The Sun.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1873.

Amusements To-Day.

Pewerry Theatre Cigar Girl of Cuba.
Tony Pastor's The Ice King.
Wallack's Theatre Music.
Wood's Museum Three Years in a Mad Trap. Matinee.

Terms of The Sun

DAILY, per year, to mail subscribers	$6 00
DAILY, Weekly, per year	2 00
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Twenty copies to one address	55 00
Fifty copies to one address	80 00
WEEKLY, per year	1 00

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ORDINARY ADVERTISEMENTS, per line	45 cts.
Twelve lines	80 "
Three lines	$1 20
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For the accommodation of up-town residents advertisements for THE SUN will be received at our regular rates at the up-town advertisement offices 515 West Thirty-second street, junction of Broadway and Sixth avenue, and 308 West Twenty-third street, opposite Grand Opera House, from 8 A. M. to 8.30 P. M.

"The Constitution says that all trials shall be by jury, and the accused is entitled, not to be first convicted by a court and then to be acquitted by a jury, but to be convicted or acquitted IN THE FIRST INSTANCE by a jury." SAMUEL BLATCHFORD.

The President's Salary—How to Settle it Honorably.

Col. J. W. FORNEY of the *Press*, a writer more wont to fawn at the heels of power than to utter the voice of manly patriotism, "cannot doubt that the better sense of our people will reject the miserable party cry raised against the increase of the President's pay. The whole business," he concludes, "is small and beneath the dignity of a great nation."

It may be possible that the dignity of a great nation requires that the President should be paid as much as ever he chooses to take; but on the other hand, it is beneath the dignity of the President to get his pay doubled by a trick; and it is certainly beneath the dignity of a great nation as it is beneath the honesty of every honest citizen that such a question should be disposed of by a sneaking intrigue, without first referring it to the people for their decision.

Let President GRANT now refuse the double pay which he lobbied for, which Congress voted him, and which his signature secured. Let him submit the whole controversy to the people for their action in the next Presidential election. The Republicans may then incorporate into their platform a resolution that the President ought to be paid $50,000 or $100,000 a year as they think best; and the Opposition may put into their platform a declaration that in their judgment $25,000 a year, with free house rent, free fuel, free lights, free gardens, free stables, a free steward, and all the rest, is sufficient; and then let the two propositions be fairly voted upon. If the people, after discussion in the press and on the stump, shall decide, mine that the President ought to have $50,000, or $100,000 a year, very well; there can then be no objection to his having it, and everybody will submit to it with cheerfulness; but it is indecent for a man just elected to the Presidency, and who has taken the nomination and accepted his election upon the express understanding that he should be paid $25,000 only, to go to Congress as soon as the election is over, and lobby and intrigue, and bribe weak and corrupt Congressmen, in order to get his own pay doubled.

It is to be hoped that Col. FORNEY is not so far gone in his worship of Addition, Division, and Silence that he is unable to appreciate square truth and sincere, straightforward policy upon this question. It would be unfortunate if he too should be converted into an advocate of thievery by the depraved influences that rule in Philadelphia.

New York and Back Pay.

To judge from the tenor of the resolutions adopted by the conventions of all sorts thus far held, politicians of every kind think the back-pay grab is a swindle which ought to be denounced in explicit terms. As conventions of both parties are soon to meet in the counties and Assembly districts of New York, it may be profitable for the people of the State to see where their recent and present Senators and Representatives stand on the subject of back pay.

Of the two Senators, it is enough here to say that Mr. FENTON has returned his back pay to the Treasury, and that Mr. CONKLING retains his.

The members of the lower House will admit of various classifications on the subject of back pay. Fifteen members from this State in the last Congress were reelected to the present Congress. Six of these have sent back their extra pay, viz.: WILLIAM R. ROBERTS of this city, CLARKSON N. POTTER of Westchester, and ELI PERRY of the Albany District, all Democrats. The Republicans in the same honorable category are WILLIAM A. WHEELER of Franklin, CLINTON L. MERRIAM of Herkimer, and WALTER L. SESSIONS of Chautauqua.

And that is all! Of the two Senators and fifteen Representatives of the Forty-third Congress who were also in the Forty-second, only one Senator and six Representatives have repudiated the swindle; while on the other hand one Senator and nine Representatives cling to the ill-gotten money. We need not repeat that Mr. CONKLING is the Senator. Mr. JAMES BROOKS, one of the Representatives, is dead. The others are as follows: FERNANDO WOOD of this city, Democrat, and seven Republicans, viz.: CHARLES ST. JOHN of Orange, ELLIS H. ROBERTS of Oneida, WILLIAM E. LANSING of Madison, R. HOLLAND DUELL of Onondaga, WILLIAM H. LAMPORT of Ontario, HORACE B. SMITH of Chemung, and FREEMAN CLARKE of Monroe.

