Weekly Times

THURSDAY JANUARY 9, 1879.

RESUMED.

The Barton county *Tribune* "resumed" on the 1st, and came out with a gold head.

PROLITIC.

There are living within five miles of Clyde, in Cloud county, seven French families that have, all told, one hundred children, one family alone having twenty-four. Who doubts that by 1880 the population of Kansas will reach 1,000,000.

AN OPINION OF GEORGE T.

The Winfield Daily *Telegram*, in a review of the senatorial situation, says:

Anthony is a fraud and a cheeky one, at that. As cold-blooded as the present winter, he is selfish and knows no one but self and no interest but his own. He would only serve the State when by so doing he could serve himself. So he should step down and out.

THE TRADE DOLLAR.

The trade dollar, besides being robbed of its legal tender qualities in this country, has met with even a worse fate in China. It is said that large quantities of these coins have been so much mutilated and defaced by Chinese merchants that they are undesirable as currency, and if returned to the United States would have to be disposed of as bullion.

IT IS ALL RIGHT.

The great social problem, which for a time agitated Washington society, from centre to circumference, is well nigh settled. Mrs. Senator Bruce kept open house on New Year's day and all the best men in the city called on her. This has broken the ice, and it is supposed the ladies of the capital will now recognize her, and the long agony will be ended.

DO YOU WANT TO GO.

Do you want to go to California, "where they never have any cold weather?" Read this item from the San Francisco *Bulletin*, and see if you do. It would puzzle you a good deal to distinguish any difference between their weather and our's, according to this:

The Trinity *Journal* says: The month of December, 1878, has been the coldest ever known in the county, it having frozen hard every night during the month. The thermometer on Friday morning, 27th, marked 11 degree below zero.

NEW YORK'S EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

Thirty million seven thousand and ninety-eight dollars will be required to pay the bills of New York City during 1879. This sum is $1,000,000 less than was asked for, but only $100,000 less than the amount appropriated last year. The heaviest account is $8,790,753, for interest on the city debt, created by successive Democratic administrations. The next heaviest accounts are the police fund, $4,048,100, and the school fund, $3,400,000. The college of the City of New York costs $140,000, and $30,000 are appropriated for the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The combination ticket elected last fall is pledged to reduction of the city's expenses.

SMALL NOTES.

The discontinuance of the issue of notes under $5 to the national banks will work a scarcity which will put the business of the country to great inconvenience. Small notes are more a necessity than large; for large sums are usually transferred by checks, whereas small sums can not be transferred in large notes. A very extensive trade has grown up through the mails, which wants small notes for remittances, and ought also to be supplied with fractional notes. Newspaper publishers in particular want small notes for the remittances of their agents all over their field, and for single subscribers. The Cincinnati *Gazette*, in an editorial upon this subject, says:

Should the currency be made for the convenience of the people or for the convenience of government? The object of this war on small notes is to force the people to hate silver dollars. The financial phrase is "to absorb" silver. The object is to get it out where it will not come back into the Treasury for duties. This shows that the government is afraid of its silver dollars, and wants to relieve itself by depriving the people of small notes. But all this forcing process discredits the silver dollars, and sends them out with a bad name, as a disease which the Treasury wants to put away as far as possible. And this will defeat the purpose, and make the people avoid this coin as the government does.

THE INDIAN DISCUSSION.

The New York *Times* is of the opinion that General Sheridan has not won a very oppressive weight of laurels in his discussion of Indian affairs with Secretary Schurz; on the contrary, it seems to think that he has been decidedly worsted, and has taken a contract that he has not prepared to fill. The *Times* says:

Gen. Sheridan, it must be admitted, does not shine in controversy. His "supplementary report," made in answer to Secretary Schurz's demand that he should substantiate his charges against the Indian bureau management, is a rambling and inconclusive document. In his original report, Gen. Sheridan said that the Indian border troubles were due to a want of sufficient appropriations, or to "the wretched mismanagement" of the Indian Department. As he subsequently added that "the amounts appropriated by Congress ought to be sufficient," it necessarily followed that the General meant to charge that "the wretched mismanagement" was the real cause of the difficulties. And the General cannot escape the imputation of having been indiscreet and reckless in his charges by now claiming that these sweeping remarks were intended only for the eye of his superior officer, Gen. Sherman. It is very doubtful if an officer in any department of the Government has any right to go out of his own sphere of duty to criticise the doings of another department of the Government. Even civilians have some rights which an eminent military man is bound to respect. And Gen. Sheridan, in his "supplementary report," does not seem to realize that he has made charges which he cannot, in the nature of things, make good. The General is betrayed into using some phrases which remind one more of the manners of the camp than of the usages of polite debate. In one place he refers to the Secretary's saying, "disingenuously," that the General had made random charges; and in another place he refers to the secretary's letters demanding proof as being in "insolent tone." And finally, in a fit of petulance, he complains that he will not be "lectured by the honorable Secretary of the Interior." All of this is amusing reading, but the dispute is not only unseemly, but unnecessary. It is evident that General Sheridan blundered in going out of his way to "pitch into" the Indian Bureau, and he now feels obliged to maintain his ground at any cost.

Carrying Too Much Into the U. S. Courts.

[St. Louis Republican, 3.]

In the intricacies of the law there may be some excuse for appealing to the federal courts for the removal of a livery stable nuisance, but it does look, nevertheless, as if that is a matter of which the State ought to have supreme control. We have got so into the habit of late of appealing to the federal authority for aid, that none but the highest legal minds can tell any more just where are the limits and bounds of that authority. The whole business seems to have got into that shape now that the State government is much less independent of the national government than a municipality is independent of a State. The federal legislature and judiciary have arrogated to themselves such unlimited authority that the small figment of states' rights left untouched is too insignificant and unimportant to be thought about.

On to Mexico.

[Cincinnati Gazette, 4.]

The Cincinnati delegation to the Mexican expedition left for the starting point last evening. The movements and observations of the party will be fully reported to the *Gazette*. We wish our friends a pleasant and profitable trip.

THE WORK OF THE SESSION.

The Sterling, Rice county, *Bulletin*, of the 2d inst., reviews the work to come before the Legislature of the State, at its approaching session, and offers the following sensible and timely suggestions. As regards a caucus, there is much difference of opinion, many of the best Republicans in the State holding to the view that it is the only way to get a fair expression of the party sentiment upon the important subjects of the election of Senator and State Printer. The *Bulletin* says:

The Kansas legislature meets on Tuesday, the 14th of this month. A large portion of both houses are old hands, having been in the last or previous legislatures, therefore, they ought to be able to get to work on the business of the session without unnecessary delay. The first business after the organization, will probably be to elect a United States Senator. This ought not to take much time, as Senator Ingalls should be elected on the first ballot. There is considerable talk in the papers of the State about the probability and propriety of the Republicans holding a caucus, something the party has never done before in this State. As the caucus could only relate to the selection of a Senator and officers of the two houses, it matters very little to the people whether there is a caucus or not. The board appointed to revise the laws will report and a careful consideration of this report will occupy much time. The regulation of railroad tariffs should receive careful consideration, and some feasible and just measure should be enacted. If nothing is done at this session it will be two years before any action can be taken and the people will not brook any such delay. There is only fifty days that the session can last, and much work will have to be done in a short time. Every member ought to go to Topeka prepared and determined to attend strictly to the business of the legislature.

A WORD TO EDITORS.

We see items floating around to the effect that an adjourned meeting of the Publishers' Association will be held at Topeka during the coming session of the legislature. In this connection we have a word to say.

It is fair to presume that in adopting the revised statutes a new law will be put on our books regulating the prices of printing; and also as to how public printing shall be let. We would suggest that a meeting of the Publishers' association be held, and that a committee of five of our best members be appointed to draft a law regulating public printing.

We need a law that means what it says; and also one that says what it means, and that can be put into practical operation. We hope some action will be taken in this matter, in order that we may have a concert of action next winter.

Everybody knows that our present law is a failure. We want fair prices for fair work, and nothing more. The present law allows too much pay for some kinds of work, and not enough for other kinds.

We should like to see this matter settled this winter, and if responsible newspaper men will take hold of it, we will have no further trouble regarding public printing.—*Walnut Valley Times.*

The suggestions of the *Times* are good and the editors of the State should see to it that they are carried out. We do not know what provisions will be incorporated in the new code, as it comes from the commissioners, respecting the matters above referred to, and which directly affect the interests of every publisher in the State, but we have heard it reported, upon what we regard as good authority, that certain radical changes will be recommended which, should they become law, would work serious injury to publishers and the public. It stands us in hand to look to our own rights and our own interests, and to see to it, too, that the new code, when adopted, is framed in the interests of the people, and not for the exclusive benefit of the lawyers.

