# WEEKLY DEMOCRATIC STATESMAN.

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GLADSTONE continues to tighten the screws, and the land leagues continue to increase in number and influence.

BLAINE'S friends seem to think he will make a racket in political circles yet—say about two years from now.

THE cotton masters of England have agreed to reconsider their recent action, relative to the agreement upon short time.

APPLICATIONS for passes to the Guiteau hanging are now being sent in. The STATESMAN will be represented, of course.

KENTUCKY has 70,000,000 gallons of whisky stored away. It is not likely that prohibition will make much headway in that state.

JUST upon the heels of the report that Huntington and Gould have been shaking hands, it is stated that Vanderbilt has loaned Gould five millions of dollars.

THE bill of Senator Garland, for the improvement and keeping in repair of the levees on the Mississippi river, names $15,000,000 as the amount to be appropriated.

IN 1848 the office of president was held by Van Buren, Harrison and Tyler; in 1881 by Hayes, Garfield and Arthur. Three presidents in the same year does not occur often.

IT IS alleged that anti-polygamy meetings are very common just now, and they are well attended by men who think that they have their hands full to manage even one wife.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made to ship from five to ten thousand Chinese te Portland, Oregon, to work on the Northern Pacific railroad, before the law against their coming is passed.

BOTH General Hancock and Gen. Sherman agree that the army should be composed of young men. The former advises the retirement of company officers at 40; of field officers at 55, and of general officers at 65.

THE Chinese merchants of San Francisco have sent a dispatch to the Hong Kong Chinese merchants urging them to stop Chinese emigration to San Francisco. A monster anti-Chinese meeting caused this action.

HON. DAVID A. WELLS has written a letter to Senator Vance, of North Carolina, congratulating him on his late speech on the tariff. He thinks it the best and clearest speech on the subject ever made in this country.

BEN BUTLER thinks the appointment of Conkling to the supreme bench was a wise act. It is said Butler now leans back towards Republicanism, and it may be that he thinks one other retired politician ought to be provided for.

THE Chicago *Times* is severe when it says: "Mr. Sargent, of California, will be able, as the agent of the United States at Berlin, to give Prince Bismarck some valuable hints upon the management of the German Government at election times."

SOME of the Texas papers seem to think the work of reapportioning the state will create a big fight during the extra session. Why not turn the matter over to the Houston *Age*, and thus avert a row? A few pounds of preventive are worth a ton or two of cure.

PROFESSOR PERRY, of Williams College, the author of an excellent text book on political economy, advises Democrats to fight Republican protection, and to make an issue of it. "As a party," he says, "we shall never win except by the aid of a popular grievance."

THE students of a university in Michigan are boycotting a newspaper which accused them of acting in a manner not in accord with the instincts of gentlemen. Up there this is a small matter, but in a southern state not long ago it would have been cause for reconstruction.

WHILE the Washington administration is straining every nerve to Mahoneize the south, the report comes that the Democratic leaders have determined to make a desperate effort to carry every doubtful state. They assert their ability to carry Maine and Massachusetts and probably Pennsylvania.

AND now "Sir Joseph" Hunt is to be provided with a bran new navy. What he is going to do with it we do not know; probably he may conclude to help Blaine out on his South American transactions; and should he do so the gentleman from Maine will assign his valuable political services to anybody and to anything—even to Conkling.

THERE are ten cities in the United States having more than 200,000 population and there are ten more with more than 100,000 population. Of nine on the first list, New York and Boston have an English name; Philadelphia is Greek; Brooklyn Dutch; Chicago, Indian; St. Louis, French; Baltimore, Irish; Cincinnati, Latin, and San Francisco, Spanish.

IT is stated that the Chinese minister apparently enjoys Washington society very much. When he makes calls, as he does daily, his interpreter always accompanies him. His wife does not have any opportunity of learning English, since no one, except her husband and her women servants, all of whom are Chinese, are permitted to be with her.

IN refusing to commute the sentence of a St. Louis murderer, the governor of Missouri says: "I have not one particle of sympathy for the murderers of women, who, after the cowardly deed, shrink behind the coward's plea of insanity and plead for mercy. They should remember that the law was not made for mercy but punishment, and, that having had no mercy toward their victims, they have no right to ask for such from the executors of the law."

