths yesterday was Captain Oliver Cutts, shipmaster and merchant. He recently returned from California whither he had gone to seek a warmer winter home, but came back only to find the severest weather of the season and he fell a victim to it.

Valuable Horses Burned to Death.

CHEYENNE (W. T.), February 18th.—The *Daily Leader* states that at 1 o'clock this afternoon a barn on the ranch of Hon. Harry Oelrichs, six miles from the city, was burned. The fire started from a stove in the harness-room. The imported stallion Prudent, costing $15,000, also a Cleveland bay valued at $5,000, three other horses and a number of carriages were burned. Loss, $25,000.

Revival of Rossa's Courage.

NEW YORK, February 18th.—O'Donovan Rossa seems to have recovered his courage. This week's paper says he will apply for a warrant for the arrest of J. Pierpont Edwards. "We will see if the citizens of the United States and New York are to be protected by the States from the murderous conspiracies of the official agent of an alien Government. We hereby inform the diabolical press of London that the dynamite work will go on till Ireland is free or London laid in ashes."

California Capital in New York.

NEW YORK, February 18th.—The *News* says: Mrs. Mark Hopkins is said to be the loaner of several millions of Government bonds to certain parties in Wall street. Senator Fair is also said to have about $4,000,000 on call in this city. Californians are very kind to each other when away from home, and their capital is of great value in times of emergency.

The Illinois Senatorship.

SPRINGFIELD, February 18th.—The Legislature met in joint session at noon for the purpose of voting for United States Senator. Two hundred and two members were present, and two absent, one Democrat and one Republican. The first ballot called: Logan, 101, the full Republican strength present; Morrison, 94; E. M. Haines, 4; scattering, 3. No election. Only one ballot was taken.

The Weather Moderating.

CHICAGO, February 18th.—The weather here and throughout Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Nebraska has greatly moderated. Freight and passenger trains started out on time this morning. A prominent railway official has estimated the loss to all railroads by the storm during the second and third weeks of this month at from $2,000,000 to $3,000,000.

WEATHER PROPHETS AT FAULT.

NEW YORK, February 18th.—The Weather Bureau and weather prophets have generally signally failed in their weather prognostications in this vicinity this winter. In no similar period within memory have the changes been more sudden and surprising than since the year began. Twice within a fortnight the temperature has fallen forty to forty-five degrees in twenty-four hours. The snow of last night, added to the storm of the previous forty-eight hours in northern New York, has blockaded the roads and greatly disarranged travel. Trains are all behind today. The San Francisco mail, due yesterday at 8 A. M., had not arrived at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

The New Orleans Exposition.

NEW ORLEANS, February 18th.—To-day's attendance at the Exposition was very large. The dog show promises to be the greatest ever made.

APPROPRIATION AGREED TO.

WASHINGTON, February 18th.—At a meeting of the House Committee on Appropriations to-night it was agreed to recommend an appropriation in aid of the New Orleans Exposition. The amount and manner of its expenditure were left to a sub-committee, consisting of Connor, Long and Fallett. Their report, however, will be considered by the full committee before a recommendation for the appropriation is submitted.

Nomination Confirmed.

WASHINGTON, February 18th.—The Senate, in executive session, to-day confirmed the nomination of Emery Speer as United States District Judge for the Southern District of Georgia. The vote stood 26 to 25. Senator Hale voted in the negative and Senator Brown in the affirmative. The division was otherwise upon party lines.

Meeting of Socialists.

NEW YORK, February 18th.—Several hundred Socialists of both sexes assembled in Concordia Hall to-night, to participate in the exercises commemorative of the execution of Reinsdorff, who attempted the assassination of the German Emperor. W. J. Gorsuch, of Chicago, stated that the object of the meeting was to "strongly, fiercely and meaningly condemn the murder of August Reinsdorff, whose execution was in the eyes of all liberty-loving people an outrageously disgraceful and damnable murder." He, in continuation, said that Reinsdorff's attempt on Emperor William's life was justifiable, and that the Internationalists demand the killing of all tyrants in Europe and America. Herr Most spoke in favor of dynamite, giving a recipe for its manufacture. J. Hertz made an address in Bohemian, after which the usual collection was taken up. The police did not interfere with the meeting.

