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"ALDERNEY BRAND" CONDENSED MILK. Buy always.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1879.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Señor Canovas del Castello has been entrusted with the formation of a new cabinet. ═══ The British steamer El Dorado narrowly escaped shipwreck in the Bay of Biscay. ═══ General Ignatieff has been appointed Russian Ambassador at Rome. ═══ Thomas Brennan has been committed for trial in Ireland for sedition.

DOMESTIC.—The nomination of Secretary McCrary to a United States Judgeship will be reported to the Senate favorably. ═══ It is rumored in Washington that the holiday recess of Congress will be from December 17 to January 6. ═══ The Utes offer to surrender the guilty ones provided they are tried in Washington. ═══ The Presbyterian Synod of Mississippi has ordered that the Rev. S. P. Linn be restored to full membership. ═══ In Maine the mandamus case against Secretary of State Gove, in the matter of the election returns, will be heard to-morrow. ═══ Major Reno spoke in his own defense at the court martial in Deadwood.

CONGRESS.—Three bills and resolutions looking to the removal of the Utes from Colorado were introduced in the Senate. Mr. Hoar introduced a bill providing for a Labor Commission. A bill to aid in the education of colored people was introduced by Mr. Bailey. Senator Voorhees offered a resolution opposing the recommendations of the President and Secretary Sherman in regard to legal-tenders. The House adjourned out of respect to the memory of the late A. M. Lay.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—The Dairy Fair was opened yesterday. ═══ An unusual number of prisoners was arraigned on charges of murder and other grave crimes. ═══ John B. Gough spoke on Temperance. ═══ Rapid transit routes above the Harlem were considered. ═══ Chauncey Johnson, a noted thief, was arrested. ═══ Dr. John Hall spoke on justice to workingwomen. ═══ Evidence of a conspiracy in the Lewis will case was given. ═══ A reception was given to the Ponca Indians. ═══ Gold value of the legal-tender silver dollar (412½ grains), 88.41 cents. Stocks opened active and buoyant, but closed weak at a reaction.

THE WEATHER.—TRIBUNE local observations indicate colder and clear or partly cloudy weather. Thermometer yesterday: Highest, 55°; lowest, 44°; average, 48¼°.

Eight cases of homicide and one case of attempted poisoning were called yesterday in the Court of General Sessions. This is a grim calendar for the triers as well as the tried.

Voorhees, accusing President Hayes of attempting "to inaugurate a new and uncalled-"for financial agitation," and asking the Senate to express "profound astonishment and "deep regret" at this state of things, is the most colossal example of pure impudence in American politics to-day, Kearney not excepted.

The Senate Judiciary Committee has resolved unanimously to recommend the confirmation of Mr. McCrary as Circuit Judge, and confirmation will no doubt speedily follow. The President transmitted a number of nominations to the Senate yesterday, the most important of them being that of John Hay for Assistant Secretary of State.

A dealer in counterfeit coin, having in his employ at least thirty men who helped to get the money into circulation, must be one of the curiosities of illegitimate trade. The police are congratulating themselves that they now have this curiosity on exhibition, having succeeded yesterday in adding it to their already highly attractive collection.

There was a genuine sensation yesterday in the Lewis will case—that of the eccentric millionaire who left all his property to the United States Government, and ignored the woman who now claims to have been his wife. Testimony was given yesterday, seeming to disclose a conspiracy between the would-be widow and others to manufacture evidence of a marriage, and the process by which the marriage certificate used in this case is said to have been forged was described.

Senator Hoar appears as the sponsor of a bill to create a Labor Commission, whose work is evidently intended to be the intelligent collection of statistics upon the changes wrought by labor-saving machinery, the present condition of the laboring class, etc., and not the execution of any partisan or mischievous purpose such as the average proposition of this kind means. Mr. Hoar proposes a commission of five persons to hold office for two years and report to Congress annually through the Secretary of the Interior.

There are grotesque shadows in the court reports now and then. A church organist appeared in a Police Court yesterday charged by his wife with attempting to poison her with supposed medicine, which she wisely tried upon a cat, and responded with the statement that he had already undergone a church investigation upon all the charges made by his wife, who was insane. A savings bank which is attempting to recover money loaned upon a mortgage is met by the extraordinary defence that the mortgageor, who is a woman, has been blind for forty years and imbecile for sixteen years, and was, therefore, incompetent to make the contract, which was made only seven years ago.