## HOW THE THING WILL END.

The *Post* is doomed to disappointment in the matter of giving aid and encouragement and inauguration to something that will have the power to kill off Democracy. First it tried the force of Speer's baby, with which it absolutely believed it could overthrow the grand old political being, and then it took up Wash Jonesism with a vim that deserved better accomplishment. As in its first love it was again doomed to see fond hopes depart, and Texas Mahoneism, as it was called, was buried deeper and with less feeling than the tender infant which had first secured its solicitude and motherly care. We had hoped it would not be ever thus with the *Post*; we had hoped that it would at last find something creditable that it could fondly dote upon and love, because of maternal care, but we are afraid a fatal mark attaches to its offspring and things of adoption—something that requires checks to be handed in at the end of a very short run—and therefore we must be allowed to condole with our esteemed cotemporary. Especially must the STATESMAN be permitted to do this when it reflects over the sad disappointments to which the *Post* has so lately been subjected in its rather prominent effort to secure a consultation among the opponents of Democracy. It called for a meeting on the fourth of March (we now advise it to renew the call for some indefinite place on the Fourth of July, so it may take advantage of a public gathering), and the result was that a few rather obscure gentlemen dropped into Houston on that day to see to some alleged business transaction. They saw no crowd collected, and therefore they consulted, if at all, very obscurely, and the *Post* did not herald the birth of a new born political baby, and the very pages and columns and paragraphs of the *Post* look sad and read weary, because it is the throes of its third political failure. What the *Post* is after we can not understand. It is a good newspaper, and were it only content to accept its reality and be satisfied it could accomplish a great deal of good. Evidently it does not understand how to make a new political party, and had it the power and influence to do such a thing, it is hard to divine what profit the *Post* could secure therefrom. Political parties are the most ungrateful things in the world, and were one of the *Post's* creations to grow up to be a great big thing and a powerful machine, it would cut down the *Post* among the very first of its potential acts. But we were contemplating failures, and all is going to be failure in the line the *Post* pursues. A few desperate men in the state, who want office, and whom the people have refused to gratify, are crazy over their disappointments; but because the *Post* believes they are a multitude and powerful, we do not propose to call it cranky. Even the suggestions of the Galveston *Journal* can not save the opposition. It must have been dreaming for a year, for it thinks "Young Democracy" might give the old fellow a jolly good contest. Rest your souls in peace. The grand old Democratic party will live. It is indestructible because it is based upon principles underlying all the foundations of our government, and it cannot die, though its opponents fall off and are forgotten like autumn leaves. Not only will Democracy continue to triumph in Texas, but there begins to appear many of the best reasons why it will shape federal results in 1884.

THE steadily increasing prosperity of the state of Georgia is evinced by the rapidity with which she is paying off her state debt. This debt amounts to $9,726,600. She has to show for this big sum, among other assets, the state road, estimated at $5,000,000 to $10,000,000; real estate and buildings at Atlanta and Milledgeville; $10,000 of stock in the Southern Atlantic Telegraph company, guaranteed by the Western Union, and one hundred and eighty-six shares of Georgia railroad stock, worth $30,000. Last year the public debt was decreased nearly a quarter of a million dollars. The state treasurer has informed the Atlanta *Constitution* that on the 1st of March there was paid into the treasury the balance due from the sale of the Macon and Brunswick railroad, amounting with interest to about $950,000, which will be applied to the payment of the state debt, thus reducing it to less than $9,000,000. The debt of Texas, balancing other assets than its lands is nothing. Computing the land, she has $200,000,000 as prospective wealth.

THE latest estimate of the population of France, Germany, Russia, Austria and Italy is 238,000,000. Their united armies on peace footing, is 2,100,000 men. If forced to their utmost in war they would probably draw into the field fully 14,000,000 men as food for powder, or about 6 per cent. of their entire population. The United States has a population of 52,000,000, and maintains an army of 25,000 men, a small force, indeed, and yet half of it loiters around the posts and about the federal capitol doing nothing, but captivating woman's heart and destroying nations.

THE smallest town in the United States—and perhaps in the world—which in 1880 supported a daily newspaper, was, strangely enough, not a northern or western town, but Weldon, North Carolina, whose population was only 232.

IT is probable that five state tickets will be in the field in Maine. This fact will render the campaign lively.

## THE COMING COTTON CROP.

It is safe to assume that the present disastrous verflow in the Mississippi valley will have the effect to reduce, very heavily, the coming cotton crop. Various estimates have been made, but the most reliable place the reduction in area of planting in the valley at, at least, twenty per cent. Neither is the immediate effect of this overflow the only matter to be considered in connection with the coming crop. The New Orleans papers agree that it has been time and again verified by experience that nothing is so improbable as that cotton can be made on the Mississippi bottoms from a planting after an overflow, unless the seed can be put in the ground during the first week in April, and this can hardly be expected this year, since such is the magnitude of the present flood that the waters cannot subside by that time. Nor is the likelihood that the crop in the Mississippi valley will be in this way set back to an unnatural and unfavorable time the only drawback to a yield; but the New Orleans *Times-Democrat* states that the retirement of the water is nearly always followed by the appearance of myriads of "grass worms," which prey upon vegetation, especially upon young cotton and pea vines, which contain a marked infusion of saccharine. In the alluvial lands of the Mississippi valley the advent of these worms is almost invariable, and for several years past, as regularly as the water recedes and crops were put in upon the overflowed lands, the young growth has been entirely consumed, not only once, but twice, and sometimes thrice. It says: "We know of nothing so difficult or so improbable as the making of cotton upon lands which have been under water during the months of March and April. Whatever theorists and visionaries may say, agriculture under such circumstances is very much like investing in a lottery ticket." In another article the *Times-Democrat* says:

More than once in our experience we have known some sanguine agriculturist who told us a story of great crops made after an overflow, and a few times during a not wholly uneventful career we have taken note of various efforts to repeat that apocryphal feat. There is a tradition, treasured religiously throughout the alluvial region, repeated by all but actually believed by few, that magnificent cotton crops can be made on lands which the floods have covered. The story goes that during one season—that of 1874 we think—when the water was especially high, the planters in the overflowed region put in their cotton by following up the receding water and sowing in the mud, and realized that year a splendid yield. * * But, if this be true, what does it prove? Does it prove that a crop may safely be relied upon under such circumstances as the present? We think not—we are sure not. It so happens that we have had personal cognizance of this matter during the past few years. Our experience teaches us that nothing is so doubtful or so difficult as the production of a paying crop of cotton on lands which have been overflowed during February, March and April. We assert in fact that, as a general rule to which there can be very few exceptions, crops of cotton cannot be realized under such conditions. * * * * * * * * This year's crop in the valley should be corn and grain, bread and meat; so that, whatever happens, we shall not go hungry—shall not sit starving in our houses waiting for the distribution of alms, either national or individual. And if the great overflow of 1882 teaches us this much wisdom, we shall live to bless as a benefaction what we now bewail as a calamity!

It may be regarded, then, as a certainty that the cotton crop in the Mississippi will be greatly reduced, and this means a great deal. This section is known to be the finest for cotton in the entire country, and a large or short crop there exerts a powerful influence over the market. A plain deduction, therefore, is that the price of the staple must rule higher during the approaching season.

THE argument of the *Democrat-Advance*, in regard to vicious legislation being the outgrowth of an inordinate desire of members to place bills before a legislative body, is correct and timely. Nearly every member, especially new members, comes to the legislature with a dozen or more bills in his pocket, and thereafter bills spring up out of his mind like men in the wake of Cadmus. The time of the legislature is consumed in hearing the bills read, and committees are overburdened with their consideration, while too often committees have either not the ability to know what a bill ought to be, or lack the moral courage to kill it. Thus bills having no merit, and often vicious in their nature, are favorably reported. Then the bill becomes subject for trade, and the statute book is at last encumbered with law that is positively evil. It is next to impossible to prevent the introduction of bills, but when they are once before the body and are referred to committee, where they ought to be carefully considered and passed upon, the burying process ought to be freely indulged in. Fortunately for the coming legislature, the nature of its special work will require it to go before the judiciary committee, and in the senate the committee, over which Judge Terrell presides, has made a good record for itself in this respect. Last session it summarily disposed of about half the bills laid before it, and the same material, with a little more experience, still compose this committee.

NOW Washington territory wants to become a state.

SOME of the congressmen favor an early adjournment.

## REGULATING RAILWAYS — A LITTLE TOO MUCH FEDERALISM.

Governor Roberts, in his call for an extra session of the legislatures writes himself down positively in favor of railway legislation—to require that railroads be kept in good condition, "so as to render travel and transportation on them safe andexpeditious, and to prevent abuses and unjust discriminations; to regulate freights and passenger tariffs, and to provide a practicable remedy for the enforcement of such laws, not only on the companies, but on the officers who manage and control said railways." It will be seen, therefore, that the scope for railway legislation is large; that the whole field for regulation is covered by the governor, but at an extra session of the legislature, from which so much will be demanded, it is next to unreasonable to presume that such work can be accomplished in a manner best suited to public requirement. During the last session of the legislature two railway bills consumed much of the time of the two houses, and yet nothing definite was reached. At that time much argument was used against the constitutionality of a state railway commission, and while a bill providing for such a commission was being considered, one in the nature of its distroyer was introduced, and neither, of course, became a law. This second bill proposed to create the office of state engineer, a sort of one man power—who would regulate railways by his reports to the goveror, and subsequent procedure in the courts—a plan that would raise questions which could not be settled in years. It was urged in the nature of arresting action on the other bill that a commission would be unconstitutional; that the question of constitutionality regarding the Georgia commission, was pending in the U. S. supreme court, and that this would destroy that commission; that a commission was in the nature of a court, not contemplated under our system of government, and a great deal of other stuff in favor of stopping consideration in the premises. The railroads had, sure enough, raised the question of constitutionality upon the action of the Georgia commission, and soon after this the cause was decided for the commission. It is known now that the railroads of Georgia have never been so harmoniously conducted as under the commission. There has been no cutting in rates among the Georgia railroads, and the people have been perfectly satisfied with the tariff rates, while the railways have made money and their stocks have advanced from forty to sixty per cent. The system has worked so well there that Alabama, whose roads are intimately connected with those of Georgia, has organized a commission, while some of the other states have done likewise. The commission appears to have this advantage over other means of regulation. It is, in reality, a court, but it is a court which acts immediately and wisely upon questions presented, and acting more intelligibly on railway matters than the ordinary courts of the country could possibly act. The decisions of the commission are mutually respected by railway managers and the people. Mr. Charles Francis Adams, the oldest railway commissioner in the United States, who has acted as commissioner in Massachusetts for many years, where the commission was first tried in this country, is in favor of a railway commission to be organized by the federal government, and he has formulated a plan which he thinks will suit the emergencies of the entire country. He does not approve of Mr. Reagan's inter-state commerce bill, because he thinks that measure would result in crippling the railroads and impairing their usefulness. He is in favor, however, of the government exerting a general supervision over railroads, but insists that such supervision should be intelligent and impartial. He proposes three commissioners to form a bureau of the department of the interior, to be appointed by the president, to hold office for five years, and receive a salary of $10,000 a year each. This board is to be invested with the supervision of that portion of the business of railroads passing from one state to another; "but such supervision shall be limited to questions of commerce between the states and the methods of operating their roads by railroads as affecting said commerce." It shall investigate all complaints of discrimination and other abuses on the part of the roads when endorsed by an incorporated board of trade or chamber of commerce, or state, or city government; it shall conduct the inquiry in the place where the complaint originated, and shall have power to inspect the books and papers of railroad companies. If the complaints are found to be reasonable and well founded, a special report on them shall be forwarded to the party or parties making them, and, whenever it shall appear that a railroad has violated or failed to perform its duties, or that any change is needed in the manner in which inter-state commerce is carried on, the board is to send its report thereon to all parties concerned and include such report in its annual report to the interior department. We refer to Mr. Adam's proposition simply in the nature of enlarging on the commission feature for the several states, but we differ with him as to the federal commission. There is a little too much federalism in everything now, and the STATESMAN is opposed to all measures enlarging the powers of the federal government. They are ample as they are, and the states should be left to take care at least of the railways. We want no interference by congress with them, for they are creations of the state, and are amenable to state and not to federal laws. A state commission, founded on Mr. Adams plan would be very good, and if all the states were to establish such commissions, which now begins to appear possible, very little objection, it appears to us, could be raised. The commissioners of the different states could consult, and differences could thus be adjusted by the states. The tendency appears to be towards commissions, and Georgia and Alabama have a sort of reciprocity in the conduct of theirs. It is hard to tell what the Texas legislature will do, but the commission stands before the country in the most favorable light, and we are uncompromisingly opposed to conceding the management of railways to the federal government. If the general government will do what is demanded of it in the interest of water navigation its hands will be full enough.

