

# Iron County Register

BY ELI D. AKE.  
IRONTON, MISSOURI

## NEWS AND NOTES.

### A Summary of Important Events.

**THE British House of Commons** on the 9th voted—232 to 65—to exclude Bradlaugh, should he again claim his seat.

**THE Pensacola (Fla.) Board of Health** has decreed that infected vessels arriving at that port must remain at quarantine till frost.

**A TURCO-AMERICAN Commission** has been appointed to consider the establishment of a petroleum depot at Constantinople.

**A RECENT cablegram** announces that a cattle plague in Egypt has caused the death of ninety per cent. of the cattle attacked.

**THE issue of standard silver dollars** from the Mints for the week ended July 7 were \$283,500; corresponding period last year, \$281,423.

**THE New Hampshire Legislature**, which has been for several weeks trying to elect a United States Senator, had no quorum on the 9th in either house.

**THE City Council of Mound City, Ill.**, has offered \$200 reward for the arrest and conviction of the leaders of the mob who lynched Howard in that city recently.

**EIGHTY-EIGHT persons** died from cholera at Damietta, Egypt, on the 8th, sixty-four at Mansurah, nine at Samanud, seven at Shirhin and one at Alexandria.

**THE Surgeon-General of the Marine Hospital Service** at Washington received advice on the 9th that the Norwegian bark Vega was at Ship Island with yellow fever on board.

**IN the French Chamber of Deputies** on the 9th a motion that amnesty be granted persons who took part in the Paris and Montecarlo Mines riots was rejected—304 to 88.

**LITTA**, the famous prima donna, died at the residence of her mother, Mrs. Van Elsner, at Bloomington, Ill., on the 8th, of cerebrospinal meningitis, superinduced by over exertion.

**THE Attorney-General at Washington** rules that the shipment of whiskey to Bermuda, with a view to avoid duty payments, is not an exportation within the view of the law.

**CHOLERA** had broken out at Swatow, China, on the 9th, and was raging violently. In Egypt its ravages continued. Another death had occurred at Alexandria and the Khedive meditated flight to Naples.

**A RECENT storm** did great damage in various sections about Lancaster, Pa., to the growing crops. The corn and oat fields were beaten level with the ground, and tobacco fields were badly washed, necessitating replanting in many cases.

**THE Mississippi Independents** held their State Convention at Jackson on the 4th. The platform favors a free ballot and a fair count, demands legislative supervision of railroads and indorses the Southern policy of President Arthur.

**ADVICES from Venezuela** on the 9th stated that locusts were making havoc in many parts of the country. In one night all the vegetation in the neighborhood of Moron was destroyed. It was feared they would soon reach the fertile valleys of Caracas.

**REV. ARTHUR RITCHIE**, the Chicago (Ill.) Episcopalian pastor, whose high church tendencies have lately caused so much controversy, the other day announced that requiem mass would be said for the repose of the soul of a man who was drowned a month ago. About half his congregation left the church.

**IN New York**, on the 4th, the Continental Guards, of Charleston, S. C., helped the veterans of 1812 to raise the stars and stripes at the Battery. The cadets of the Military Institute of Virginia were received by President Arthur at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, and returned a flag captured from the 16th New York Regiment.

**NINETY-SIX deaths** were reported to have occurred from cholera at Damietta, Egypt, on the 7th, forty-eight at Mansurah, six at Sherbin, six at Samanud, and one at Alexandria. Several cases had occurred among the gendarmes forming cordons around the infected districts and fresh cordons around old and infected ones had become necessary.

**THE platform** adopted by the National anti-Monopoly Convention, which closed a two days' session at Chicago, Ill., on the 5th, calls for abolition of the national banking law, establishment of the postal telegraph and saving bank systems, a graduated income tax, and restriction of congressional taxation to necessary expenses, and denounces gambling in the necessities of life.

**THE business failures** throughout the country for the seven days ended on the 6th numbered 130, which was considerably below the average of the past ten weeks. There had been few important failures anywhere, and none in New York City to specially note. The New England States had 10; Western, 50; Middle, 18; Southern, 24; Pacific States and Territories, 13; New York City, 7; Canada, 10.

**CABLEGRAMS from Dublin**, Ireland, on the 8th stated that four men had been convicted at the Sligo Assizes of conspiracy to murder. Two informers testified that the prisoners had made an attempt to blow up the Weston House, Galway, under orders of the South Carolina, under orders of the White Sulphur Springs, Va., on the 7th.

