Grant County Clerk

DEMING HEADLIGHT.

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PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

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COMMENT.

Kansas farmers are burning their corn for fuel, instead of stirring about to get it to the "home market."

Open gambling has been stopped in Chicago, at least for a while. The games closed at midnight of the 3d inst.

A car load of ore lately shipped from Silver City to Denver, gave an average of 3,300 ounces in silver to the ton.

The physicians of Buffalo seem to have diagnosed the so-called la grippe epidemic. They term it "a hard cold and imagination."

The pension roll has increased in eleven years from twenty-seven million to one-hundred million dollars and keeps on growing.

The *Courier-Journal* suggests the absence of Senator Sherman in Europe as the cause of the present unusually mild winter in this country.

There is force and fact in the suggestion of the *Optic* that "if all the laws (of the late Legislature) came before Congress for approval, it is doubtful if more than half that were enacted would be ratified."

The *Railway Age* says the A., T. & S. F., by its reorganization, has wiped out its floating debt and now has $6,000,000 for repairs and new construction. New Mexico will get part of it for two lines—from Cerrillos to San Pedro and one from Wallace to Durango.

The coal miners at Watson, Pa., put faith in the pledge of the Republicans campaigners, last year, that the election of Harrison would bring better wages, and so voted for Harrison and made the demand for the increase, and it took three car loads of Pinkerton Detective Winchesters to convince them of their mistake.

Discussing the contention of Gov. Prince, in his late annual report, that statehood would materially assist in procuring the settlement of our Land Grant titles, the *Optic* asks the pertinent question—"If the voice of a delegate cannot persuade action, can the vote of a single representative secure congressional provision?"

Harrison's hesitation and coldness, to call it by a no worse name, are losing him friends right and left, and now we have the news that he has irreconcilably quarreled with Speaker Reed over a trifling appointment. The fact that Mr. Reed was elected against the wishes of the White House may have rendered the President readier to entirely break with him.

If Judge Whiteman cannot be confirmed the Republicans of this city will urge the appointment of Col. J. Franco Chavez to the position. He would give the Democrats abundant opportunities to howl and rear and swear. [Citizen.

That's pretty rough on the Republicans of Albuquerque. Nobody had suspected them of having sunk to that depth of degradation. They ought, in vindication of themselves, to sue Tom Hughes for defamation.

It is rumored that ex-President Cleveland intends removing to Connecticut in order to relieve New York from the embarrassment of two Democratic presidential candidates. Such a move is entirely unnecessary, and there is probably no foundation for the rumor but in the imagination of the party that gave it currency. When the National Democratic Convention meets, there will be but one Democratic candidate for the Presidential nomination. That candidate will be Grover Cleveland.

A VOLCANO IN MEXICO.

Word comes from Mazatlan that a volcano is in a state of full fledged eruption to the south of us in Mexico. The report is from the "Coreo de la Tarde," of Mazatlan, which says:

"The exploring commission ordered from Hermosillo by the governor of the state, has returned and rendered the following information: Fourteen miles to the southeast of Bacuete, there is an active volcano in the mountains of the Sierra Madre. The crater is enveloped in columns of dense smoke and flames, and the lava falls in such abundance that we were not permitted to approach within twenty miles. The hot water also thrown out of the crater is dispersed in immense quantities, inundating the plains and has completely destroyed the vegetation of the valley. The lava is rapidly filling the canon and the small mountains of ground. The noise is the same as that made by a number of steam engines. In consequence, the lands near the volcano are found in the poorest possible state and in complete ruin. Grass, vegetation and everything has disappeared. The devastation is complete and nothing can be expected to improve these lands."

We do not put the most implicit faith in the story, but if true, while regretting the tremendous loss of property and perhaps of life it has probably caused, it will make the Deming and Sierra Madre Railway the grandest scenic route on the continent.

PAINFUL RUMORS.

The Silver City *Sentinel* recklessly puts in circulation the following painful rumors as to the whereabouts and otherwise of two distinguished citizens of Grant county:

Contradictory reports reach the city as to the proceedings of Judge John M. Glen and Doc. Warner at Washington. One rumor is to the effect that they are being banqueted regularly and that the Judge is making speeches on the American eagle and the Washington monument to crowded houses; another says that Doc. blew out the gas in their bedroom at the hotel and that he and the Judge were nearly suffocated before being rescued; while still another report says that they are lobbying diligently for the Silver City post-office and statehood. Warner, it is understood, wants an enabling act for the post-office. Before returning home, judging by all accounts, they may visit Niagara and go over the falls.