IT is alleged that important evidence touching Guiteau's mental condition prior to July 2 has been discovered, and that General Butler will take charge of the case. The doctors have agreed that he was led to commit murder through insanity, and after all, the rope may not swing this miserable wretch into eternity. Dr. Hammond says:

As I have endeavored to show quite recently, there is no necessary connection between medical insanity and legal insanity. Let Guiteau suffer the full legal penalty for his crime, but let him be executed with the distinct understanding that he is a lunatic deserving of punishment. To shut our eyes to his exact condition, and to try to flatter ourselves that he was a normally constituted mind when he shot the president, is not only cowardly, but impolitic.

Doctor Schuppert, a very celebrated physician and surgeon of New Orleans, has lately published, in *Gillard's Medical Journal*, an elaborate article, showing that malpractice and not the wound proper was the cause of the president's death. We have always contended that a mud poultice, or some such simple thing, would have saved the president's life. Guiteau in a freak of insanity shot Mr. Garfield, and then he died because of improper professional treatment. Now, what the STATESMAN wants, therefore, is not that Guiteau shall not hang, but that there be hung beside him at least one of the doctors who helped kill the president. A cranky doctor is a much more dangerous being than a little pistol in the hands of an inexperienced shootist, and if it be proper to break the neck of murderous cranks, as Dr. Hammond says, then it might be well to increase the number of doctors who should hang beside Guiteau for implication in this crime.

THE legislature will be called upon for a revision of our city charter. The proposition is to make the position of mayor an honorary one, without salary, to make the aldermen serve without pay, and to give the mayor the power to appoint executive officers, subject at any time to his removal. This is precisely on the line of the STATESMAN's platform, and we hope to see the revision promptly effected. In this connection would it not be a redeeming thing for the councilmen to repeal the ordinance giving themselves pay, before they are forced to the position? While retrenchment is so much needed, decency should long since have dictated the repeal of this obnoxious provision.

A correspondent of *North and South*, a journal published at Buffalo, N. Y., makes some corrections of statements as to manufacturing in Georgia, which have appeared in that paper, and says in conclusion:

It will be seen that in Augusta alone we have fully $1,000,000 invested in cotton mills actually in operation, and about $2,000,000 more which will soon be running. These establishments are all, with a single exception, run by water-power, furnished by the Augusta canal, which is practically inexhaustible. It would require more space than I would be willing to ask of you to undertake to describe the numerous other cotton mills in Georgia, even if I had the figures before me. I will only remind you that the Eagle and Phœnix mills, at Columbus, Ga., employ a capital of $1,250,000, and that there are other factories in that enterprising city. There are also very considerable cotton manufacturing establishments in Atlanta, Macon, Milledgeville, Savannah and Athens, besides others scattered all over the state to the number of sixty-odd, instead of forty-four, as stated in the "estimate" above quoted.

Commenting on this, the *Courier-Journal* thinks that what the Georgia people need to do is to demand tariff reduction, especially the tariff taxation on cotton machinery, which in the expansion of their manufacturing interests they want to get as cheaply as possible.

THE inhabitants of the Pacific slope have fully made up their minds that the Chinese must go; and as John has no particularly warm friends in any section of the country, there is little doubt that their desires will be accomplished. The presence of Chinamen is not regarded anywhere as an unmixed good, and the advocates of his forcible removal from this land of promise have something of justice on their side. Furthermore, John has never had the political foresight to get naturalized and consequently not being a voter will receive no consideration at the hands of our law makers in congress assembled.