**A FEW days ago** George Ayres, a murderous maniac near Salem, O., set his house and barn on fire, killed his grandson, committed suicide and was consumed in the barn.

**THERE were nine cases** of sunstroke during the forenoon of the 7th in New York and ten in Brooklyn.

**TWO ladies were drowned** in the Patuxco River, near Baltimore, Md., the other day, by the upsetting of a boat.

**AUGUST EHLERS and child** were killed by the fall of a tree blown down by a recent tornado near Albany, N. Y.

### PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

At a dance in Russellville, Ky., the other night four men were shot.

**WHILE two thousand citizens** of Goodland, Ind., stood in the park listening to the Fourth of July oration, a liberty pole beside them was shivered to fragments by lightning, but no one was injured.

**A STREET-CAR** in Brooklyn, N. Y., was struck by a train on the Manhattan Beach Road, the other day, killing a woman and injuring the driver.

**ANNOUNCEMENT** was made on the 5th of the death of Archbishop John Baptist Purcell, which occurred the night before at St. Martins, O.

**THE commission house** of Whitcomb & Kendall, of Chicago, Ill., was the other day closed on an attachment by Philip D. Armour. The liabilities of the bankrupts was about \$100,000.

**H. MIAS**, a merchant of Benivides, Tex., recently ejected from his store a Mexican named Vela. The other night, at a fair, Vela revenged himself by killing the merchant.

**SARGENT & NICHOLS'** ice-houses, seven in number, at Lake Henticket, near Haverhill, Mass., were destroyed by fire a few nights ago.

**A PRISONER** at Copenhagen has confessed to setting the Victoria docks, London, on fire, in 1881.

**THE report** came by way of Australia on the 6th that the French had hoisted their standard on the New Hebrides.

**A TORNADO** blew down trees, houses and barns near Albany, N. Y., on the evening of the 5th.

**JOHN CONE** was legally executed in the jail yard at Houston, Tex., on the 6th for an assault on Mrs. Scott, in January, 1882.

**IT is charged** that the Jews on trial for murdering a girl whose blood was to be used in some of their religious ceremonies at Nyireghyaza, Hungary, have been subjected to horrible tortures by the authorities.

**LIGHTNING** set a mill on fire at Amesbury, Mass., the other night and it was burned to the ground, causing a loss of \$100,000 and throwing two hundred operatives out of employment.

**A DISASTEROUS fire** occurred at Evansville, Minn., the other day in which twenty-six buildings were destroyed, the loss being about \$150,000.

**By the capsizing** of a pleasure boat off Staten Island, N. Y., the other day three men were drowned.

**NELSON HOWARD**, a negro, was lynched at Mound City, Ill., on the 6th. Howard had killed John Kane, a bridge builder, on a Wabash train at Mound City on the night of the Fourth.

**GOVERNOR BARSTOW**, of Vermont, called out five companies of militia on the 6th to suppress a labor riot at Ely. The strikers had one hundred and fifty kegs of powder with which they threatened to blow up the town.

**AT Berlin**, Germany, a woman stricken with hopeless poverty the other day set fire to her house and cut the throat of herself and two children.

**GRIMSLEY**, the aeronaut, who made an ascension from Honesdale, Pa., July 4, landed on the Catskill Mountains in a severe storm.

**DR. CHARLES E. FRENCH**, in jail at Erie, Pa., under sentence of criminal malpractice, was on the 6th discovered to have been for years engaged in body-snatching. Apparatus for grave-robbing had been found in his house.

**EDWARD MARTININO**, a bank clerk, who embezzled \$90,000 lines in Turin, Italy, has been arrested in New York.

**SEVEN hundred barrels** of alcohol were consumed in a warehouse, which was struck by lightning, at Atlantic, Io., a few days ago.

**IN a collision with British troops** in Assam, the other day, fifty natives were killed.

**THE Postmaster-General** has rendered a decision excluding all lottery companies from aid by the mails.

**A SECTION of Cole's circus** met with a railway disaster in Minnesota the other day. Four cars were wrecked, and Assistant Manager Hart had two ribs broken.

**HENRY SEAGER**, while stopping at a Des Moines, Io., hotel, became deranged the other day, broke up the furniture in several rooms, climbed out on the roof and shot himself in the head.

**TWO parties** it is said will soon be sent from Washington to make topographical and geological surveys of Yellowstone Park. The President will visit the park in August.