WATER FOR THIRSTY LANDS.

An interview with Engineer E. T. Wright and his valuable assistant, W. D. Larrabee, of the Rio Grande Irrigation and Immigration company, elicited the information that the purpose of this company is to start four miles above Pena Blanca and cut a canal on both sides of the river through which the water will be conveyed to Albuquerque and distributed along the line of the river even as far down as San Antonio. The company does not propose to depend entirely on the river by any means, but will establish reservoirs along the route which will insure abundant water at all times. It is estimated by the engineers in charge that a supply can be obtained to furnish irrigation for 750,000 acres of land on each side of the river, and that the altitude will insure a perfect supply at a height 200 feet above the city of Albuquerque. The men who are supplying the money have already put in about $1,000,000, including some of the choicest lands in the Socorro grant, and it is their intention to press the work forward as fast as possible. The chief engineers are hard at work on maps and charts of the route to exhibit to the directors, who are expected to be here the last of the present month and will go over the route in person, after which fresh impetus will be given to the work all along the line. [Albuquerque Democrat.

The grateful assurance comes in the dispatches that the character of the foreign immigration for the past year has been vastly superior to that of the proceeding year, while in volume it decreased 68,387 as compared with 1888. The decrease in every nationality is perceptible. Italian immigration has fallen off over 15,000, representing the poorer element of that country. The total decrease from the immigration of 1888 was over 315,000.

An official copy of the so-called Constitution of the proposed state of New Mexico has been officially forwarded to the President, and a "large delegation of prominent citizens" is to follow it shortly, to urge upon Congress its ratification. The names of the gentlemen who will compose this delegation are not yet published, although some two hundred or more citizens of the Territory have been commissioned by Gov. Prince. Whosoever may go, the HEADLIGHT wishes them bon voyage—hopes they will enjoy their visit—knows they will have a good time at the Shoreham—but they won't get their "Constitution" ratified—except at the Shoreham bar—and will know it——sight more when they get home.

Senator Reagan's bill for the restoration of silver, which is endorsed by Senators Stewart and Beck, provides that any person may deposit at any mint or assay office of the United States either gold or silver bullion in quantities of not less than five ounces of gold or eighty ounces of silver and receive coin or coin certificates therefor at the rate of one dollar for 25 8:10 grains, troy, of standard gold and 412 1-2 grains, of standard silver. "Hereafter no United States note shall be issued of a denomination less than $10 nor more than $500, and the denominations higher than $50 shall not exceed in value one-fourth of the total amount outstanding at any time."

THE STATEHOOD QUESTION.

The following quotations from the press of the Territory will be found interesting and instructive reading to all who take in anywise an active interest in the discussion now going on in regard to the question of statehood for New Mexico. These quotations are from the last issues of the several papers named, and show that the discussion of that important topic is becoming much more general than it was a few months ago. This is as it should be. The pending proposition for statehood is one of very great moment to the future of New Mexico, for good or ill. We believe it to be the latter, and therefore rejoice at these evidences of increasing interest manifested in it by press and people, confident that the more it is discussed and the better understood the whole subject comes to be, in all its bearings, the more complete and decisive will be the public condemnation of the scheme.

The bright and aggressive "*Sun*," the new Democratic paper at Santa Fe, which the HEADLIGHT cordially welcomes as a co-laborer in the political vineyard, has this to say in its "Salutatory:"

For reasons which will hereafter be fully set forth, it is unflinchingly opposed to statehood under the alleged constitution (really a half-baked mass of special legislation) adopted by the Republican convention in September. Statehood at the proper time and under proper conditions is, of course, desirable, but it must not come merely as a means of gratifying the soaring ambitions of Republican aspirants for the United States senate and enabling rich land grant claimants to secure titles to the earth and the fullness thereof. Let congress first pass an enabling act providing the necessary machinery for the election and convening of a non-partisan and non-sectarian constitutional convention, and then leave the rest of the work to the enlightened and patriotic people of New Mexico.

The Springer *Stockman*, (Rep.) sees the point, and states the case pretty much as it is, when it says that

Statehood for New Mexico cannot count as many advocates to-day as it could a few months ago. The reason for this is, the attitude taken by some of the self-anointed leaders in the southern and central counties. There are too many governors and senators in Santa Fe and the counties south, and their wish for statehood is father to the thought that they will be able to grasp the best prizes.

The *Stockman* hits the same fellows again in the following:

Those men and newspapers who favor statehood under any terms and conditions, are not helping their cause by applying scathless epithets to those who see fit to oppose them. Ridicule is not argument.