The discussion as to the anti-slavery record of the Methodist Church, far from abating, seems to grow warmer as it extends. There was a lively debate over it in a Brooklyn church on Sunday, and the controversy there opened was supplemented by proceedings in a private clerical meeting yesterday. No doubt the affair will go much further. Meanwhile the Rev. Dr. Coggeshall, who leads this revival of the question, is apparently surprised that THE TRIBUNE declined to grant him the use of its columns for a reply to Mr. Oliver Johnson. This was because the debate was already joined in THE TRIBUNE between Mr. Johnson and the Rev. Dr. Whedon, who, as the Editor of *The Methodist Quarterly Review*, seemed to have a good right to speak for his denomination. We printed two replies from Dr. Whedon, and two rejoinders from Mr. Johnson. Of course it would be impossible to take everybody into such a controversy, and we conceive that we do what is fair when we admit one on each side and give both the same chance to be heard.

The XLVIth Congress would have at least one thing to be proud of if it should provide the needed regulations to govern the counting of the electoral vote. There is little hope that it will do so now, when the air is already vibrating with the approach of the Presidential campaign, and when four comparatively peaceful sessions of Congress have been allowed to pass, since the Winter of 1876-'77, without anything being accomplished in this direction. But one step has been taken which may afford some encouragement to those who still hope for legislation upon the subject before the beginning of another great contest. The House Committee specially in charge of the question has reported a bill which differs from that under consideration by the Senate in one important particular. The House bill provides that when the electoral vote of a State is in dispute the question shall be submitted to the highest court of that State, whose decision shall be final unless overruled by both houses of Congress. This latter contingency, as our Washington dispatches suggest, is not over-likely to occur. The Senate bill provides that such a question shall be submitted to that court of the State which the State law shall designate, and that its decision shall be final. It is stated that the Republican members of the House Committee do not approve the new bill.

MR. BUCKNER'S BILL.

Mr. Buckner has been authorized by the Committee on Banking and Currency to report an important bill, of which the text was given on Saturday. The object of the bill is praiseworthy; it aims to prevent the excessive dependence of the country banks upon those of this and other reserve cities, and to promote the distribution of coin, and requires all banks to keep certain reserves, one-half in coin, without counting as part of the coin any balances due from banks in the reserve cities. But Mr. Buckner himself, we feel sure, will see that the bill in its present form would produce other and disastrous results. There is little reason to fear the bill as it stands can ever become a law, but it is a pity that a measure containing so much that is excellent should be rendered mischievous and be doomed to defeat by a few errors which might easily be corrected.

The bill requires all banks to hold reserves amounting, in the reserve cities, to 25 per cent, and in all other places to 15 per cent, of their circulation and deposits. The banks are not required by existing law to hold any other reserve against circulation than the 5 per cent redemption fund, now amounting to $15,782,715. By the bill the reserve required against a circulation of $90,629,089 (October 2) in the reserve cities would be $22,657,272, and against a circulation of $223,157,273 in the other banks (October 2) would be $33,473,590; total reserve required against circulation, $56,130,862, an increase of *over forty millions*. To lock up so large a sum, now free, would be a measure of contraction far more severe than any gradual retirement of greenbacks now proposed. The bank notes are abundantly secured already, by the deposit of United States bonds and the system of redemption, and there is no need of a withdrawal of forty millions of money from active use in order to add to that security. But this is not the worst feature of the bill. It would precipitate general bankruptcy and widespread disaster, by forcing a sudden withdrawal of all their specie from the banks of this city.