**THE Bethlehem Iron Works**, Allentown, Pa., shut down on the 7th, throwing over three thousand men out of employment.

**THE Vermont troops** called out to suppress the riot at Ely met with no resistance. The condition of the unpaid workmen was described as deplorable. Order was fully restored on the 8th and all the militia were withdrawn.

**TWELVE Bishops** were absent from the meeting of the Catholic hierarchy at Dublin, Ireland, on the 7th, which adopted resolutions denouncing State aided emigration.

**STORMS** carried away bridges on the Mexican Central Railroad to the value of \$200,000 a few days ago, and would delay completion of a section of the road six weeks.

**THE proceedings of a masked crowd** about to hang a negro at Mt. Sterling, Ky., on the 7th were interfered with by the Town Marshall, who persuaded the mob to give up the prisoner.

**WASHINGTON** and Aaron Detwiler, two wealthy physicians of Reading, Pa., were drowned the other night while bathing.

**SEVERAL lives** were lost the other day by a collision on the New York & New Haven Railroad, near Woonsocket, R. I.

**THE Press Associations** of North and South Carolina were holding a reunion at White Sulphur Springs, Va., on the 7th.

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### MARSHAL HENSLEY and Deputy Ben Bagley, of Greensburg, Ky., were fatally shot while attempting to arrest James Owen a few nights ago.

Owen had gathered a party of friends at his house, and when the Marshal's posse arrived they opened fire on them. About fifty shots were exchanged. At Plaquemine, La., Robert Duggan was shot and killed by Tim Benton, a negro fugitive whom he was assisting an officer to arrest.

**IT is reported** that one hundred French Anarchists have pledged themselves to murder the jurymen who convicted Louise Michel at Paris recently.

**THE Italians** were so alarmed about cholera on the 8th that they refused to let the India mail for England be landed for transfer.

**ON the 8th seven deaths** from sun strokes occurred at Philadelphia, Pa.

**THE State Work-house** at Bridgewater, Mass., was burned on the night of the 7th and new quarters had to be provided for six hundred inmates. On the 8th a negro convict named Gilmore was arrested and confessed to having set the place on fire.

**A REPORT** was in circulation at Cincinnati, O., on the 8th that a clerk in the employ of H. Feder & Co. had absconded with \$8,000 of the firm's money.

**A. H. ROWLAND**, Clerk of the County Court at Pittsburgh, Pa., has been indicted for misdemeanor on office.

**AN ex-policeman** was shot at Milwaukee, Wis., the other night while breaking into a room for the purpose of robbery.

**THE Treasury Department** it is said has been informed that a large number of "assisted" pauper immigrants are coming into the United States through Canada.

**FIRES** forest fires were reported on the 9th to have destroyed \$200,000 worth of property in Oregon.

**CHIEF MOSES** and other Indians from Columbia and Colville reservations have signed an agreement at Washington relinquishing their old reservation.

**FRANCIS B. WEBSTER**, of Cambridge, Mass., was arrested the other day, charged with swindling the Atlas Gold and Silver Mining Company, New Mexico, out of \$60,000. He was committed in default of \$15,000 bail.

**A JERSEY CITY (N. J.) burglar** seriously wounded two policemen the other night before he was himself fatally shot.

**AT Erie, Pa.**, the other day a girl of seven years was shot by a boy of six who got hold of a revolver.

**CUSTOMS and internal revenue** receipts of the United States increased \$540,709 the first week in July compared with the last week in June.

**GUITEAU's sister** has brought action at Chicago, Ill., asking that her divorced husband, George Scoville, be restrained from visiting her and defrauding her of property.

**IN a collision** on the New England Railroad the other day, caused by the carelessness of a telegraph operator, Engineer George Knickerbocker was killed at his post, after reversing his engine, another man was hurled over the telegraph wires and killed, and several others were more or less seriously wounded.

**AT Creston, Iowa**, the other evening, during an exhibition of fireworks postponed from the Fourth, a mass of rockets accidentally ignited. Several of them penetrated a plate-glass window in a store, killing a lad named Mackie and burning or cutting three other persons.

**A DESTRUCTIVE fire** occurred at Lysee, France, the other day and many buildings, including the Chapel, were burned.

**NEAR Coalton, O.**, the other day a man named Adam Young fell down a coal-shaft a distance of one hundred feet with a coal-car and was instantly killed.

**An embankment** caved in at Exeter, N. H., a few days ago and killed three men.

### CONDENSED TELEGRAMS.

**AT Damietta, Egypt**, on the 10th there occurred forty-nine deaths from cholera; at Samanud, seventeen; at Mansurah, one hundred and one. Fifty Europeans had died at Damietta from cholera since the outbreak of the disease.