Swift Retribution.

DALLAS, February 18th.—The two Raineys, who on Monday murdered Constable Johnson and wounded Constable Floyd near Marysville, while they were serving a process, were to-day captured in Indian Territory and lynched by citizens of Cook county.

FOREIGN NEWS.

British Troops Retreating Before El Mahdi's Forces.

LONDON, February 18th.—Reports from Abu-Klea, dated the evening of the 13th, state that General Buller announced his intention to evacuate his position near Gubat, and withdraw his whole force to Abu-Klea, which is a better strategic position. After rendering Gordon's two steamers useless by removing the machinery, the whole force started on the morning of the 14th inst. across the desert, and arrived at Abu-Klea the next day, without firing a shot. The men are cheerful. They prefer walking to camel riding. The reason for the abandonment of Gubat was an advance made by Mahdi, with 9,000 men, from Omdurman toward Gubat, and the retreat was ordered when the main body of Arabs was thirty miles off; but an advance guard of 3,000 men, with five cannon, was within seven miles of the British lines. General Buller had less than 2,000 men, all told. The Arabs massed in and around Metemneh did not notice this movement for several hours after Gubat had been deserted. The British will retire to Gakdul Wells, and may possibly continue the retreat to Korti, in order to concentrate the force there under the command of General Wooiseley for a fresh advance. Lord Charles Beresford displaced the machinery of the steamers in such a way as to make it impossible for El Mahdi's troops to use them, although leaving them capable of being repaired when the British return. The total force at Abu-Klea, including the Egyptians and Soudanese, now amount to 19,000 men, with 150 camels. The water supply is not sufficient for the men and camels. It is believed that General Buller is awaiting orders to know whether to retire to Gakdul or advance to Berber and join General Brackenbury's force. It is said Mahdi is traveling in state, with 40,000 to 60,000 followers, towards Metemneh. The force Talbot encountered was an advance guard. On the 14th instant Mahdi, with his army, was twenty miles from Gubat, and was marching slowly. It is estimated that the rebels lost eighty men killed during the Talbot skirmish.

Dangerous Cataract—Mementos of General Gordon.

KORTI, February 18th.—A native reports that a dangerous cataract has developed in the Nile between Berber and Shendy, which is likely to prevent the navigation of the river until July.

Mahdi secured all of General Gordon's papers and paper money, and is cashing the latter to obtain needful funds to continue the warfare. The British officers and men are eagerly buying up these notes, and also the leaden medals struck off at Khartoum, which bring their weight in gold as mementoes of General Gordon.

Great Anxiety for Colonel Buller's Force.

LONDON, February 18th.—Great anxiety is felt at the War Office about Colonel Buller's force at Gubat. Mahdi's reinforcements sent to Metemneh will increase the force there to 7,500 men. The rebels have ten long-range guns. Colonel Buller has no heavy guns at all.

Departure of the Guards for Suakim.

LONDON, February 18th.—The Duke of Cambridge to-day inspected the Guards as the latter were leaving for Suakim. The Duke, in his address to the Guards, told them that their discipline was of a high order, and England would expect a good report of their services in the field. He hoped, notwithstanding the severe trials attendant on the campaign in Egypt, that the Guards would remember their duty to their country and do it nobly. The Princess of Wales and her daughter were present at the review. Large crowds of people collected to give the Guards a parting cheer.

Unemployed Workingmen in London.

LONDON, February 18th.—Sir Vernon Harcourt, Home Secretary, to-day received a deputation of unemployed workingmen, who disavowed any Socialistic tendency, to ask the Government for relief for the unemployed of London. The Home Secretary was reminded that the people represented by the deputation did not desire alms but work. The only relief they desired was employment in which they would give value received for bread wanted. The Home Secretary replied, expressing much sympathy with the suffering poor, but gave them no encouragement.

Warning to England.

LONDON, February 18th.—A document is published which purports to have been written by an emissary of Mahdi, residing in England, and which says in effect that the idea of peace is agreeable to Mahdi provided it will be of advantage to the Mussulmans. Mahdi considers himself bound to follow in the footsteps of Mahomet, who frequently made treaties of peace with Christians and other infidels. The document warns England not to compel a general Moslem rising, thus opening the gates to a flood which would overwhelm the human race.