So stands the record in regard to this class of Congressmen in our own State. In their approaching conventions what do the Republicans and Democrats propose to say on this subject? Will they have the candor to approve the conduct of those who have returned the money, and the courage to denounce those who have kept it? And will the local conventions in the several districts call their delinquent members by name and demand that they either promptly return the cash or resign their seats? Will the Republican State Convention, which, strictly speaking, has sole jurisdiction of the case, free its mind in regard to our distinguished Senator in Congress?

Of the thirty-one members of the last Congress from this State, sixteen were not reflected. Of these sixteen SAMUEL S. COX only has returned the back pay. Precisely what disposition ROBERT B. ROOSEVELT has finally made of his we do not at present know. According to the very latest information the other fourteen members keep the money.

We will classify these gentlemen politically. There are nine Democrats, as follows: DWIGHT TOWNSEND of Staten Island, THOMAS KINSELLA and HENRY W. SLOCUM of Brooklyn, SMITH ELY, Jr., of this city, JOSEPH H. TUTHILL of Ulster, JOSEPH M. WARREN of Rensselaer, JOHN ROGERS of Clinton, JOHN M. CARROLL of Fulton, and WILLIAM WILLIAMS of Erie. To these may be added MILO GOODRICH, Liberal Republican, of Tompkins. The regular Republicans are JOHN H. KETCHAM of Dutchess, ELIZUR H. PRINDLE of Chenango, JOHN E. SEELEY of Seneca, and SETH WAKEMAN of Genesee.

These fourteen members of the Forty-second Congress who cling to the money may claim exemption from denunciation by the conventions in their districts on the ground that they never intend to appear in public life again. If they set up this extenuating plea let them put it in writing, so that there may be no mistake about it hereafter. If, on the other hand, they still class themselves among living politicians, then their late constituents ought to embrace the earliest opportunity to express their opinions in regard to their conduct concerning the back-pay swindle.

Public Opinion.

"The greatest power under heaven," says GEORGE ELLIOT, "is public opinion—*the ruling belief in society about what is right and what is wrong, what is honorable and what is shameful.* How can political freedom make us better any more than a religion we don't believe in, if people laugh and wink when they see men abuse and defile it? And while public opinion is what it is, while men have no better beliefs about public duty, while corruption is not felt to be a damning disgrace, while men are not ashamed to make public questions which concern the welfare of millions a mere screen for their own petty private ends—I say no fresh scheme of voting will much mend our condition."

Alas, even so! While men have no better beliefs about public duty in this country than not to look upon it as a damning disgrace for the Chief Magistrate of the nation to give effect and force by his signature to a law of Congress which doubles his official salary while giving many hundreds of thousands of dollars of the public money to the men who have not been ashamed to make such a law for their own personal profit, what possible scheme of reform can stem the reeking tide of corruption in the country, public and private?

While public opinion laughs and winks at or ignores the grievous culpability of the President, who by his signature to a shameful law transfers from the nation's Treasury to his own bank account $50,000, so long will the standard of public and private morals in the United States sink lower and lower.

While public opinion suffers party conventions to denounce a law as wrongful and those legislators who enacted it as false to their trust, and yet to remain absolutely dumb concerning the one public servant who of all others is most responsible for that law, and who individually has most profited by it, so long will our members of Congress be seen growing rich upon Credit Mobilier measures, our Presidents becoming millionaires in office, our Secretaries of the Navy fattening on Secor frauds, and our Department of Foreign Affairs filled by a man whose son-in-law is specially retained and employed by a foreign Legation at a heavy fee to defeat American claimants before a commission created through the diplomacy of the father-in-law. So long likewise will our trust companies and other money corporations be seen falling headlong into bankruptcy through the flagrant misconduct of their officers, until corruption and fiduciary dishonor shall become the rule, public and fiduciary integrity the exception in the land.

First of all public opinion must recover a sound tone; must return to an old-fashioned appreciation of what is right and what is wrong, of what is honorable and what is shameful. Until then to hope for a higher order of men in public or other fiduciary positions in the country would be like attempting to clear away a forest with a pair of tweezers.

The Kansas Fraud Exploded.

When S. C. POMEROY, the illustrious champion of temperance and ardent advocate of a middle-aged men's Christian Association, had his expectations of reflection to the Senate suddenly dashed by the production in open day and before the assembled Legislature of the very money with which he had attempted to bribe a member of that body, he endeavored to break the force of that crushing exposure by the usual trickery of a convicted knave. At first he completely broke down, gave way to grief, and lost his mind. But a few days of seclusion and care restored him sufficiently to patch up a fabricated defence, and then he started back to Washington to resume his seat in the Senate and to demand the aid of confederates in that chamber with whom he had long been associated in various schemes of plunder.