We would suggest that the President of the Association issue a call for a meeting in Topeka, at some early day during the session, in order to appoint committees and to take such other action as may be thought necessary.

All Right—Come Over and Glisten.

[Kansas City Times, 5.]

How dazzlingly would Kansas City—the Kohinoor of western towns—gleam and glisten on the fair bosom of Kansas—the acknowledged Queen of the Great West!

That's What's the Matter.

It is said that between 200 and 300 men and women of St. Louis drink daily from a half to a pint of blood, piping hot from the veins of slaughtered cattle. More blood drinking by consumptive and anæmic people is in September and October than during the remainder of the year. The blood of young animals is best, and it should be caught as it comes from the animal and drank while the foam is still on and the steam rising.—*Chicago Herald.*

We have thought all along that something was wrong with these St. Louis fellows. "Blood of young steers;" "daily from a half to a pint." Indeed! It is enough to make them all "bulldozers," and accounts for their taking so naturally to "horns."—*Chicago Tribune.*

A Commercial Hurricane in Sweden.

[New York Times, 2.]

The commercial hurricane which, suddenly though not altogether unexpectedly has swept down over Stockholm is playing fearful havoc in the business of the city. Many of the largest banking houses have suspended, such as Asp, Berger & Co., Hoglund, Guillemot & Weylandt, &c. In one case, in that of Asp, Berger & Co., great mismanagement and scandalous irregularities have taken place, but else the common cause of all these failures in the general depression of business all over the world, and the scarcity of foreign credit. The worst feature, however, of this crisis is the baneful influence it will exercise on the Swedish industry, between which and the the foreign markets these houses acted as middle-men. Sweden has great natural resources in its forests, mines, powerful streams etc., but it lacks capital, and its industry cannot be carried on without steady advances from other countries. Petre Brothers, probably the greatest iron manufacturers in the country, have already been compelled to stop working. But an industrial crisis means quite another thing in Sweden than in England or America, on account of the peculiar relation which exists there between the employer and the employes. A Swedish *bugs patron*, the owner of vasts tracts of forest and extensive mines, of numerous blast furnaces, rolling mills, etc., lives among the men who work his forests, mines, mills, etc., pretty nearly as, in the Middle Ages, the lord of the castle lived among the villagers settled before the gate. He does not simply pay them the wages on which they subsist, but he builds their cottages, plants trees in their gardens, erects schools for their children, appoints and pays the minister, the physician, the apothecary, preacher, &c., and nearly in every kind of distress the working man looks to the *bugs patron* for relief. The relation, continued through centuries without any appreciable modification, has, of course, completely moulded the character of the Swedish workingman. He is industrious and cunning at his work, kind and joyous in his home, loyal and respectful to his employer, but beyond these three fields or spheres he is not only inexperienced, but ignorant. In an emergency he is entirely unable to shift for himself, and when his master fails, it seems to him that the whole and sole foundation for his own life has given way and he can do nothing but abandon himself to vagabondage and rascality, or sit down with the Prayer-book in his hand and starve to death.

Something that Every Community Needs.

[St. Louis Republican, 5;]

A matter-of-fact cooking school, which promises more good in a practical way than any yet tried in this country, is to be opened to-morrow in New York. It is well-known that bad cooks are the worst of evils in our long list of bad servants, and this school proposes to aim more directly at making good cooks out of servants than out of mistresses. For seventeen cents a "first artisan" course in cooking will be open to servants, in which they will get training in the cooking of the least expensive kinds of foods and the methods of preparing them cheaply and palatably, while a "second artisan's" course will be arranged for those "who wish to improve an economical table without adding to its cost, and are willing to give time and care to the preparation of food in order to accomplish that result." Then there is to be a third course in which young housekeepers just beginning life in comfortable and moderate circumstances may learn the arts and mysteries of the kitchen and the cupboard. Some wealthy and prominent society ladies of New York are interested in the institution, and St. Louis who have the means and the time engaging in a similar enterprising. There is plenty of need for all the good work that can be done in that line.

"IDIOCY."