THE *Brown County Banner*, unwittingly of course, does Governor Roberts great injustice when it says, in connection with the act of Professor Baldwin in buying copies of the governor's book for the Sam Houston normal school, that "when it comes to using his official position to foist such trash upon a state normal school, designed for the education of teachers, we think it time to protest." The STATESMAN would think just as the *Banner* does if its assumption against Governor Roberts were true, but it is not. He had nothing whatever to do with the purchase of the books, and when the claim of the publisher came before him, with Professor Baldwin's endorsement for payment upon it as well as that of the local board, there was but one thing for the governor to do, and this was to put his name upon the account that the publisher might receive just payment for the books he had delivered on order from Baldwin, who alone has authority to decide what books shall be used by the normal school. The boards for the different schools some time ago commissioned Governor Roberts to sign all such bills for them, that time and expense of transmitting accounts by mail to different trustees, living in various portions of the state, might be saved; and so Governor Roberts placed his name upon this account. He could not have done otherwise, for to have withheld his signature would have been as unjust as to refuse approval to an account for groceries delivered on order for one of the state asylums. All that the STATESMAN wants to do here is to show the *Banner* where it is wrong. Were the case not as it is we would take position with it, and if it will transfer its condemnatory expressions to Professor Baldwin, we will heartily concur in all that is said, for the STATESMAN has already expressed itself very positively on the professor's case.

AN effort is being made to lead Hon. John Ireland into the Independent movement. Judge Ireland has always been a staunch Democrat, and while he was treated unfairly by Govs. Coke and Hubbard he is too true a man to abandon principle because of personal injustice. As a public man he is above reproach, and could do nothing to compromise the relationship of friends who have stuck to him. He will never be led, at least by those who want a reckless leader to oppose Democracy. Think of John Ireland, the man who stood out in the darkest days against the iniquities of Radicalism in Texas, now combining with the chief agents of these iniquities to restore to Texas evil government and public robbery and shame. Those who deal without authority with John Ireland's name mistake their man. He lives to be yet a power in the political destiny of Texas, but never through the agency of Independentism, a thing of false and utterly deceitful name.

MR. CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS plan for national regulation of the railways consists in the creation of a commission of experts, consisting of three members, one a lawyer, one a railway specialist and the third a specialist in statistics and political economy. All questions and disputes concerning inter-state railway commerce to be referred to this commission, whose power is limited to recommendations and collecting data upon which to base future legislation. Mr. Adams names Judge Cooley, of Michigan, Robert Harris, general manager of the Erie railway, and General Francis A. Walker, late chief of the census bureau, as suitable persons to constitute the commission.

ONE HUNDRED bales of Texas cotton have been shipped from Galveston, via El Paso to California. The woolen mills of California use a good deal of high grade cotton, and it is anticipated that the supply needed will soon be drawn entirely from Texas. And yet Texas raises both wool and cotton, and in time economy must dictate that the mills come to where both staples may be procured in profusion. Here should be cotton mills, woolen mills, oil mills, and tanneries and shoe factories, for here the great staples are produced, and there is water power and enough coal to run all the engines of the world, besides iron ore enough to band the globe a dozen times.

THE position assumed by the attorney general, that no more land certificates should be issued to railway companies, building under charters granting sixteen sections of land to the mile, is new. He holds, it appears, that the issuing of certificates obligates the state, and that the law as to unappropriated public domain does not apply. There is but little or no land left unappropriated, it is true, but it has been understood always that the law does not provide for grants unless public domain, unappropriated, be left. This is a question which the lawyers will have to solve. There is great lack of support for the attorney general's opinion.

THE New York *Tribune*, speaking of the speculative mania which has been prevailing in that city for some time, says: "Somewhere, vast sums of money have been borrowed to carry on these speculations, and the decline in prices already witnessed has caused heavy losses to somebody. There is no question as to the soundness of general trade, and the sooner the disturbing and endangering speculation in products is put out of the way, the better for all legitimate business."

## TEXAS PRESS OPINIONS.

HONORS ARE EASY.

Brenham *Banner*: The Fort Worth *Democrat-Advance* says the governor does not have any particular use for newspapers. Honors are easy. A good many papers have no use for the governor.

WHAT THE HORNEY HANDED WOULD DO.

Blanco *Star Vindicator*: If the horney handed, tax-paying yoemanry of the state were consulted, Governor Roberts would be nominated for a third term, but there is no telling what the scheming politicians in the convention may do. Conventions now-a-days are about as uncertain as American juries.

THE PEOPLE WILL REWARD HIM.

Dallas *Times*: Among the prominent names we hear mentioned in connection with the governorship, we fail to find that of Joe Sayers. We are sorry for this, as we had "sorter" made up our minds to dance with him the next "set." Sayers is one of our best men, and he does himself great honor in keeping away from the scramble for the governor's chair. The people will reward him in the future.

WANT HONEST REPRESENTATION.