The plan of POMEROY and his friends was to assail the straightforward testimony of A. M. YORKE, so as to create confusion in the public mind by pretended new revelations, and thus allow him to escape the penalty of his corrupt conduct. When the Senate appointed a committee of investigation, suborned witnesses were brought to Washington to carry out this conspiracy and to uphold it by barefaced perjury. It will be remembered that YORKE delivered to the Speaker of the Legislature of Kansas $7,000, which he had received directly from the hands of POMEROY as a consideration for his vote and influence. That stubborn fact stood in the way of all explanation, but the conspirators sought to overcome it, even at the hazard of still further infamy.

POMEROY swore deliberately that the $7,000 was given to YORKE to be delivered to a certain JOHN Q. PAGE, one of his well-known strikers, for the purpose of starting a bank at Independence, although PAGE at that very time was at Topeka aiding his reelection, and in hourly communication with him! And PAGE not only sustained this audacious statement, but he was made to commence a suit in Washington against YORKE for the recovery of this money, in which he was aided by all the influence of the Administration, for no other purpose than to harass him with vexatious litigation and costs among strangers. Everybody knew at the time that the whole proceeding was a base and desperate fraud, in which the forms of law were abused to persecute and injure an innocent man for exposing a venal scamp.

PAGE has now abandoned the suit against YORKE and paid all the costs attending it, thus virtually confessing that it never had the least foundation, and was only fabricated for a special purpose. That was transparent from the moment the lame and impotent attempt to excuse the bribery was made by POMEROY, when with unblushing effrontery he rose in the Senate and denied every charge against him. Still it served as a pretext for the Administration majority of the committee to save him from expulsion. They brought in their report on the 3d of March, when the term of POMEROY was rapidly drawing to a close, and the urgent pressure of public business precluded any fair consideration of the subject. That committee was headed by Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, an orthodox churchman, and flanked by Mr. BUCKINGHAM, who claims to be a Puritan of Puritans, and Mr. ALCORN of Mississippi, who practises the philosophy of all things to all men. The Democrats were Mr. THURMAN and Mr. VICKERS, but they were powerless, although Mr. THURMAN expressed himself very decidedly on the subject. The Republican members reported as follows:

"The committee, bearing in mind while examining the evidence that the whole transaction, whatever view may be taken of it, is the result of a concerted plot to defeat Mr. POMEROY, and remembering that the burden of proof is on the party making the accusation, have come to the conclusion that Mr. YORKE has not sustained his charge by sufficient proof, contradicted as it is by the evidence of Mr. PAGE and Mr. POMEROY."

This was the verdict of men who aspire to high moral positions, who are zealous externally in the church, and who are held up as examples worthy of imitation. It was rendered in defiance of an almost unanimous public opinion, and against the most conclusive proofs of POMEROY's guilt. Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN and Mr. BUCKINGHAM could discover "a concerted plot to defeat Mr. POMEROY," but they could find nothing to censure in his attempted bribery of YORKE and others, nor any plot to buy his way again into the Senate by money notoriously acquired through the prostitution of that place.

When MORTON, CAMERON, and others of that class who do not affect religion, combined with all their power to prevent CALDWELL from being expelled upon a similar charge, and did frustrate action by permitting him to resign, their course was understood and almost expected. They knew how it was themselves. So will it be when they resist any investigation of PATTERSON of South Carolina, or arrange to whitewash him. But the case is very different with FRELINGHUYSEN, BUCKINGHAM, and the like, when they lend themselves to protect iniquity and to screen the most glaring venality. The effect is to destroy all confidence in the body where party is concerned, and to reduce the whole Republican column to the same low level when crime is to be condoned.

A curious international question has arisen in regard to a horse. While the British Boundary Commission were engaged in their work on the Dakota side of the Red river a few weeks ago, Mr. PATRICK RYAN of Clay county, Minn., seized a horse from Mr. BOSWELL, a member of the party, which he claimed to belong to him. The horse was taken by the Sheriff from RYAN and returned to BOSWELL, but the latter was required before the horse was surrendered to him to give security in the sum of $400 to indemnify that official in case the animal should be proved to be RYAN's property. The British Minister at Washington laid the facts in the case before Don HAMILTON FISH, who referred them to the Attorney-General. The latter, without hearing RYAN's side of the story, has written to Gov. AUSTIN of Minnesota, stating that in his opinion the horse undoubtedly belonged to BOSWELL, and asking that the Sheriff of Clay county should surrender BOSWELL's bond. This appears to be a very extraordinary proceeding on the part of the Attorney-General, for if the horse undoubtedly belongs to the Englishman, the latter can have no serious reason for desiring the bond cancelled. Besides, it is a question solely for the civil authorities of Minnesota or Dakota, and they put so much credit in RYAN's claim to the horse that no criminal prosecution has been undertaken against him.

