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WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 25, 1898.

TEXAS ITEMS.

The district court for Lavaca county was in session at Hallettsville last week. It adjourned on Saturday last. Among the criminal cases tried were two cases of horse stealing, each of which supplied a convict for the penitentiary for four years.

Under the head of "favorable changes," the Ranger says: "Navasota is beginning to look as the old two years since. Business of every kind is reviving; our merchants are looking more cheerful; wagons are crowding the streets with cotton; speculators are purchasing; strangers are arriving and prospecting; ladies from the country are shopping; the fashionable fair are promenading Washington avenue, with grace and splendor, but none have dared to venture out with the Grecian head."

The Galveston News says: "It is universally admitted that the South needs more white labor, and it is beginning to be admitted that this can be secured only through lines of steamships between Southern ports—thus creating a convenient and protection to immigrants. It is also admitted that commerce and manufactures are necessary to the full and profitable development of the South. Here, therefore, is the great means by which we may arrest the depreciation of property in the South, and open up the way for the influx of capital for the profitable employment of our resources."

The Palestine Advocate, says that the yield of cotton in Anderson county, the present season, will be nearly six thousand bales; and, as a matter of course, the people are doing pretty well, and business is good.

The Jefferson papers advertise fifty hands wanted immediately at the beef packery in that city. They must be doing a brisk business in killing beefs. They expect to pack 700 head this season. We think we have heard of full forty packeries in Texas, and if all are successful they will make at least 500,000 head of beef, at \$2 per barrel, will give \$1,000,000. This is counting chickens before they are hatched.

ARRIVED—The steamship Bienville, Captain Baker, from New York Nov. 14th, and Havana Nov. 21, with merchandise and passengers, to Harris & Bidwell, arrived yesterday. She left New York at 5 o'clock P. M. Nov. 11, arriving at Havana on the evening of the 10th, with a cargo of general merchandise and a large number of passengers; took on board 500 tons of freight and left next morning at 6 o'clock, for New Orleans, arriving at her wharf at 10 o'clock last evening. At 9 o'clock P. M., Nov. 15, thirty miles north of Cape Hatteras, discovered a vessel on fire; ran down to her and found her to be the Matanzas; sailed round her three times but could not discover any boats or persons near her. Supposed her to have been on fire twenty-four hours. The following is the list of passengers:

From New York—W. Evans, M. Callahan, Mr. S. Miller, wife and three children, L. Rouse, A. Surble, Mrs. A. Hurley and child, G. Hayman, Mrs. Letimer and child, Mrs. Bogard, S. B. Howe and wife, Mrs. Dock, Mrs. Walton, J. B. Corrado, Jas. Timont, and five in the steerage.

From Havana—Mr. Durraty, wife, two children and two servants, J. Garcia, Mr. Whitehouse and lady, Manuel Legrand, G. Berrolle, Wm. Clark, E. W. Benson, J. Himmert, M. Severson, Mr. Schenck, Madam A. Bernard, Frederick Smith and P. Cunningham.

Passengers per steamship YAZOO, from New York via Havana: Mrs. J. Norman and two children, Mrs. A. Alvarez, Mr. J. Norman, Mr. A. Alvarez, Mr. F. Hughes, Mr. A. Pelipiana, Mr. Jose E. Valido, Mr. T. Gonzalez, and thirteen in the steerage.

ARRIVAL OF THE BIENVILLE.—The steamship Bienville, Capt. Baker, from New York via Havana with a full freight and the following named passengers from Havana: M. Clark, E. Garcia, E. W. Benson, Manuel Legrand, M. Severson, G. Berrolle, Mr. and Mrs. Duntz and son, E. Hammetstein, A. Bernard, Whitehouse and wife, M. Schenck.

The popular dentistry known as Sosodout, besides being a very pleasant addition to the toilet, containing ingredients that if used according to the directions, will prove of the greatest utility to the health of the mouth and teeth.—[From G. F. Colburn, Doctor of Dental Surgery, Newark, N. J.]