As Mr. Buckner surely does not contemplate such a violent change, it is proper to point out how the bill would cause it. The proposition is to require that half of the entire reserve shall be in coin, and that no balances with reserve agents or elsewhere shall be counted as part of that coin. What amount of coin the banks outside of this city would thus be compelled to hold, and what amount they held according to the statement of October 2, are here shown in millions:

	Other reserve cities.	Country Banks.	Total outside New-York.
Circulation	$68,300,000	$223,200,000	$291,500,000
Net deposits	228,800,000	329,900,000	558,700,000
Total	$297,100,000	$553,100,000	$850,200,000
Reserve req'd	74,275,000	82,965,000	157,240,000
In coin, one-half	37,137,500	41,482,500	78,620,000
Coin held Oct. 2	11,348,900	11,475,000	22,823,900
To be drawn	$25,788,600	$30,007,500	$55,796,100

The banks of the other reserve cities and the country banks would therefore be compelled to draw $55,796,100 in specie at once, and the entire specie reserve of all the banks in this city on Saturday last was only $54,771,000. Without warning or needful time for preparation, the whole coin reserve would have to be shipped away at once, and the banks here would be left with only $15,000,000 in currency for their entire reserves. The consequences of such a step can be readily imagined. There is not the slightest danger that Congress will pass or that the President will sign a bill to bring about a financial earthquake. If Judge Buckner wishes to save what is really meritorious in his bill, he will hasten to modify it so that it shall not threaten such mischief.

It may seem to Mr. Buckner that the outside banks would supply themselves with specie by drawing it from the Treasury in exchange for legal-tender notes. This is possible, but not probable, because it would involve the cost of shipping notes to this city and coin to the country, and at the same time would leave balances here larger than the bill would permit them to retain as part of their reserve. In October $33,000,000 in legal-tenders were held by the banks of other reserve cities, and $30,300,000 by the country banks, and their needs have caused a constant drain from this city ever since. But under the Buckner bill the reserves which they would be required to hold, in excess of the coin and the redemption fund, would be only about $33,700,000 in the other reserve cities and about $30,900,000 in the country banks, so that, if they really need the legal-tenders which they have been drawing and holding, they would be obliged to hold the whole reserve required by the bill in their own vaults or in the Treasury.

Unquestionably, a considerable change in that direction would be very desirable. But it can be safely made only with ample warning and gradually. It might safely be required, for example, that a considerable change should be effected during the Summer months, when the idle reserves of the banks naturally become greatest. It would be desirable, too, that the banks of the interior should be required, within a reasonable time, to provide themselves with specie for the greater part of their reserve. But it is not desirable, even in order to reach these excellent ends, to plunge the country into another panic and to arrest the tide of prosperity which Republican legislation has brought. No doubt Mr. Buckner and other Democratic members will see that it is not best for them to load their party down by a mistake so serious.

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

Our own full crops and returning prosperity have put us into so comfortable a state of complacency that we do not realize how threatening is the present condition of affairs in Europe. There is impending famine in Ireland, and actual famine in Silesia. Everywhere preparations for war are going on, and this though there seems to be no adequate cause for war anywhere. There was probably never such general and uneasy discontent when there was no great revolutionary or religious question at issue. Republican organs everywhere exaggerate the imminent danger of an outbreak in this country or that. The *Glas Tchernagosta* says: "The situation of "Europe now has three characteristics: famine, deficit in budgets, and preparation for "war. Armies are being reinforced and National debts increased, while the laboring "mass of the people starve unhindered."

This is an extreme way of putting the matter, but it has a fair modicum of truth. Collision between any of the five Great Powers usually involves temporary misery and the weakening if not the actual ruin of the smaller States. From each of these, therefore, come signs of increasing alarm. In England, if we may judge by the tone of papers always aggressively English in antagonism to every other part of the globe, there is a good deal of justifiable trepidation felt at her dependence upon America for her food supply. *The Pall Mall Gazette* says: "It is now as-"certained that we shall require not less than "18,000,000 quarters of wheat from outside "sources during the coming year, or 2,000,000 "more than was at first officially estimated. "Here lies the paramount necessity for a "stronger navy. We cannot afford to run "the slightest risk of a temporary blockade. "With millions of men dependent upon coun-"tries thousands of miles distant for their "daily bread, what would be the result "of even a fortnight's short supply?" *The Advertiser* echoes the alarm, declaring that out of every five loaves of bread eaten in England in 1880, three must come from the United States and Russia, and that the same condition of affairs is likely to continue in future.

The only cheering suggestion in all this is a purely selfish one, and that is the probability that we shall remain friendly with most European Powers for a century to come. They are not likely to quarrel with a nation with whom cessation of intercourse means starvation for themselves.

THE GOSPEL OF FINANCE.