It is suggested that nobody ought to complain in this country at Gen. GRANT's getting $50,000 a year when we see the British Parliament voting $125,000 a year to a young fellow about to get married, and voting it for the simple reason that the young fellow is a son of the Queen. There may be something in this argument. Perhaps we ought to do as well by our President and the members of his family as the British taxpayers have to do by their Queen and her children; but there is one great difference in the two cases: the doubling of the President's salary was done by a trick, and after he had agreed to perform his work at the old rate, while the gift of the Parliament to the Duke of Edinburgh was carried by a fair vote and after full public discussion of the matter.

The Colorado desert is an immense arid basin extending from the southern boundary of Utah to the head of the Gulf of California. It is about six hundred miles from north to south, and of width varying from thirty to three hundred miles. The dry sands of this great basin offer no inducement to the farmer or stock raiser, and are as dreary and inhospitable as the Assyrian wastes. The hot winds from this arid basin affect unfavorably the climate of neighboring cultivated regions. Deserts are more apt to extend than to contract if let alone, and how to subdue the Colorado desert has long been a problem. Mr. ISAAC E. JAMES, late chief engineer of the Truckee and Virginia City Railroad, left San Diego, California, in the early part of July to explore the Colorado basin to the head of the Gulf of California, with the view of ascertaining the possibility of turning the waters of the gulf into the basin. Mr. JAMES is very confident that the greater part of the desert is far below tide water, and that the cutting of a canal from the gulf to the depression would result in the formation of an extensive inland sea. The project is worthy of careful study, for the climatic changes likely to be produced by the introduction of such an immense volume of water would doubtless be very beneficial to the surrounding States and Territories.

As COLFAX has played out nearly all excuses for his Credit Mobilier transactions, we suggest the one offered by WRESTLING JOE of Oregon, when asked why he had attempted to personate JOSEPH THOMAS. JOE replied that he "merely yielded to the misdirection of a perturbed mind." Like HARLAN and COLFAX, his mind was perturbed by the prospect of stamps.

The Arizona Indians are regarded as the wildest and most refractory of Southwestern tribes. It appears, however, that some of them who have never been visited by traders or missionaries are more civilized and hospitable than the average whites of that Territory. A party of explorers recently travelled in a northeast direction from Cerbat, Arizona, for seventy miles to Cataract creek, so called because it is a succession of falls from fifty to two hundred feet high. They struck the creek thirty miles from the main Colorado, fifteen from the Little Colorado, and about two days' travel from where the Mormons are settling on the latter stream. After descending from the mesa to the level of the creek, they found a delightful country, six or seven hundred acres of land being under cultivation by the Indians, who raise corn, beans, melons, and pumpkins, and have orchards of peach trees, and also grape vines. They have a ditch eight miles long for irrigation. The land is regularly laid out, and each family has its share of water. The Indians were friendly, and appeared never to have seen a white man before. Their pleasant country, now that it has been discovered, will soon be coveted, and the industrious red men will eventually have to abandon their rich fields for some sterile reservation.

An Old Line Whig regrets that the plan of raising $100,000 for President GRANT to buy him off from taking his double pay has not been carried into execution, and he wishes us to open a subscription at THE SUN office for the purpose of making up the sum and completing the transaction.

We respectfully decline. We are opposed to gift enterprises, and opposed to giving any more presents to President GRANT. Besides, if he does not refuse the double pay from the promptings of his own conscience, he would not refuse it no matter how large a bribe might be offered him.

The Kentucky Ku-Klux, as they are called, a class of mean whites who are bent on driving all the negroes out of the State if possible, have been at work again, this time in Owen county, where they brutally murdered a colored man named WILSON who lived on the farm of Mrs. MASON BROWN, the stepmother of Gov. GRATZ BROWN. These assassins are denounced by all decent men, but there must be a want of efficiency in the administration of the laws or there would be some signal examples made in the way of inflicting punishment on them. The planters of Kentucky need the labor of colored men, and if their Governor has not sufficient energy to protect their laborers from murderous raids they would be justified in taking the matter into their own hands. The *Courier-Journal*, the leading Democratic newspaper of Kentucky, says that premiums have been paid in that State for wolf and wildcat scalps, and suggests that it would be good policy for the tobacco warehouses of Louisville to make up a fund and pay a premium of fifty dollars apiece for the scalps of Ku-Klux who rove about assassinating farm hands. It is evident that these wretches are condemned by all respectable persons, without regard to political opinion; but it seems unaccountable that they are never brought to justice.

Would it not be well to explain to the Soldiers' Convention, called to meet in Pittsburgh in September next, why the sister of exguerilla MOSBY can get employment in a department at Washington without passing any examination, while the widows and orphans of soldiers are rigidly examined and turned away if their replies are not satisfactory?