ENCOUNTER BETWEEN A SNAKE AND A WEASEL. The following singular circumstance witnessed by an eye witness as having transpired some time last summer on the farm of Mr. Wm. H. Bibbins, in Fairfield:

The narrator was spreading hay in a field, when his attention was attracted to a clump of tall grass at some little distance, from which a weasel was constantly springing up into the air. Approaching cautiously nearer he discovered the cause of this singular conduct. On a little mound of hay a large copperhead snake, at least three feet long, was coiled up, and with head erect, darting tongue and exposed fangs, was watching the weasel, who was making a series of springs at the reptile, evidently with the intention of seizing it by the throat. The snake dodged and the weasel attacked, till at length by a sudden spring he caught the snake by the throat and a furious struggle ensued. The weasel held on and the snake wound himself about the body of the animal, almost entirely covering it, and seemed about to crush it to death, when his weasellship let go his hold on the snake's throat, and "popped" in true weasel style, out of the convoluted embrace of his enemy, springing at least two feet into the air. The snake then crawled under the mound of hay, and in a few minutes the weasel reappeared and crawled after him, and from the tossing of his desperate tail, it seemed to be going on beneath it. It ceased in a short time, and the weasel came out dragging the snake after him dead, and with his throat bitten open. The weasel dragged the snake to the fence, and there they both disappeared.—[Bridgport Standard.]

EDITORIAL PARAGRAPHS, ETC.

Gold closed in New York yesterday at 134. Paris, Kentucky, is shipping turkeys to Boston. Hungary has at last got a coinage of her own. The rains have destroyed the Louisiana rice crop. Deaths in New York last week 334.

England and Wales contain a million paupers. Eugenic banishes pretty much of her own. New York State has 996 miles of canals. Geo. Ellis has favored us with the Army and Navy Journal for November 21st.

The North Carolina Lunatic Asylum has 217 patients. Norwich is building a printing-press for Parson Brownlow's newspaper.

The Anglo-Indian telegraph through Russia and Persia will be opened in May, 1899. A submarine cable is proposed from San Francisco to Hong Kong.

The Boston Journal says lodging rooms never were plentier nor prices higher in that city. It is predicted that in ten years the Neosho valley, Kansas, will contain a million inhabitants.

Newton, Mass., claims to have a pear tree still bearing that was planted in 1650. Twelve per cent. of English criminals are said to be under sixteen.

The factory school at Fall River, Mass., continues to be a success. It has now 235 scholars. Chicago spends over \$2,000,000 a year on billiards.

One of Ralph Waldo Emerson's lectures is "Hospitality, or how to make homes attractive." Two firms in Philadelphia employ 1150 hands in making gas fixtures.

Wonderful hieroglyphics have been found in an Ohio coal mine. Chicago has "trotting matinees" instead of horse races.

The Illinois Agricultural College abandons the compulsory labor idea. Eugenie's chief maid of honor, the Countess Vergueil Caszene, is fat, stupid, and forty-five.

John Bright is said to be the finest speaker in Parliament. Norwalk has taken several camels to board this winter.

Chief Justice Taney's daughters earn their living as copyists in Washington. The Paris Hippodrome attracts universal crowds by its velocipede races.

Last year over 13,000,000 letters and 4,000,000 newspapers were exchanged with other countries. North Adams, Mass., is to have a \$50,000 water cure establishment.

There are 3600 mechanics and laborers of various occupations unemployed in Louisville, Ky. The aggregate monthly pay roll of the Meriden (Conn.) factories amounts to \$250,000.

Over one hundred thousand applicants for office under Grant have already appeared. The city of Durango, Mexico, is to be lighted with gas.

Pork is selling in Anderson county, Texas, at 2 1/2c per pound. A farm of 164 acres, near Leesburg, Va., was sold lately for \$64 per acre.

New corn is selling in Fulton county, Ky., at \$1.50 per barrel. Scott county, Ky., has declared war against sheep-killing dogs.

The total amount paid to pensioners since the organization of the government is \$161,048,000. The internal revenue receipts from July 1st to November 20th have been fifty-two and one third millions.

Fourteen new locomotives, for the Iron Mountain Railroad, arrived at St. Louis on the 19th, from Patterson, N. J. South Carolina contains nineteen million acres of land, of which only one-fourth is under cultivation.