Once in a lifetime the opportunity comes to a man to strike his best blow for right and justice. Perhaps President Hayes may never have a better opportunity than the one which he has just seized so manfully. In response to all reports that he had departed from the position taken in his message, and in reply to some objections by a friend who dissents from the recommendations of the message in regard to the currency, the President sent on Thursday the following letter:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, Dec. 4, 1879.

MY DEAR ——: You want money to be plenty, the rate of interest to be low; at the same time you want the money to be good. You can only have this state of things when there is confidence in the stability of the currency. Capital will not go where it is uncertain in what currency debts will be paid next month or next year. If the legal tender for debts depends on the uncertain action of Congress there will be a want of confidence. The only constitutional legal tender is gold and silver. Depart from that and confidence is gone. All the world now believes that investments in America are likely to be profitable. A sound financial policy will bring us money from all the commercial nations of the earth. In good times prepare for hard times; in good times pay debts. The legal-tender notes are debts. Let them be paid by the coin in the Treasury and the coin that is coming in from abroad and it will not contract the circulation. Let our ship be headed in the right direction. It is a sound policy which has brought good times; the same policy will continue good times. Sincerely,

R. B. HAYES.

Not even President Lincoln ever succeeded in packing more sound sense into few words. This short, unofficial, and apparently hasty letter, is worth more than a dozen speeches or messages of the ordinary sort. It is the best thing yet done by President Hayes, and a better thing, in respect to the currency, has not yet been done by any man. In these few lines there is the true Gospel of finance, which will surely prevail because it is the truth. The marvellous blessings which have been showered upon this Nation have been rewards of the Nation's fidelity to its pledges. If the Nation ceases to seek justice, if it ceases to keep its honor bright and to tread the path of duty, it has no right to expect that bountiful crops here and a growing demand abroad will continue to enrich the land.

The urgent appeal of the President is not in conflict with the recommendations of Secretary Sherman. The President points to the end toward which an honest and wise nation should move; the Secretary defines the first step in that progress. Removal of the legal-tender quality of United States notes is the natural and proper sequence of the resumption already accomplished, as it is the first step toward a final retirement of as many of the notes as the country may not need to retain in circulation. It will be noticed that the President, with rare discrimination, points out the fact that it is only the legal-tender quality of the notes which makes them of uncertain value. If it was in the power of any creditor to refuse the notes, in case they should depreciate, it is certain that there would be no depreciation; on the contrary, any part of the notes that could not be readily circulated at par in gold would immediately be redeemed. Take away the legal-tender quality, and the power of the Nation to defraud its creditors by an excessive issue vanishes at once. Take away that quality, and every ground of complaint on the score of national honesty will be removed, for each United States note will then represent, not a forced loan, but a claim which remains due only because the creditor refuses to ask for payment in gold.

The conscience of the Republican party will reiterate the counsel which the President has given. Like the whisperings of conscience, his words do not urge that the right thing should be done because it will help a party in votes, but because it is right. Yet there is not a shrewd Republican statesman who does not know that the party has been strong and victorious only because it has listened to the conscience of the Nation. It can hope to prevail hereafter only if it obeys the dictates of the popular conscience. In the Eastern States, which confessedly hold the balance of power, and without which neither party can hope to succeed, unfaithfulness to public obligations means sure defeat. The Democratic party knows that it has no chance of success, save by carrying New-York and other Eastern States. It is warned, day by day, that it cannot hope to carry either of these States unless it can gain the confidence of men who believe in public faith and a sound currency. The Republican party has had its warning in repeated defeats in those same Eastern States, and if it has any wisdom, will not suffer any doubt to be raised as to its fidelity. Honesty is the best policy here as elsewhere. The path of duty has proved the path of safety to the Republicans in many emergencies hitherto, and they may rest assured that the duty to which the President points them is one which cannot with safety be neglected.

MODESTY OF THE SOLID SOUTH.