As the unctuous POMEROY ruled the politics of Kansas for years until it would seem that all the leaders of the Republican party in that State had become infected with corruption and lost to shame, so the vinegar-visaged HARLAN was for a long time the chief flugelman in the Republican ranks in Iowa, where the party has become equally demoralized. Nearly every State Treasurer there since the Republican party has been in power has abused his trust, and new instances of official malfeasance are continually coming to light. The last of these delinquent Treasurers, Major RANKIN, is a man who is as remarkable as HARLAN himself for his pretensions to piety, and he has turned out about the biggest rascal of the lot. The consequence is that Christian statesmen of the POMEROY and HARLAN school are not so popular as they were in Iowa.

In no country are those who work better paid for their labor than in the United States. In no country have those who cannot or will not work a poorer chance of livelihood. There is, however, one exception to this rule. Congressmen are receiving $20 a day for doing nothing, and the President is getting $138 a day while neglecting his duties and spending his time in amusing himself.

The straight-out Democratic journals of Ohio are of opinion that the Democratic party will carry the State this fall. If this opinion proves correct, the Democratic party will become a great power again, and will have a future; but if the Democrats are beaten it will be otherwise.

The Indians in Dakota who are generally known as Sioux call themselves Dakotas. Many of these bands are so savage that it is not safe for missionaries to go among them. There is one band of Santees who some years ago were visited by missionaries who remained with them a time and then left. These Indians, thanks to the pious labors of the missionaries, learned to speak English quite passably and also learned many of WATTS's hymns. It is not quite sure, however, that they fully understand the teachings of these lyrical effusions, for although they know the most popular of them by heart, the hymns are now chiefly used as a musical accompaniment to their war dances—ceremonials held in connection with expeditions for the capture of scalps from white settlers and the members of other Indian tribes.

If the *Graphic* people can keep up their transatlantic balloon as successfully as they keep up the public interest in the project, it will move around the earth on a sure and rapid easterly current of success, and no mistake.

Western newspapers are quarrelling about what order of Christianity Dr. SAVILLE, the new Red Cloud agent, belongs to. As he was appointed at the instance of Gen. DODGE, the beef man of the Indian Ring, it is safe to presume that his Christian principles are in entire accord with those of his patron.

Benighted and Deplorable Condition of New Mexico.

In this Territory, with a population of over 94,000, there is not a single public school. When it is remembered that as recently as 1856, upon the question of adopting a law for the establishment of schools throughout the Territory, the vote stood 37 in favor and 5,016 against it, the present lamentable condition of New Mexico will not cause so much surprise.

The peculiar composition of the population—a mixture of Indians, Spaniards, and Mexicans—the idle and indolent disposition of the people, the entire absence of any perseverance and improvement, and the total disregard of education, have all tended to retard the prosperity of the Territory.

The only provisions for education seem to be the convents at Taos, Las Vegas, Santa Fe, and some other large towns, where, under the supervision of the Catholic clergy, a few private institutions have been established; but these are dependent upon the charity of the Church.

What few private schools there are are thus described in a letter from the Rev. John A. Truchard, a priest at Santa Fé, who has labored most devotedly during the last fifteen years for the advancement of education in the Territory:

> If there is an abandoned house in this town, a house half fallen down, and in every respect badly in condition, that house is made the school house, without furniture, or any convenience. The teacher brings his own chair and table; the pupils bring soap and candle boxes to sit on. There are no books in the school, and seldom can the pupils afford to buy them.

The people are very poor. There is but little disposition among them to pursue agriculture, even in the richer valleys. They consequently find themselves without support, and destitute of the means of obtaining any. This is somewhat surprising when we consider that New Mexico is one of the richest portions of our country. Its fine climate and precious minerals, as well as its resources for stock raising and the cultivation of the grape, would seem to offer no excuse for such poverty, unless it is the deplorable ignorance of the people.

The Man who Sold Diamonds to the Millionaires.

From the Elizabethtown (Ky.) News.

Mr. Philip Arnold is beautifying and otherwise arranging his place near town that will make it, when completed, one of the finest in this part of the country. He is erecting a tank with a capacity of 12,000 gallons, and a windmill pump for the purpose of filling it. This done pipes will be placed in the residence, bathrooms made, and water attachments generally added. A fountain will be made in front of the building, and the yard laid off in plats with winding walks. The place is one of the prettiest we ever saw. All that art can lend to nature is being done, and the beauty of the place increases in proportion with the appliances of utility.

BOSS SHEPHERD IN A FIX.

HOW THE METROPOLITAN R.R. COMPANY LAID THEIR TRACKS.

The Boss Makes One of His Peculiar Contracts with Mr. Patrick Cullinane—Patrick Snaps His Fingers at the Boss and the Whole Board of Public Works.

Correspondence of The Sun.