**THE Internal Revenue Commissioner** demands that dealers who sell "Rock and Rye" must take out a license as liquor dealers.

**THE French Foreign Minister** said on the 10th that France would only occupy the Tonquin delta. Reports of Chinese interference were unfounded.

**A TRAIN** went through a bridge on the Jackson & Natchez Road, near Natchez, Miss., the other day, killing the conductor and injuring six passengers.

**A LOT of prisoners**, including a murderer, escaped from the lock-up at Phoenixville, Pa., a few days ago by tunnelling through the wall.

**J. J. ALLEY**, a clerk in the Pension Bureau at Washington, and a pension agent named J. C. Aellmet were arrested the other day on a charge of defrauding pensioners.

**THE Treasury Department** at Washington in two days, the 9th and 10th, issued warrants for \$14,000,000 on account of pensions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1884.

**THE prefect of Alexandria, Egypt**, at the time of the riots last summer, has been sentenced to seven years' imprisonment for neglecting his duty and conniving at the riots.

**ONLY half** the railroad coal operators in the Pittsburg (Pa.) district had accepted the award of the trade tribunal on the 10th, and a renewal of the strike was feared.

**A COMMITTEE** of the British House of Lords submitted a report, on the 10th, severely criticizing the workings of the Irish land act.

**TWO men were arrested** at Schenectady, N. Y., the other day, charged with wrecking a train near Watervliet five years ago.

**NINE Chinamen**, smuggled across the line from British Columbia, were arrested in Washington Territory a few days ago, and were to be sent back.

**A PACK-TRAIN** of 180 animals was being fitted out on the 10th to carry supplies for President Arthur and General Sheridan in their Yellowstone expedition.

**THREE children** were suffocated in a burning dwelling at Milwaukee, Wis., the other morning. The parents and four other children had narrow escapes.

**DURING** the third quarter of the last fiscal year the receipts of the Post-office Department were \$1,119,877 greater than the expenditures. For the nine months ended March 30 the surplus was \$2,509,442.

### MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

#### The Finances.

The following extract from the report of the transactions of the State Treasury of Missouri for the month ended June 30, 1883, shows the balances in the various funds July 1, and where the same are held and deposited:

State interest fund.....	\$167,570 82
State school fund.....	227 14
State school moneys.....	22,081 65
State seminary fund.....	2,456 83
Executors and administrators fund.....	35 08
Redemption of land fund.....	9 58
Insurance department fund.....	2,620 85
Road and canal fund.....	25 76
Militia fund.....	1,346 01
Swamp land indemnity.....	1,672 63
Total.....	\$206,948 79

The above balance is held and deposited as follows:

In Treasurer's vault..... \$ 22 182 00  
In Bank of Commerce, St. Louis..... 494,766 70

#### The License Question.

The State Auditor has addressed the following letter to A. Cummins, Esq., County Clerk of Vernon County, on the subject of wine and beer licenses under the high-license law now in force:

**CITY OF JEFFERSON, Mo., July 6, 1883.**  
A. Cummins, Esq., County Clerk Vernon County.  
Sir—I am in receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., in relation to the license tax to be paid by wine and beer-keepers. Chapter 28, Revised Statutes, is amended by the act of March 24, 1883, only in so far as its provisions relate to the license tax to be paid by wine and beer-keepers. The license tax is now \$6.00, as to the license tax to be levied for county purposes, is repealed by the act of March 24, 1883, so far as it pertains to dram-shop keepers, but remains in force as to wine and beer-keepers.

Your obedient servant,  
JOHN WALKER,  
State Auditor.

According to this view of the matter, the tax for State purposes on wine and beer-keepers is not less than \$10 nor more than \$25 per annum, as provided by section 5,465, R.S.; and under section 6,504, R.S., a license tax not exceeding 100 per centum of the tax fixed for State purposes can be levied by counties for county purposes.

#### Miscellaneous Items.

**General Sherman's house** on Garrison and Belle avenues, St. Louis, is being refitted and renovated for occupation by the General's family, and will be ready on the 1st of October. The center portion has been torn down with a view of transforming it into a large dining-hall, with bay windows on both sides and a veranda on the south side. The old portico in front has been taken down and will be replaced by a larger and finer one, giving an imposing entrance. A third story will be added to the entire rear building for several quarters, and other necessary improvements will be made as taste and convenience will suggest.