Congressman Singleton, of Mississippi, is a frank and outspoken representative of the Solid South and of the Democratic party as its willing instrument. In his conversation with a TRIBUNE correspondent published yesterday he undoubtedly spoke the sentiments of the leaders of the Mississippi Democracy and of the party generally throughout the South. A Northern Democrat would hardly be so candid; indeed, we are disposed to think that most Northern Democrats would take issue with the gentleman as to some of his statements, which seem to be based upon the assumption that the Democratic party has no other object than to put the South in control of the Government and devote all the power of the Nation to building up that section and making good its direct and indirect losses by the war. But it would be only a protest, involving no permanent difference or division. Northern Democrats may think they have some other object in view; that their success would mean something different from what Mr. Singleton points out; and that Northern Democrats would not permit a victory of their party to be used simply for Southern aggrandizement. They are wrong, and Mr. Singleton is right. He knows whereof he speaks when he defines the principles of the party as coincident with the interests and purposes of its altogether heaviest end. His utterances may not be deemed politic by his Northern allies, but they cannot deny that the history of the party justifies them. For twenty-five years the Democratic party at the North has had no reason for being except as an ally of the Solid South—too weak to accomplish anything by itself, but willing to do the work of the South for a share of the official plunder. Mr. Singleton knows his party.

He frankly tells us that there is not the slightest chance for the Republicans to carry a single Southern State, because, he says, "the property and intelligence of the South "are bound to rule," and they have the negro votes now and mean to keep them. "There "will be no more bulldozing," he says. "The "day for that has passed. Of course there "are cases of it now and then, but they are "exceptional and becoming less frequent." That is to say, bulldozing will be given up because it has done its work and is no longer necessary. "Of course"—and it is well enough to note the significance of the "of course"—there will be cases of it here and there, but as a settled practice it is to be abandoned. The negroes have settled to their place. The "property and in-"telligence" are at the top, as before the war; and just as before the war, the "property and "intelligence" enumerate the negroes for voting purposes—with the advantage that each negro counts one now instead of a fraction—and increase their representation in Congress. Here we have one result of the war from the Mississippi point of view; a South still solidly Democratic, with the vote given the negro for his protection practically annulled for all the good it may do him, and actually increasing the strength of the men it was to protect him against. With the South thus solidified, as Mr. Singleton says, so that not a Southern State can by any possibility be carried by the Republicans, he feels very hopeful of Democratic success in 1880. Whoever is nominated, he says, will carry every Southern State.

And then? Well, the South is now prospering. Her cotton crop has increased, her mineral resources are being developed, and manufactures are springing up. The outlook for the future is encouraging. "All we ask," says Mr. Singleton, "is that you let us alone "and take your hands off our pockets, and "repeal the odious tariff laws which grind "us with taxes of 50 per cent on every manu-"factured article in use. That is all we ask." Of course, he adds, they would like appropriations to develop their railroad system and improve their rivers and harbors, as they have only received $59,000,000, while $190,000,000 have been expended in the North—and they would like to have the bondholders taxed. Merely that. "It is a mistake," he says, "to think "that the South wants to rule this country; "she simply desires peace and an opportunity "to prosper." We seem to have heard something like this before. They never wanted to rule the country; only to be let alone. To sum up: The South doesn't want to rule the country; "the property and intelligence" of the South, whose aggressions compelled the abolition of slavery and enfranchisement of the blacks, only want to be let alone while they put down all opposition with the shotgun, and with the aid of their Northern allies actually do rule the country; and then they only want the General Government to build their railroads and develop their resources; and to have the tariff altered so that they can get their manufactured goods cheap and sell their cotton for good prices; and to have the bonds taxed—that is, have the Government repudiate its contract, and, in violation of its promise, lay taxes upon those who lent it money to help put down the rebellion, in order that those who were engaged in rebellion may go untaxed. That is all. But they don't want to rule the country. Oh, no! They just want to be let alone and given an opportunity to prosper. What *would* they do if they should ever become ambitious of power and want to rule?

THE CAREER OF A MANAGER.

The news that Mr. Max Maretzek has neither lost his mind nor met with a sudden death, but has only run away from his troubles, to seek repose and medical treatment in a seclusion which duns and reporters cannot penetrate, will be received with general satisfaction. For more than a quarter of a century he has been one of the familiar figures of the metropolis, and when at last he is summoned away (we hope the time is far off), the public will feel as if it had lost an old friend. The veteran has been knocked about a great deal in his lively career, and has been the victim of much hard criticism and not a little abuse; but for some reason we have all kept a little corner for him in our regard, and we should all be glad to know that fortune had been kind to him after his long labors. If his later musical enterprises have not been brilliant, his name is nevertheless associated with some great operatic triumphs in the past; and those of us who can remember Bosio, Steffanone, Salvi, Marini, Badiali, and the famous nights of music at Castle Garden, where the airs of Bellini mingled so delightfully with the breezes of the bay, will recall with kindly sentiments the energetic and confident maestro who presided over the excellent performances.