We are informed that school funds of this county have been improperly and illegally diverted from their proper and lawful purposes. [Santa Fe New Mexican. (Rep.)

With your voting population how do you expect to overcome such a state of affairs by having New Mexico admitted to statehood. [Raton Range. (Rep.)

The *Miner*, (Dem.), of Pinos Altos, Grant county, says in its last issue:

The question of statehood is dead long ago, with the exception of here and there a Republican paper that wants something to fill up with.

And the *Nugget*, of Nogal, Lincoln county, also in its last issue, says:

All opposition to statehood for New Mexico has about ceased. The only question now is as to whether we shall have a new constitutional convention. This the Republicans seem willing to concede. Hence things are seemingly lovely.

Whereupon the Las Cruces *Democrat* philosophises in the following strain, stating many basic facts of the situation of affairs:

Each from its own standpoint, and speaking for its own locality, is probably correct. Speaking generally of southern New Mexico, however, the fact is that the question of statehood for New Mexico at the present time, and under the constitution drafted by the late convention, is not only a matter of utter indifference to our people, but is not even a live issue. It is hardly ever discussed or even mentioned save by a newspaper once in a while. There is no active effort for, or expressed sentiment in favor of it. Our people, politicians and all, are fortunately at the present time too much taken up with taking part in schemes for local improvements, constructing irrigating canals, founding schools, colleges and churches, developing mines, improving their property, and inducing a class of active, progressive, capable immigrants to come in, to give any attention to a mere political question which will naturally solve itself in a few years at the furthest, in any event, as soon as some of these much needed improvements are further advanced and our population has increased.

The house committee on territories had a meeting on the 18th inst., to consider Senator Reagan's bill for the admission of Idaho and Wyoming territories. New Mexico was not mentioned in the discussion. [Albuquerque Citizen, (Rep.)

And the same conclusion will be noticeable in all the bills, pertaining to statehood, that will pass the present congress. [Raton Range, (Rep.)

The following vigorous protest against the misrepresentations practiced by some of the advocates of statehood under the pending constitution, is from the White Oaks *Interpreter*, (Dem.)

S. S. Tarbill, of Lincoln, was at Santa Fe last week, and was interviewed by the *New Mexican*. Among other things he said:

"In any event Lincoln county will give a big majority for statehood. The people there find but little fault with the constitution already framed."

Mr. Terrill was one of the two delegate from Lincoln county, present at the convention which framed the present instrument. The gentleman, if he took the pains to inquire among democrats, would find that in no event will the democrats of Lincoln county submit to the present framed constitution; they do not want it and they certainly will defeat it if submitted. They desire another convention and a new instrument that in its apportionment clause, will not discriminate against anyone on account of politics.

Several large and valuable land grants in this territory have been out, confirmed, but the owners have not so far seen fit to procure patents for the same. The reason for their inaction is not occult. They wish to evade taxation as long as possible. These same precious patriots are howling themselves hoarse for statehood and we suspect that some of them would not refuse seats in the United States senate. [Santa Fe Sun.

The most logical and forceful of all the objections yet urged against present admission to statehood, is by the Socorro *Advertiser* in a single sentence—

We will not believe in the people of this Territory governing themselves until they can show a school system worthy of the name.

That very candid and able Republican friend, the Las Vegas *Optic*, is showing the effect of dawning light on the statehood question. It says:

Educational backwardness is a strong cudgel against our entrance into statehood.

Even the *New Mexican*, which has for the past six months frothed at the mouth for immediate statehood under the bogus Constitution made by its bosses, has joined the procession, and is now willing to wait a couple of years and take statehood under a Congressional Enabling Act. It says:

This territory is fully able in every direction to support a state government. And by the year of grace 1892 the state of New Mexico will be an accomplished fact, unless all signs fail.

With the pending proposition once set aside, and its promoters, the Land Grant Ring and hucksters in law making, relegated to the limbo of innocuous desuetude, the people may go forward in the organization of a new state movement based on public education and moral and political honesty and decency, that will be successful and creditable to all concerned.

Heavy clothing failures are looked for in Minnesota, where for the first winter on record, the Minnesotan has kept himself warm with only two pairs of breeches.

It is said that President Harrison has determined to retain Mr. Benjamin Folsom, Mr. Cleveland's relative and appointee to the consulate at Sheffield, England. This is an acknowledgment of a courtesy to Mr. Blaine, by Mr. Cleveland, who refused to appoint a personal enemy of Blaine's to the Augusta, Me., postoffice, though that appointment was strongly recommended by leading Maine Democrats.

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