WASHINGTON, July 30.—Boss Shepherd and the Board of Public Works have found their match. One of the first contracts the Board made after its organization was with Patrick Cullinane for the grading and paving of Four-and-a-half street, from Pennsylvania avenue to the arsenal gate. This contract was made after the usual fashion of Boss Shepherd—was not even signed by the contractor and no security whatever was taken for the faithful performance of the work in accordance with the terms of the bogus contract. Patrick began his work and leisurely continued it through the spring, summer, autumn, and winter of 1872. It was finally completed after a fashion.

The Metropolitan Street Railroad Company, a concern in which the great District Ring is largely interested, had some years before obtained a charter for a street railway along Four-and-a-half street to the arsenal gate, but until the street was repaired and paved it would be an expensive undertaking to put down the track as well as to keep the same in repair. They accordingly waited until Mr. Cullinane had finished his work of grading and macadamizing the street, when they immediately put to work a gang of men to lay the track and of course tore up the street. By this policy of waiting the Metropolitan Company were enabled to put down their track for

ONE-THIRD THE MONEY

it would have cost them had they done their own grading and paving between the rails.

But in putting down their tracks they undid much of the work Cullinane had done and left the street in a very bad way. Immediately Mr. Cullinane received an order from Boss Shepherd directing him to put the street in good repair—i. e., remedy the damage done to it by the track layers of the Metropolitan Street Railroad, or his pay would be withheld. Pat knew a thing or two and made no bones of saying so. He talked loudly on the street corners and in public places generally about the Metropolitan Railroad Company, Boss Shepherd, the Board of Public Works, and divers other individuals. He also employed a lawyer to look after his interests, and there was not a little talk of bringing certain things of a very unpleasant nature to light in open court. The result was as might have been expected. Pat received his certificates of indebtedness, issued by the Board of Public Works for all the work he had done and for all the work that he had not done at all. Pat had made a nice little profit of 50 to 75 per cent. on the work and could afford to stand

A PRETTY HEAVY SHAVE

on the bogus certificates. He therefore lost no time in getting rid of them at whatever he could get, and pocketed the proceeds. He was "just as happy as a big sunflower," and was not caring a continental whether school kept or not.

Time rolled on, and it was necessary for the board and the Ring to make a show of rigor with contractors in order to fool the public into believing that they were honest officials, and intended to make rascally contractors dance up to the chalk line—no matter if the contractors afforded well-filled purses to assist the Ring organs printed day after day general orders and bulletins from A. R. Shepherd, Vice-President of the Board of Public Works, commanding contractors to do sundry and various things under pains and penalties too horrible to mention. But the other contractors manifested no very great anxiety to evade these dreadful penalties.

After a very little while the people began to see through this little by-play, that was intended to distract their attention while the real work of plundering was going on under their very noses. They began to get out of humor with this kind of jugglery, and on every hand hearty curses were heard from fleeced property holders. It therefore became evident that

SOMETHING MUST BE DONE

which would seem very formal, and make the people believe they were really in dead earnest. Accordingly, one of the members of the board went through the farce of inspecting Pat Cullinane's work, and thereupon reported as follows:

> I find that the terms of the contract have not been carried out in the following respects:
>
> First, the specifications call for twelve inches of stone, but even as far as I can go through a ring three inches in diameter by my plunger, and on digging right holes in different parts of the street I found many of the stones of large size and extending only to a depth of from six to nine inches. I found that the stone is as very generally mixed with gravel and earth, while the specifications expressly state that the stone shall be screened from all dirt and particles less than one-quarter of an inch in size. The top course is covered with loam and sand.
>
> By reference to the report of Col. Sams it will be seen that he finds the following violations of the contract: First, the depth of stone average from seven to nine inches, instead of twelve inches; second, the stones are not broken sufficiently small; third, they have not apparently been screened; fourth, the top dressing is not composed of the material specified.
>
> These violations are in complete accordance with my own views, as expressed above. From information derived from different points along the line of the street, and from other reliable sources, I find that the rolling was insufficiently done, and that the two courses of stone are very generally put down at the same time. This may result in some degree for the very uneven surface of the road.
>
> Some allowance should be made to the contractor on account of the stone in the centre of the street, for the purpose of laying the street railroad, which I find has been done since the work on the street was commenced, and consequently that portion is in a worse condition than the other part.
>
> To put this street in such a condition as to conform to the terms of the contract, so far as it is possible to do so in the present state, it would be necessary to remove all the earth, dirt, and loose stone by careful sweeping, and then to cover the street with fine broken stone two inches in depth, to be well rolled with a steam roller, then to cover this with good gravel, which must again be rolled.
>
> I have obtained estimates from two parties for making the repairs as suggested, which, however, permitting the parties to be aware of the exact street for which they were estimating.
>
> The number of square yards upon the street covering Cullinane's contract is 8,868.
>
> Wm. Holmead's estimate is 55 cents per square yard (including gravelling), which will amount to $5,815.15.
>
> J. T. Hall's estimate (including gravelling) is 52½ cents per square yard, which will amount to $4,659.82, which is $1,175.32 less than the former bid.