It is about thirty years since Max Maretzek first arrived in New-York from London, having been engaged to conduct a series of performances at the Astor Place Opera House under the management of Mr. E. P. Fry, and very soon after this—we believe it was the next season—he assumed the direction of the establishment on his own account. It is perhaps unnecessary to add that he became involved almost immediately in a fight; that he carried on innumerable controversies, with artists, with critics, with editors, with stockholders, with agents, and with rivals,—all of which the public rather enjoyed; and that in the midst of the din his baton kept pounding away, and the music somehow flowed on. He had a tremendous battle, of pen and ink, with N. P. Willis, and later he plunged into a furious fray with *The Herald*. If notoriety had been the secret of success he would soon have been rich. But almost from the start he accustomed himself to annual bankruptcy; and the habit of being ruined, thus early contracted, clings to him even to this day. In an amusing volume of reminiscences, published nearly twenty-five years ago, he describes himself as having from boyhood shaped his creed, his politics, and his taste to please everybody. He was not averse to amusing the public with a little fiction, when his patrons craved excitement, and he tells with a relish the arts by which he persuaded New-York to accept Teresa Parodi as a rival of Jenny Lind. When he was confronted by enormous liabilities and a small subscription, he found serenity in the consoling reflection that he had nothing to lose except a few theatrical properties. These confessions give the key to his happy-go-lucky career.

There are new fashions in management now; but many an impresario who has undertaken a season here with ample resources has failed, upon the whole, to collect so good a company as Max Maretzek sometimes got together, in his best days, with no resources at all except pluck and audacity. Perhaps, upon the whole, the adventures of the unfortunate emeritus favorite who is now hiding from his distresses in a friend's house have not been more trying than those of opera managers generally. We have glimpses behind the curtain, now and then, where the singers are squabbling, the orchestra is on a strike, a prima donna is indisposed because a rival has had too much applause, and a tenor succumbs to a sore throat because he does not like his part. Meanwhile, the miserable manager, afflicted by every possible mischance, is badgered by creditors, persecuted by interviewers, and denounced by the public for the offences of the whole troupe. We rather wonder that he does not always run away.

The report comes from London that Chili, elated by military success, has made certain propositions to the holders of Peruvian bonds looking toward the breaking up of the guano monopoly. It is more probable that if any proposition has been made it has been advanced by the bondholders themselves, since a representative of these unfortunates has already been in Chili for some months. When Peru borrowed her hundreds of millions of English and French money she pledged her guano deposits as security. In fact, the bonds purport to be mortgages upon these deposits. But when the interest began to dribble slowly, and finally ceased to come altogether, the bondholders began to realize the difficulties of foreclosing and collecting. Of course the English Government did not feel called upon to enforce the claims of too confiding subjects. Lord Palmerston had long ago assured English capitalists that the Government could not prosecute every delinquent debtor to whom they had recklessly lent their money. Nevertheless the bondholders feel they have a moral claim to the guano beds, and their agent has proposed to Chili that they should take possession of the deposits and work them, paying a royalty to Chili for the privilege. It is highly probable, however, that if Chili comes out of this struggle a clean victor, she may conclude that she can run this commerce in fertilizers without any assistance.

A valued friend of THE TRIBUNE addressed an earnest private note to its Editor on Saturday expressing his regret at the decision to issue a paper on Sunday. Yesterday there came another note from him. He had been reading Sunday's and Monday's TRIBUNES, and this is his conclusion: "I still don't like the idea; but I see I can't get on without the paper; and this one thing I will say: On the score of reading suitable for the family and for the day, nobody can find fault. I've been making a little comparison, and absolutely in yesterday and to-day's TRIBUNES there is more religious news than in four out of five of the professedly religious newspaper"! Another note reached us on the same subject,—a postal card from a lady whose name we are sorely tempted to print. She had read THE TRIBUNE all her life, but since its wicked issue of a paper on Sunday, she would read it no more, either on Sunday or on week days. The letter was dated Monday morning. But the remorseless Post Office had printed its postmark with unusual legibility, and the date was December 7! The woman who was too good to tolerate a Sunday paper, wished us to understand that she was also too good to write her note on Sunday, but she had not stopped to reflect that, although she might try to deceive us with a false date, the Post Office wouldn't lie for her! This is a queer world.