San Antonio *Times*: The people of western Texas want honest representation, and would never expect to receive it from a Republican source. So far as a protective tariff is concerned, there is not even a respectable minority of the voters who desire to perpetuate the robbery of the many for the benefit of the few. Besides a protective tariff is opposed to the best interest of the state.

NOT MUCH LONGER.

Victoria *Advocate*: Speculators are said to have gotten possession of all the timbered lands of Texas adjacent to railroads, and they are now preparing to gobble up that set aside for the support of public schools, with a view to stripping it of its timber and leaving it unoccupied. In fact, about everything in Texas has gone into the hands of capitalists, and the Lone Star state will not much longer boast of being the poor man's country, if the present state of things continues.

ONLY TWO TO BE FOUND.

Houston *Age*: "We learn that Hon. Joe Stewart, of Travis county, who has been for four years past wasting his energies in a fruitless fight against the old alcalde, has just returned from a trip to eastern Texas, and reports that in all that vast region he found only two men who are not for the old gentleman's re-election. A contact with the old time Democracy of that section has opened the eyes of Mr. Stewart very wide, and he is now as warmly for the old alcalde as he was heretofore against him." Was he convinced on his own opinion or upon the popular will?

WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A BOHEMIAN OF CONKLING.

Houston *Age*: Conkling declines the United States supreme court judgeship, and is now entirely out of position. If there was a vacancy we would probably tender him a position on the editorial staff of the *Age*. He is a radical, we know; but as men who claim to be Democrats sometimes write for radical papers and give entire satisfaction, as witness the case of McCullough, of the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, who writes radicalism but votes Democracy, we suppose a radical like Conkling could, if he were paid for it, write Democratic articles for a Democratic paper, and give entire satisfaction to a Democratic employer

## OVER THE STATE.

Palestine is to have a cotton seed oil mill.

San Saba is to have a stock convention.

Col. Seth Sheperd is to conduct the defense of Gee, at Brenham.

LaGrange expects to be a railroad centre, says the *Journal*.

The cattle men are getting ready for the cattle drive to Kansas and Nebraska.

The two daily papers at Sherman oppose the local option movement in Grayson county.

The San Antonio *Express* has a good word in favor of calisthenics in the public schools.

Shipment of cotton from Navasota from September 1, 1881, to February 23, amounts to 12,341 bales.

Edward Hart, a horse thief, was taken out of the penitentiary to be tried for murder in Wheeler county.

A little colored girl was accidentally shot and killed by her brother, two miles south of Jefferson, Monday.

Sam Robinson, the deacon of a colored church at Palestine was arrested the other night, on a charge of stealing corn.

A dozen desperadoes have been captured in the panhandle, who are wanted in various places to answer for murder and theft.

Mr. D. McLeod, a youth of eighty summers, and Miss Lewis, twenty years old, went from Willis and were married at Palestine.

The Luling *Signal* says that the first poet who sends it any poetry of the "Hail, gentle Spring" order will be butted to death with a battering ram.

Waco *Examiner*: Many of the farmers inform us that they are almost planting in the mud, but are obliged to do it in order to get a crop in the ground.

Our state exchanges are already calling to mind the near approach of San Jacinto day, and suggesting that it be appropriately observed. Come to Galveston and see it properly done.

The cattle driven from Western Texas this spring will amount to about 275,000 head, and the cattle are in better condition and better grade than previous years. Grass has been good all the winter.

According to the *Commercial-Herald*, Weatherford has at least fifty business houses, many carrying stocks of from $5000 to $10,000 who never patronize a newspaper to the extent of a dollar's worth of advertising in a year.

A surgeon has removed a patient's leg above the knee. The subject laments the loss of his limb. "Come, come," says the man of science, cheerfully, "you musn't take on so. It's all for the best—see, you were going to have a corn on your little toe."

A correspondent of the San Antonio *Express*, from Runnels City, Texas, says: "Mr. John Bloker sold one-half interest in his cattle for $45,000 a few days ago. R. W. Wylie sold 12,000 head of his cattle for $184,000; all to northern capitalists. Over 30,000 acres of land were sold here this year. Prospectors are on our streets every day. Immigration is increasing rapidly. Wheat is looking finer than any previous year at the same time. Corn planting has begun. Some cotton has been planted here this year."

## A REPUBLICAN UNIVERSITY.

### BRILLIANT SCHEME TO PERPETUATE THE "PARTY OF MORAL IDEAS."

A Pointed and Instructive Discussion by Stalwart Magnates—Simon Cameron's Explosive Remarks — A Distinguished Faculty Chosen.

The old Republican politicians have for a long time complained of the regretable ignorance of Republican principles which prevails among the younger members of the party. Owing to the lack of proper educational facilities many young men have been proselytized by the Democrats, whose activity in propagating their infamous doctrines has been rewarded with only too much success. Many deserving young men have been led away from the true faith by reading the detestable treaties of Jefferson and Paine. The disputes among the party theologians, though relating rather to matters of practice than of faith, have obscured the essential doctrines of Republicanism. Thus the once harmonious party of moral ideas is divided into sects, of which the stalwarts and the half-breeds are the most prominent. It was felt by the leading educators of the party that some authoritative body should be created to enunciate the indispensable and binding articles of the Republican faith. The general synods held at Chicago and Cincinnati adopted declarations of principles, but did not attempt to draw up a permanent creed.