**War** has been declared on all campers inside the city limits of Kansas City, and over twenty-five heads of families living in tents in the southwestern part of the city were recently arrested and marched to the police station. On account of their poverty no formal complaint was lodged against them, but they were notified to immediately fold their tents and move. The action was inspired by the complaints of residents of that portion of the city, and was made for sanitary reasons.

**Miss Skinner**, a maiden lady from Camden Point, Platte County, where she is highly connected, was taken to St. Joseph the other day and admitted to the State Insane Asylum.

**The Ford boys' pistols** came into prominence again the other night, when George Wampee, a bartender at Kansas City, shot and killed a teamster named Webster. The pistol had been left in the saloon by Charlie Ford, and the bartender claimed he did not know it was loaded, and thought to snap it at Webster for fun.

**Emmett Jones**, the negro under sentence of death at St. Louis, for the murder of Antoine Valle, a steamboat mate, has been granted a stay of execution by the Supreme Court. He was to have been hanged July 22.

**A thirteen-year-old son** of Christopher Missman, of Chillicothe, was drowned while bathing in one of the many sloughs adjacent to Grand River a few days ago.

**The jury in the case of John Vanzant**, colored, indicted at Independence for murder in the first degree, brought in a verdict of guilty the other night. Vanzant shot a colored waiter named Parker Armstrong at Independence on April 22. The men quitted over a game of cards. The court refused to entertain a motion for a new trial, and the date of the execution of Vanzant has not yet been fixed.

**A petition** was recently filed in the United States Circuit Court at Kansas City by Mary Stevenson, who claimed \$5,000 damages against the Chicago & Alton Railway Company. She states that her husband, Charles Stevenson, was on February 27, killed by the cars of the defendant. At the time the accident occurred Charles Stevenson was unloading grain from a car at the Alton elevator.

**James W. Graham** had his stable at Mayview burned by lightning a short time ago. He had not left the stable more than thirty minutes when the bolt struck, killing seven hogs in the stall where he had been standing. He had about two tons of new hay and forty-five bushels of corn in the stable, all of which burned.

**A car-load** of toothpicks from Dixfield Factory left Canton Station, Mo., the other day for St. Louis.

**The receipts of live stock** at Kansas City for the month of June were: Cattle, 2,358; hogs, 169,589; sheep, 11,686; horses, 2,592; in all, 3,342 car-loads. The shipments East were: Cattle, 29,216; hogs, 22,554; sheep, 6,912; horses, 1,120; car-loads, 1,522. It will be noted that not quite one-half of the receipts were shipped eastward. Six thousand head of cattle and 93,000 hogs were packed in Kansas City during the month.

**Charleston** has ripe peaches.

**A bold thief** made an attempt to rob a messenger of the German-American Bank of \$2,000 in broad daylight at St. Louis, the other day, but was defeated in his purpose.

**Jimmy Edwards**, aged nine years, the youngest son of Senator E. M. Edwards, was recently drowned in the Missouri River near Waverly, La Fayette County. In company with his elder brother, aged twelve years, and one other boy, he was on the ferry-boat attempting to catch floating wood, when he lost his balance, and falling overboard was drowned at once.

**Complaints of damage** to corn by gophers come from various sections.

### HIGH LICENSE.

The following is the full text of the opinion of the Supreme Court declaring the Downing high-license law constitutional:

The State has the right in the exercise of its police power to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors without a license. [Austin vs. State, 10 Mo., 291; State vs. Lecky, 13 Mo., 389; State vs. Searecy, 20 Mo., 489.] The license fee exacted by the general law regulating dram-shops and the act amendatory thereof, approved March 24, 1883, is not a tax within the meaning of sections 1, 3 and 10 of article 10 of the Constitution, but is a price paid for the privilege of doing a thing, the doing of which the Legislature has a right to prohibit altogether. Such laws are regarded as "police regulations established by the Legislature for the prevention of intemperance, pauperism, crime, and for the abatement of nuisances," and are not regarded as an exercise of the taxing power. Pursuits that are pernicious or detrimental to public morals may be prohibited altogether or licensed for a compensation to the public. (Cooly on Constitutional Limitation, fourth section, 277; Burwell et al. vs. Meyer, 30, 42 Georgia, 308; Bohley vs. Schneider, 49 Georgia, 195; Chelvers vs. The People, 11 Michigan, 43; People vs. Thayer, 13 Illinois, 534; East St. Louis vs. Trustees of Schools, 102 Illinois, 189, and cases cited; Henry vs. State, 35 Arkansas, 323; Lee et al. vs. State, 35 Ohio, 229.) Many lines, penalties and forfeitures become a part of the public revenue of this State that are not derived from taxation. The disposition made of the fund derived from license fees does not necessarily determine the character of such fees. The legislative assembly is a duly organized body and the taxation of a large license fee would tend to diminish the number of saloons and improve the character of those licensed and thereby secure to a greater degree compliance with all the regulations and restrictions which are lawfully thrown about such resorts. We are of opinion, therefore, that the act of March 24, 1883, is not unconstitutional.