Randall says he is a Tilden man. The momentous fact had been suspected.

Congressman Singleton, fresh from Mississippi and its "solid" election, is pleased to say there "will be no more bulldozing; the day for that has passed." Since when? There was certainly bulldozing enough in Mr. Singleton's State on the last election day. The bulldozing on that day was so general and violent that in a Legislature of 138 members only six are colored men. So thorough a Democratic journal as *The Vicksburg Herald* declares that a fair election would have secured a very different result, and secured a representation for the laboring classes which might have stopped a fresh outbreak among the negroes in favor of general immigration which is now threatening. *The Herald* adds that the negroes and whites are protected in their rights when they vote in one way only—the Democratic way. Perhaps Singleton thinks the bulldozing has so thoroughly dismayed all opposition that it won't be necessary to whip or shoot anybody in the future to keep the State solid.

There is not a Democratic boom in sight, but the barrel looms like a haystack in a fog.

Kearney is coming on to join in the post-mortem exercises of the Greenback party. Perhaps he will enliven the solemn occasion by repeating his nomination of Thurman for the Presidency. That would make Thurman very happy.

Voorhees has broken the party's silence sufficiently to talk some of his familiar soft-money nonsense. Thus the second week opens with symptoms of revolt on the part of the Democratic donkey, and a square kick at the feeble legal-tender Bayard boom.

Tilden is in favor of abolishing the legal-tenders, but prefers to say so in a whisper only.

Congressman De La Matyr, who holds the balance of power in the Indiana delegation, and who would be able to elect a Republican President, in case the next election were to be thrown into the House, makes a statement which is not calculated to please the Democrats. He assures the Washington correspondent of *The Cincinnati Commercial* that in politics he is a Republican, though he is not in sympathy with the party in all its issues. "I voted for President Hayes," he says, "and if the choice lay between Hayes and Tilden I should do so again." That is not the kind of talk which will encourage the Democrats to throw the election into the House. The result will be too much like a repetition of the Electoral Tribunal disappointment.

Voorhees now charges to the front with a freshly cooked and smoking hot system of Hoosier Finance.

For a condensed lecture on ethics and political economy President Hayes's latest is a model: "The greenback is a debt. Pay it."

At the late municipal election in St. Augustine, Fla., a Republican Mayor was chosen, and five of the nine Aldermen are of the same political faith. Even in Charleston, S. C., there are fears of a lapse from "solidity," and the unreconstructed are making frantic efforts to preserve that virgin city from the defilement of radical rule. A good many things may happen before next November.

Mr. S. S. Cox has renewed his observation that the Sage of Cipher Alley is a corpse. Before six months have passed Mr. Cox will discover that this is the sorriest joke of his life.

General Garfield says he was a good deal surprised to see the President and Secretary Sherman come out so flat-footed on the legal-tender question. He is himself in favor of getting rid of the greenbacks as soon as possible, but he is not prepared to say that the present is the time to do it. He thinks the better plan would be to let things adjust themselves to resumption, and then feel our way carefully along. There are many evidences that this is the popular view in Washington.

Jefferson Davis has written another long letter exalting State Rights as the fundamental doctrine on which the Union was founded. He observes at the end that he has no present or prospective connection with the politics of the day, and declares his observations and reflections to be "those of a man who has served the country long"—there he pauses, but history will add for him—"infamously."

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

THE OPERA—RIGOLETTO.

There was a sudden change of bill last night at the Academy of Music. Mlle. Marimon was suffering, as a medical certificate expressed it, "from a nervous affection of the throat, due to the severe shock upon her nervous system at the time of the accident to the steamer, augmented by the anxiety incident to her debut before an American public." She was consequently unable to sing. "Rigoletto" in this emergency was substituted for "Dinorah," Madame Ambre appearing as *Gilda*. If the change was a disappointment in some respects, it was a gain in others, for it brought forward Sig. Campanini in the picturesque rôle of the *Duke*, and gave Sig. Galassi an opportunity to be heard, as the Jester, in one of his best parts. An improvised performance need not be rigorously criticised, but it is only fair to say that portions of the representation last night were enthusiastically applauded. There was a large house, very few of the audience availing themselves of the manager's offer to redeem the tickets which had been purchased for "Dinorah." Dr. Mott expresses a confident belief that Mlle. Marimon will be able to sing to-morrow.