After a mature deliberation, it was decided that a Republican university, with a representative faculty, would best subserve the end in view. Mr. Timothy O. Howe, who had from the first taken a deep interest in the proposed institution, was appointed treasurer, and at once began to collect an endowment fund. The postmasters throughout the country responded generously to his appeal for contributions of $10. The other civil officers of the government also subscribed liberally. As a result of Mr. Howe's self-sacrificing zeal, the new university begins its career with an endowment of $1,000,000, which, it is hoped, will be increased by congress to $2,000,0000.

At the first meeting of the trustees, which was held in the office of the postmaster-general yesterday, this city was definitely selected as the site of the university. Several towns and cities made propositions. Concord, Massachusetts, offered as a site for the university building the handsome grounds adjoining the state prison.

Mr. G. F. Hoar said that, glad as he should be to see his native town adorned with such an institution, he should vote against accepting the Concord offer. It would be unwise, in his judgment, to attempt to support two rival institutions in the same place.

Mr. Eugene Hale inquired if the two institutions could not be consolidated. A certificate of attendance at the prison might shorten the period of residence requisite for a degree from the university.

Mr. Simon Cameron said he would never have contributed a cent to the endowment of the university if he had supposed it was to be in Massachusetts. They were not funding a gilt-edged nursery for "literary fellers," but a training school for practical politicians; for men who, as a great poet has said:

Know their boss; and, knowing, dare not bolt.

Delegations from Fall River, Mass., and Newark, N. J., presented the claims of those places, dwelling especially upon their unrivaled apparatus and facilities for illustrating the science of defalcation and disappearance.

Mr. William Pitt Kellogg recommended Louisiana, on account of the incorruptible and primitive character of its Republicanism. Nowhere else had applied political arithmetic or the art of counting votes been studied so thoroughly.

Mr. John Sherman thought Mansfield, Ohio, a more eligible site.

Mr. S. Cameron—Oh, d——Ohio.

The president of the board (Mr. U. S. Grant)—I am obliged to remind the gentlemen that reporters are present. Profanity is never out of place except at a public meeting.

Mr. Sherman said he did not need to defend a state which had produced a Hayes, a Matthews and a Foster from unjust aspersions. Her history was known. She spoke for herself.

Mr. Cameron said that was the very thing he objected to. She was too well known and spoke altogether too much for herself. He wanted to establish a really national school. When he wanted to subscribe for a university of deadheads he would go to Ohio.

Mr. Frye deprecated the tone the discussion had taken. Let the corner-stone of the university be laid in harmony.

Mr. E. H. Rollins said that Washington was the Mecca to which young Republicans looked. It was the proper site of the university. The government could be induced to give the land and buildings. It would be a blessing to the cause of education and of real estate to establish the university here.

It was finaly decided that the university should be built at Washington at the expense of the government.

Mr. J. I. Davenport suggested that a fitting name for the institution would be the College of Repeaters. Captain Schneider, of Cincinnati, proposed that it should be called the School for Scalawags. The name of the Republican University was adopted as being less obtrusive.

Mr. Rainey inquired if colored students would be admitted.

Mr. Mackey said the question was a delicate one. He hoped the colored trustees would withdraw while it was being discussed.

Mr. P. B. S. Pinchback created some confusion by demanding that General Logan should also withdraw. After a somewhat acrimonious debate General Logan was allowed to remain, in spite of his color.

General Mahone opposed the admission of colored students. The colored race was better educated than the white, and was already familiar with the whole political duty of a Republican voter—to vote as he is told and as often as he can.

Mr. Dawes inquired if it would not be a bad precedent to shut the doors of the university upon the colored race.

General Mahone replied that they must be kept down. "We want their votes, not their society. We never give them office, and we can't afford to give them education, even if it cost us nothing." The whole matter was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Andrew D. White thought the new foundation would do much to cure the growing aversion of young men to politics. He submitted the following scheme for the government of the university:

1. The chairmen of the Republican state committees shall be ex-officio trustees of the university.

2. The president of the board of trustees shall have a salary, but no duties, as in the college of the city of New York.

3. Any young man, without distinction of moral character, who has attained the age of 21 years, and shall present a certificate from his district boss, showing that he has voted or intends to vote the Republican ticket at least once every election, may matriculate as a member of the university upon filing a bond for $5000, to be forfeited if, while an undergraduate or within seventy-five years after graduation, he bolts a Republican nomination or refuses to contribute to campaign expenses.

4. Any undergraduate detected reading a Democratic or independent newspaper shall be suspended for one year.

5. The university shall confer the degree of D. B.

6. The trustees shall provide all graduates of the university with sinecure positions in the service of the United States.

7. The teachings of the faculty of the university shall be accepted as authoritative statements of Republican doctrine, except in presidential years.

The faculty of the university is not yet complete; but the following is believed to be a correct list as far as appointments have been made:

President and emeritus professor of oratory, U. S. Grant; international law, J. G. Blaine and R. J. Shipherd; English literature, J. A. Logan; political arithmetic, W. H. Kemble; political economy, G. S. Boutwell; art of war, N. P. Banks; diplomacy, J. P. Newman; marine welfare, J. G. Bennett; poetry, G. W. Childs; manipulation, Jay Gould.