We are further of the opinion that section 5,411, as amended by the act of March 24, 1883, is applicable to the city of St. Louis. It is said by this court in the case of the State ex rel. Attorney-General vs. McKee, 60 Mo., 508, decided at the April term, 1874, that a general law with reference to the counties of the State would not apply to the city of St. Louis, but it is provided by section 3,272 of the Revised Statutes, which took effect in November, 1879, that "whenever the word county is used in any law general in its character to the whole State the same shall be construed to include the city of St. Louis, unless such construction be inconsistent with the evident intent of such law or of some law specially applicable to such city." We think it was the obvious purpose of the act of March 24, 1883, to increase the license for the sale of intoxicating liquors throughout the State, and it is not, therefore, inconsistent with the evident intent of the act to declare it applicable to the city of St. Louis. The only law on that subject applicable to the city of St. Louis is its charter, which authorizes it to license, tax, regulate or suppress saloons, beer-houses, tipping-houses, dram-shops, etc., but the charter does not fix the amount of the license fee to be levied, and the law in question, which limits the amount thereof, is therefore not in conflict with the charter, but consistent with and supplementary thereto. It follows that the ordinance passed in pursuance of the charter, fixing the amount of the license fee, is not repealed by the act of 1883, which prescribes a limitation as to the amount to be charged in the city of St. Louis and in the counties of the several counties in this State, to fix the amount of license fee to be charged under said act, within the limits prescribed, and until such action is taken by said municipal assembly and said county courts, no collector has a right to issue a license to any person as a dram-shop keeper. As it does not appear from the agreed statement on which this cause has been submitted that the municipal assembly has ever fixed the amount of license fee to be charged in the city of St. Louis, the Collector has no right to issue a license, and the peremptory writ of mandamus will therefore be refused. Judges Norton and Sherwood did not sit, being absent.

#### Two Queer Cranks.

The figure of a man dodging in and out among the throng of Kearny street promenaders arrested general attention the other day. The explanation of his erratic movements is that he is a crank whose hallucination is that he is made of glass. He is in perpetual dread that some one will rudely shatter him to pieces before he can get to the vicinity of a cement shop.

A little, old, dried-up man, with a furtive eye, was standing on Montgomery street at noonday recently surrounded by a crowd. He had something concealed under his coat. A couple of ill-mannered boys were trying to expose it. He made an effort and escaped into a broker's shop. A reporter followed him.

"Do you buy diamonds?" he inquired, anxiously.

"Certainly," was the clerk's brief answer. "Where are they?"

The man pulled his treasure from his breast, and unrolling a red cotton handkerchief, exposed a lump of quartz crystal as big as a bassalt block.

"How much do you want for it?" asked the clerk in all gravity.

"A million dollars!" was the reply. The clerk gasped for breath. He had expected to hear a demand in the thousands. "Can't purchase till we test," he said, however, and seizing a hammer, he knocked a section of the gem the size of a half-pound slice of cheese.

Its owner looked a little disheartened, but he picked up the fragments and pocketed it. "We don't want to-day, but I can put you onto a buyer," said the clerk.

"I've got some more a little cheaper," interrupted the man. He had one for \$500,000, two for \$250,000 each, and a bundle that he would part with for \$175,000.

"Well, we've got a stock," said the clerk, "but you go over here to the Union Club and ask for Jim Flood. Don't let 'em turn you away. Insist on seeing him. He's got a mania for diamonds and will buy anything. He'll probably refuse to talk with you, so he'll cheapen the stone when he ultimately does buy. Just buttonhole him and shake that jewel in his face and he'll dazzle him so that he will buy it in a minute. And say," he shouted, as the seller hurried off, "don't you know you're takin' desperate chances luggin' that much wealth around this town? Why, there's fellers here'd take yer life for half what you value that at."

The diamond man was thrown down, the club stairs nine times that afternoon and three times the next day. Then he was directed to the Pacific Club, to a member of the Board of Supervisors who is fond of ornamentation, and to the various hotel cler