Admiral Courbet's Victory.

PARIS, February 18th.—A dispatch from Admiral Courbet says: "We have attacked the Chinese squadron and gained a complete victory." Another dispatch says the French fleet succeeded in sinking two of the three Chinese men-of-war which took refuge in the Ningpo river Saturday last.

LONDON, February 18th.—A dispatch from Shanghai states that in the naval engagement between the French fleet under Admiral Courbet and five Chinese men-of-war, French torpedoes sank two Chinese warships, the others escaping in a fog.

PARIS, February 18th.—The following dispatch was received this evening from Admiral Courbet:

SHEIPOO, February 15th.

Two of Bayard's torpedo boats sunk the Chinese frigate Yuguen, carrying 26 guns and 600 men, and the Chinese corvette Tchengking, carrying 7 guns and 150 men.

Marriage of the Duke of Buckingham.

LONDON, February 18th.—The Duke of Buckingham yesterday married his niece's sister, daughter of Sir Graham Montgomery. Among the presents were a large pearl and diamond bracelet, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. George Washington Childs, of Philadelphia, and a diamond and sapphire broach, from Mrs. Carnegie, of Pittsburg.

Rumored Resignation.

ROME, February 18th.—It is reported that Cardinal Jacobini, Papal Secretary of State, has resigned. Cardinal Laurenzi is the favorite of the Pope for the succession.

The Returning Canadian Voyageurs.

QUEENSTOWN, February 18th.—The Canadian voyageurs speak disparagingly of the boats used by Lord Wolseley's expedition in the journey up the Nile, and declare that they are decidedly too frail for such service. In pulling them over the cataracts it frequently happened that their stems would be torn out, and during the ascent of the river thirty boats were damaged so as to be no longer fit for use. Ten of the voyageurs' party were drowned in the Nile, two died from fever and two were killed midway in Egypt. The Canadians complain of the severe heat of the climate of the Soudan, and say they suffered a great deal with sore eyes and blisters. They speak in grateful terms of the manner in which they were treated by the British officers.

The Prince and His Bride.

ROME, February 18th.—Don Ferdinand Colonna, Prince of Galatea, and his bride, formerly Miss Mackay, will sojourn in Florence ten days, and then come to Rome, where they will be tendered a reception at court.

Official Relations Ended.

PARIS, February 18th.—*Le Paris* considers the striking of the French flag by Patrenotre, the French Minister to China, indicative of a final breaking off of official relations between the two countries.

Minister Lowell's Wife.

LONDON, February 18th.—Mrs. Lowell's condition is unchanged. The physicians have abandoned all hope.

SAN FRANCISCO ITEMS.

W. M. Neilsen states that he will claim half of Tyler's fee in the Sharon case, and also a share of the alimony.

Senator Stanford, it is said, has refused to purchase the late Dr. Scott's church building for $70,000, but is willing to pay $75,000 for the First Baptist Church, on Eddy street, between Jones and Leavenworth.

Wells, Fargo & Co. have offered a reward of $1,200 for the arrest and conviction of two robbers who stopped the stage running from Sonora, Tuolumne county, to Milton, Calaveras county, on the 2d instant, and stole $2,000 from the treasure box.

In the case of William Sharon vs. Sarah Althea Hill, on trial before the United States Circuit Court, the defendant failed, Wednesday, to produce the marriage contract as ordered by the Court. By consent of plaintiff's attorney she was given until 11 o'clock Tuesday to produce the document. The Court gave notice that if the paper was not produced at the time specified, an order for the arrest of the defendant would be made.

The holidays of all nations are celebrated in San Francisco. A sight on Broadway on Tuesday afternoon looked more like a section of Rome or Madrid than anything else in the country. It was the peculiar carnival of pleasure that the Italian and Spanish people celebrate on the eve of Lent. A dozen girls or more, in fantastic dress, with bags of flour in their hands, issued from a grocery store on Broadway and chased the great crowd of men and boys that were waiting for them. As the girls ran they threw handfuls of flour on every one they met.

PACIFIC COAST ITEMS.

The Congregationalists intend to build a church at Old Tacoma, W. T.

Customs collections at Victoria, B.