MISS CAVENDISH IN BOSTON.

A private dispatch from Boston records the striking success of Miss Ada Cavendish as *Beatrice* last night at the Globe Theatre in that city. Among the spectators who occupied the boxes were Mr. Longfellow, Dr. Holmes, E. P. Whipple, J. R. Osgood, and J. T. Fields. The audience was large and fashionable, and the actress—whose *Beatrice* is her most brilliant effort—was greeted with a cordial welcome and liberal admiration.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.

A German version of "Le Mair de la Débutante" will be represented at the Thalia Theatre tonight.

Mr. Sothern reappeared here last night at the Grand Opera House, and was cordially welcomed by a numerous crowd. He acted *Lord Dundreary*.

A musical and literary entertainment is to occur next Sunday evening, the 14th inst., at Cickering Hall, under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Benevolent Elks.

Mr. Lancaster's highly interesting and skilfully wrought drama of "Estelle"—considerably shortened since the first representation—was repeated, last night, at Wallack's Theatre, with fine effect. The chief scenic sets are beautiful in composition, and the light and pungent dialogue, in the playful portions of the piece, is of quite unusual merit.

In consequence of the great success attending last night's performance at Booth's Theatre, and in order to secure additional rehearsals for the proper production of "La Camargo," an extraordinary programme has been arranged for to-morrow (Wednesday) night when the third act of "Mignon," the third act of Gounod's opera "Faust," and the third act of "La Vie Parisienne" will be presented. "La Camargo" is positively announced for Thursday.

PERSONAL.

Mr. Robert Collyer has gone to Chicago to conduct the service at the marriage of his son.

M. Alphonse Daudet's striking novel of "The Nabob" has been dramatized in Paris.

Ex-Governor Bullock, of Massachusetts, is mentioned as the possible recipient of the nomination to the English mission.

Senator Platt's health, it is now stated, is not at all in the serious condition reported last week. He looks strong and well, and ready for any amount of hard work in the Senate.

Mr. Gerrit Smith Miller, who is going to the Legislature from Madison County, represents the seventh generation of his family in that body. Every male head of this particular Miller family since the Revolution has been an Assemblyman, and three have been Congressmen also.

Mr. Hendricks, of Indiana, is now sixty years old; a medium-sized man with a contradictory countenance, since his jaw is described as pugnacious and his eyes as large, pacific and blue. The Washington correspondent of *The Boston Journal* says that Mr. Hendricks's wife firmly believes that sooner or later she will reign in the White House.

Mr. Thomas Hughes—"Tom Brown"—is quoted as saying to Mr. James Redpath: "Do you know there is nothing that astonishes us English so much as to see you Americans come over here for lecturers. Why, sir, I can name all the orators of England on the fingers of one hand; while you are a nation of orators."

Mr. Warner, the donor of the observatory now being built at Rochester, has added several thousand dollars to his gift, thus providing for very complete and excellent appliances. The telescope which Mr. Alvan Clark is making for this observatory will be in working order by next June, and the observatory will be finished, it is thought, in July.

Mr. Ansell Warren, of St. Louis, is a venerable printer who is recorded as a companion of Mr Greeley while the country lad was serving his apprenticeship at the case in Poultney, Vt. Mr. Warren says that Mr. Greeley's first boyish attempt at writing for publication was made apropos of a monster squash which was sent into the newspaper office. Several of the men employed in the office undertook to write descriptions of it, the best one to be published. The young Greeley was among the competitors, but his item was not thought to be successful, and went into the waste-basket.

Of the late General Hooker, the young Hartford clergyman, Mr. Twichell, has been giving some interesting personal reminiscences. Mr. Twichell as chaplain saw much of the General during the war, and sitting in his tent one day, he said, taking the advantage of his position: "Now, General, why are you continually thinking unpleasant things about so many of these your brother officers? You are getting old, and we are all getting old, and even if you don't like them very much, why not overlook their failings and be friends with them?" And the old General