BOSS SHEPHERD SPEAKS.

Boss Shepherd addressed the following high-sounding letter to Patrick, which, accompanied by the above report, was printed in all the Ring organs the next morning:

> BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON, July 25, 1873.
>
> *P. Cullinane, Esq.*
>
> SIR: I enclose a copy of the report made in the case of your contract for the improvement of Four-and-a-half street, in which it appears that to complete your contract in accordance with its specifications it will cost $2,659.82.
>
> You will be required to put this street in full accordance with the specifications within ten days, or it will be done, at your expense, under the direction of the board. No payments will be made you on certificates of indebtedness which may be retained by the board until this is done.
>
> Your bondsmen have had a copy of this report and letter sent to them, and I have been notified that they will be held responsible with you in the above amount. Very respectfully,
>
> A. R. SHEPHERD, Vice-President.

MR. CULLINANE RESPONDS.

This looks like business to the uninitiated, but to Patrick Cullinane it was simply bosh. He quietly notified Mr. Shepherd, first, that as he did not hold any of the certificates, but had disposed of them to various bankers and brokers who had more money than brains, he had not the slightest objection in the world to the board repudiating the same; but he rather thought it would not facilitate the negotiation of various other securities of a like nature which the board were exceedingly anxious to dispose of.

Second, as to a copy of the letter and report aforesaid being served upon his bondsmen, he had but to say that that might do for the marines, but not for Patrick. His bondsmen were men of straw as the Boss very well knew. Moreover, he had not been required to furnish any bail until an investigation was commenced by Congress in the spring of '72, when at the urgent appeal of the Boss he had consented to this little arrangement, all for fun, you know.

It is needless to say that if anything further is done to Four-and-a-half street by Patrick Cullinane, he will get good extra pay for doing the same.

The District of Columbia's Debt—A Statement Contradicted by the Books.

Special to the Boston Herald.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—The Associated Press, having sent hence a statement to show that the debt of the District of Columbia did not exceed ten millions, the amount authorized under the organic act, the books have been examined, and the whole debt is shown to be over $17,000,000. A detailed exhibit is published today. The answer to this exhibit will be that many of these items are in a funded shape, and should not be estimated as a debt, but such argument is as empty as it would be for a business man to refuse to count his promissory note among his liabilities because it has a long time to run; and yet with all this debt at least one-third of the contemplated improvements are yet to be made.

In view of these facts the *Sunday Chronicle* asks, "What are we going to do about it?" and says: "No sane man will admit that the taxable property of this District can bear the burden of a debt of $25,000,000, as it will reach this figure before we get through, and at the same time carry on the present system of government. Our only hopes for Congress either to assume the whole or at least one-half of our debt, and in future to assume the expenses of the District over and above what is realized by a tax of $1.50 per $100 on taxable property. As a step toward this reform, let the present Government be wiped out, or, if the people are to govern, let all the officers be elected, and not humbug us with the miserable farce with which we are afflicted at present, which, from its very origin, has been the source of profligacy and expense largely in excess of the expenditures of many of the State Governments of the country."

When it is remembered that the above comes from a paper that has until recently given an unqualified support to our present Government, the people outside of this District may obtain some idea of the desperate condition of the District financially. The people everywhere are interested in this question, because Congress will certainly be appealed to next winter again for aid. It remains to be seen whether the Congressmen who come here under a dense cloud of reprobation on account of the salary steal will dare to make so large an appropriation as will be asked for, and at the same time permit the District government to be run as at present.

HENRY WILSON'S ILLNESS.

Matt. Carpenter, Brevet President of the United States—The Press Bastile.

Correspondence of the Chicago Journal.

WASHINGTON, July 29.—Dean Swift's sad confession that he was dying a-top is very suggestive of the brain-workers of our time. From an intimate friend of the Vice-President I learn the full truth about his health. Mr. Wilson is in a very critical condition. His labors in the Presidential campaign, as is known, were very great. He spoke and travelled constantly, without interruption, and when the issue was known he was very much worried. After the election he frequently remarked to his friends that he never felt such fatigue of mind in his whole life. It is possible, too, that he thought that his services were not fully appreciated by the members of his party. At all events it is quite certain that at times he was annoyed that he did not personally receive greater public consideration at the hands of the leaders of the party. He had not recovered from his fatigue and this annoyance when Congress convened.