## PROGRESS IN ARTILLERY WORK.

### An English Invention that in its Results Resembles Recent American Science.

[London Daily News.]

The power of great guns has been developed to an extent hitherto unprecedented in the course of experiments which have taken place at Royal Arsenal proof-buts this week, and were continued yesterday. Of late the attention of artillerists has been directed to the air-spacing of cartridges as the probable key to the secret of high velocities, and some of the private manufacturers have devised methods of introducing the air and regulating its precise quantity, which methods they have jealously guarded against imitations. At the royal gun factories, however, the superintendent, Colonel Maitland, R. A., has taken a new departure by giving up air-spacing as an unprofitable expedient and trying another system. Having found by repeated trials the description of slow-burning powder best adapted to his requirements, he has designed a contrivance for retaining it in the chamber of the gun until the powder is sufficiently fired to set up a pressure of about two tons per square inch upon the base of the shot, which then starts at a bound, the speed of which is accelerated by the pursuit of the powder gases until it leaves the muzzle. The retention of the shot is accomplished by a ring of metal fixed around it near the base, and so regulated as to size that it will, when placed in the breach, be a trifle larger than the bore through which it has to pass. According to the resistance which it affords will be the period of retention. It has been demonstrated by experiments with fired gunpowder that in a very strong vessel the powder may be ignited and converted into gas, but yet held under subjection for an unlimited time. The retention ring is made of such strength that it will surrender at a given pressure, and the requisite conditions for the attainment of maximum velocities thus appear to have been realized. With the 10.4-inch gun a 462-pound shot has been fired at a muzzle velocity of 2275 feet per second, the equivalent of which in energy is 16,500-foot tons, but as the powder-charge was somewhat in excess of the service allowance it is fair to reduce this velocity by 100 feet. It will even then be far in advance of the speed attained under former conditions. The improvement has had a stronger illustration in a competitive trial between the two experimental 45-ton guns—that of Elswick manufacture, with the air-spaced chamber, and that of Woolwich, with the retention-ring. The former, with 360 pounds of powder (rather above its service charge), discharged a 700-pound projectile at a velocity of 1900 feet per second; the latter, crammed with 400 pounds of powder and the same shot, recorded a speed of 2120 feet. These figures represent in energy respectively 17,500 and 20,800 tons per foot, and the advantage in an attack upon armor-plates may be assumed in the same proportion. The discovery has created great satisfaction in the government departments, and is expected to lead to even more important results.

## THE SOUTHERN STATES.

A child with two heads was recently born near Gadsden, Ala.

Two Columbus men are having a lawsuit over an iron wedge worth forty cents.

The ordinary of Sumter county, Georgia, announces that he will issue no more license to sell liquor in that county.

A mad cow in Wheeling tossed a little girl five years old against a fence and would have killed her had not somebody scared the beast off.

A young man of Rome, Ga., was twitted so often about his striking resemblance to Guiteau, that he shaved off his beard to obviate the annoyance.

A strawberry raiser in Chattanooga says the prospects for the coming crop are excellent. He expects to raise 30,000 pounds on a nine-acre patch.

A young lady was attacked by a cow near Sparta, Ga. She caught the animal by the horns and held her till a laborer in an adjoining field came to the rescue.

Marshall Harston, a leading horse thief in the counties about Macon, Miss., has been tried and convicted, much to the relief of the citizens of that portion of the state.

The committee appointed by the mayor of New Orleans for that purpose, has reported a plan of settlement of the city debt which is regarded as a solution of the difficulty and will probably be adopted.

Selma *Times*: An old white man, living quite a distance from Selma, has taken the trouble to write Sheriff Rountree a note, in which he announces himself willing to execute the Weisinger murderers.

An effort to purchase the United States arsenal in Augusta, Georgia, as a site for a hotel, has failed, as the federal authorities were unwilling to sell. the arsenal being the only one left in the entire south east of the Mississippi.

Though the past winter has been unusually mild, the tide of Florida travel has exceeded that of previous years by at least twenty-five per cent. Jacksonville is the point at which the travel concentrates, and has consequently become a city of hotels.

The grand jury of Scott county Kentucky has indicted Patrick Henry, reported drowned at Cincinnati last week, for murder. About three years ago he killed a man named Lafe Penn, which was supposed to be accidental. It is thought the drowning story is a scheme to escape.

The suit of the Pullman Palace Car Company against the Texas Pacific railroad, to restrain the latter from allowing any other palace cars than the Pullman to run on the road, was argued in the United States Circuit Court in New Orleans on Saturday, and submitted to Judge Pardee.

A man named Joe Carlo, living in a cabin with his wife and one child, on a farm near Elizabethtown, Kentucky, has been arrested for making counterfeit money and committed to jail. A search in Carlo's cabin revealed, hidden under some boards, a five-cent mold and a quantity of nickels and twenty-five cent pieces. A great many of them had been passed on the shop-keepers of Elizabethtown lately.