We have received from the publishers, the Turf, Field and Farm for November 20th, and Frank Leslie's Illustrated for November 25th. The editor of the Edinburgh Daily Review recently died in his chair while writing an article for his newspaper.

A New York paper says "the West is bound to be the bread basket of the world, and to furnish four enough to feed all creation." Lynchburg, Va., says it has the fattest hog keeper in the South, and claims for him the championship.

Stockton, Cal., has an artesian well a thousand feet deep, which discharges 300,000 gallons of hot water daily. A collection of thirty-eight old paintings was sold at Boston last week, for prices ranging from \$30 to \$200, the aggregate being \$7000.

The toes of gentlemen's boots are to be made broad and square again. At least they say so in Paris. There is a volunteer company in New York numbering seventy men, none of whom have beards less than a foot in length.

Only one man with a white skin voted the Radical ticket in Caswell county, N. C., at the late election. Mr. Johnson lectures in Philadelphia on "the physiology and harmony of female dress, with models."

Corn Waller's collection of "grand crosses" and "orders" is worth \$50,000 of precious metals and jewels. A Berlin canary, which says "We bist du mein liebes Matzekin?" has raised a storm of excitement there.

There is more dancing in Concord, N. H., in the winter season, so it is said, than in any other place of the same size on this terrestrial ball. An English lady has been sent to prison for a year for a false claim against a railway for lost baggage.

At a late wedding at the Church of the Unity, Boston, the pulpit was hidden from view by a forest of plants and flowers. Edward Gowlan, an Englishman, has won the first prize of a thousand ounces of gold in the last Cortes lottery.

Many of the families in Gloucester, Mass., are almost penniless on account of the failure of the mackerel fisheries. Married Methodist ministers in the Cincinnati conference average \$925 a year, and the bachelor \$615.

If you have money and nothing to do with it buy flour and coal and send it to the poor families in your neighborhood. Chicago is to have some new gas works to cost \$400,000 and consume 45,000 tons of coal per annum. The gas-holder's capacity is 600,000.

The new steamer Neahaminy, just finished at Brooklyn, can make twenty-five miles an hour, and is the fastest vessel in the navy. Commissioner Cox, of the pension office, has prohibited smoking or the use of intoxicating liquors by his clerks during office hours.

The marble being quarried in Marshall county, Iowa, is said to be equal in fineness to any in the world. Rev. Mr. Hall, of Guilford, Conn., was dismissed from his society recently, for hanging out a political banner on election day.

A barn and ninety thousand pounds of tobacco were totally destroyed by fire last week in Milton, N. C. Between \$30,000 and \$100,000 worth of fractional currency is daily printed at the treasury department.

The Richmond Enquirer says that the low price of whiskey in the North has caused all the distillers in that city, except one firm, to suspend operations. Over one hundred thousand applicants for office under Grant have already appeared, and "We are coming, Father Abraham, three hundred thousand more."—[Ledger.]

A "new rebellion" has been started at Bainbridge, Ga., where the ladies are said to have resolved to leave off Yankee goods and wear home-spun.

A late Philadelphia clergyman was so polite as to read "There was a gentleman of the Parishes called Nicodemus," and who invariably spoke of

PROPOSALS.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.—SEALED PROPOSALS for the purchase of certain New Orleans, Mobile and Chattanooga R. Road between the cities of New Orleans and Mobile, and for the construction of 4000 lineal feet of Truss Bridge, 25,000 lineal feet of Trestle Bridge, and for delivery of 400,000 Cross-Ties, as other materials, will be received at the Company's office, in New Orleans, up to 10 o'clock A. M., on SATURDAY, December 11, 1898. Plans and profiles of the line, plans of structure, and approximate amounts of work to be done will be exhibited at the same office on and after December 10, 1898, and blank forms furnished for abstracts, specification, etc. All proposals to be addressed to Henry Van Vleet, Chief Engineer for the New Orleans, Mobile and Chattanooga Railroad Company, New Orleans, La. The Company reserves the right to reject any proposal which for any reason may be deemed unsatisfactory.

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