His duties as Vice-President were practically new to him. Although it has been the ambition of Mr. Wilson's life to become Vice-President, he has not had experience in presiding. Mr. Wilson is quite nervous in this particular, and in the interim between his election and the assembling of Congress devoted himself to the serious study of parliamentary law and rules. He has hardly taken his seat when his nervousness was increased by the Credit Mobilier investigation. It is known that the incidental mention of his name in that connection gave him great annoyance. Besides the fact that his own name was mentioned in connection with the matter, he was often heard to remark that the nation and the party seemed to have fallen upon evil days, and he exhibited much anxiety on this account. This new cause of agitation, added to his fatigue from the campaign and to his worry in his new office, gave a shock to his system which was utterly nothing, the preparation for the shock that was to come. The blow fell, as it now so frequently and terribly falls. It has left Mr. Wilson almost a wreck. There is no doubt about it. He has had a very serious paralytic stroke. The stroke has been so severe as at present to disfigure his face. His mouth is drawn somewhat to one side, and his left eye slightly protrudes from the socket. He is in such feeble condition that his physicians have not yet commenced to treat him for his paralysis. His present treatment is designed to invigorate his system so that he may be prepared to endure the more severe treatment to which he must soon be subjected. He is under the constant care of his physicians, and the disposition of nearly every hour of his time is provided for by them. He is forbidden all mental toil and all exciting exertion. He is kept upon a careful diet, and is obliged to ride a certain number of hours each day, and to retire at a stated time every night. When he shall have sufficiently recovered, it is now the intention to make some operation at the base of the brain, by means of a seton, as the only possible cure for his disorder. The physicians have concluded that he has a blood-clot on the brain. His physicians say that they have hope that his general health will soon be in such a condition as to permit of this radical treatment for paralysis. They also hope, and tell him, that he will be able to be present in his seat in the Senate at the opening of Congress. It is, however, feared by those most familiar with the matter that these hopes are vain hopes. It now seems hardly possible, without a miracle, that Henry Wilson can take his seat next winter. Indeed, the anxiety of his most intimate friends is still so great that the gravest apprehension exists concerning his ultimate recovery.

There is now little doubt that Matt. H. Carpenter will preside over the Senate next winter in his capacity as President pro tempore. Mr. Carpenter has many excellent qualities for this office, and is a much better parliamentarian than Henry Wilson. Matt. Carpenter is courteous, quick, attentive, and impartial, and as presiding officer will doubtless facilitate the business of the country with as much ability as any of the Senators as Henry Wilson. This will be the first time in many years that the West has had a permanent presiding officer. Senator Anthony of Rhode Island has filled the office as President pro tem. for a very long period. Last winter, at a caucus, it was decided that the next office should be given to the West. The choice lay between Senator Ferry, the new Senator from Michigan, and Matt. Carpenter. Mr. Ferry is a most excellent presiding officer, having learned the intricacies of parliamentary domination during his service as presiding officer in the Michigan Legislature. It was, however, known that Matt. Carpenter much desired the place, and it was finally determined that it should be given to Mr. Carpenter, while Mr. Ferry should receive the chairmanship of an important committee.

So Senator Carpenter became Vice-President pro tempore, and Mr. Ferry was made Chairman of the Press Committee. This is a new, mysterious committee which is to regulate the press and correspondents, and to keep them within bounds that the distinguished Senators consider proper. E. B. W.

THE ATTEMPTED OUTRAGE.

From the San Francisco Bulletin.

The decision of Judge Blatchford of New York in what has now become famous as the Dana libel suit, becomes important as setting a precedent in vindication of the right to trial by jury, as guaranteed under the Constitution.

From the Wheeling Press.

The Administration has totally failed in its attempt to perpetrate a crime worthy of either a Russian or Prussian despotism. It was no other than a conspiracy to muzzle the press of the country and prevent criticism on the plundering rings that have had their headquarters at Washington.

Dangers of Mountain Climbing—A Thrilling Incident.

From the Manchester Courier.

A party of sixteen set off from Chillon to make the ascent of the Rocher du Nave. After experiencing some difficulty from blinding mist and hailstones the summit was reached, and at about 2 o'clock the descent was begun. There were no guides. Several of the party knew the mountain well, and, though they had not been up this season, it was decided that a different route should be taken homeward by Glion. First came a long steep slope of snow, soft on one side, but like a sheet of ice on the other; then a small ledge of rock about a foot and a half in width, with another slope of loose stones below terminating in a precipice, going down some thousand feet into the valley of Montreux. Mr. Frederick Close, eighteen years of age (brother to the two Closes who have made the name famous in connection with the successful rowing at Cambridge), was descending merrily with a companion on soft snow, and was within a few yards of the ledge of rock when, above them, they say an American boy, twelve years old, coming down the ice-slide head foremost at a fearful rate. Mr. Close immediately rushed forward, and by an energetic spring just caught the child as he was falling from the ledge of rock, and saved him from a fearful upset. Scarcely had Mr. Close returned to his companion's side when there came cries of "Save her, Close, save her," and looking toward the ice slide, he saw a Russian girl, of no light weight, rolling down. Again Mr. Close sprang forward and planting himself as firmly as possible awaited her. She came with a tremendous force, having already been falling some distance, that she knocked him off his feet, and they went down together; after a moment of fearful su