The Chicago *Times* thinks that communities which give themselves up to the mercy of the tax eaters are not entitled to much sympathy. In commenting upon a passage of the message of the Governor of New York, the *Times* says:

Finding that the number of lunatics has been largely increased in New York lately, the governor of that State, in his annual message, advances the curious theory that the enormous taxation is the cause of the increase of mental derangement. On examining the statistics, the governor finds that the most heavily taxed communities furnish the largest proportion of lunatics; and, by way of assisting in the restoration of the people to sound mental health, he advises reduction of public expenditures. The advice is good enough on general principles; but the idea of a direct connection between taxation and insanity is fanciful and far-fetched. There is obvious lack of common sense in communities which give themselves up to the mercy of the taxeaters, but ther com laint is nearer akin to idiocy than insanity.

THE TAXPAYERS' CONVENTION.

The convention of tax payers of the county at the court house on Monday was composed of representative men. With the exception of two or three individuals from the city, they were fair men. The delegates from the county particularly came to the convention with a purpose, knowing exactly what they wanted and what their constituents were willing to do. They had evidently considered the questions involved and were prepared to act.

The action of the convention was perhaps all that was required at this time.

The resolutions adopted offering thirty, forty five, fifty and ninety per cent. of the market value of the bonds payable in four or five per cent. thirty year bonds, and the recommendation to the County Board not to pay any further interest on bonds bearing an interest greater than six per cent., and not to hereafter levy a tax to pay such exhorbitant interest, about covers the whole question.

A 8920 JUDGE.

Judge H. W. Ide stated in the tax convention on Monday last, that none of the small tax-payers had a right to participate in a meeting held for the purpose of compromising our indebtedness.

He was plainly told by the writer that the small tax-payer, owning a small piece of land with a small house sufficient to shelter wife and children, was as much entitled to a hearing in that convention, and that probably the small tax which he paid was as great a burden for him, as it was for the large-hearted, generous-souled Judge, with county bonds in his pocket, upon which he paid little or no tax.

The County Treasurer's books show that the tax valuation of Judge Ide's property is only $920. With his thousands of dollars of our bonds burning in his pocket, valued at only $920, the Judge talks eloquently, dispassionately and impartially of the obligations of the small tax-payer to pay his bonds in full and urges on the grinding process backed by all the power and influence given him by his former judicial position. Judge Ide, before you assume to be better, purer and holier than your neighbor, tell the assessor to assess your county bonds at the price you demand for them from the "small tax-payer."

IT IS FAIR FOR FAIR MEN.

Resolved, That we recommend the compromising of all county bonds (except the railroad bonds) and all other indebtedness except judgments, at ninety per cent. of the market value of the same on the second day of January, 1879, payable in new thirty year four per cent. interest bonds.

Our report yesterday of the tax-payers meeting erred in saying the above resolution was lost, when in fact it was carried with only one or two dissenting votes, and was so declared adopted by the chairman, Mr. Rush.

We think there is no question as to the equity of settling all our indebtedness upon this basis, to-wit: The present market value of the bonds, payable in new bonds to run thirty years, at not exceeding four per cent. interest.

A settlement on this basis would reduce our indebtedness to one million, but the men, who, like Judge Ide, carry county bonds in their pockets, upon which they pay no tax are always opposed to any fair settlement. They demand what the bond calls for, and what the courts decree. These men have managed to feather their nests with bonds while serving the people in some official capacity and now seem to think no burden they can impose on the tax-payer is too heavy, providing *their* bed is made comfortable.

A SENSIBLE RESOLUTION.

Resolved, That our Board of County Commissioners and the county treasurer be requested to stop the payment of interest upon all bonds bearing interest over 6 per cent., and to offer in lieu thereof, bonds bearing 5 per cent interest.

The above resolution offered by R. N. Hershfield, Esq., was adopted almost unanimously by the tax payer's convention on Monday. It hits the nail square on the head. So long as we levy taxes and promptly pay the interest on all preferred 8 and 10 per cent. interest bearing bonds, there is no possibility of compromising them at less than their face. Indeed, such bonds are the choicest investments afloat.

Our city and county levied a tax the past year amounting to $159,000, for this purpose alone. Nearly a 4 per cent. tax. In doing it they acted out the will of the bondholders. We trust the above resolution will be carried out in letter and spirit. Appropriate the funds now in the hands of the city and county for the purchase from the lowest bidder of outstanding bonds and with this cash we could buy $750,000 of our bonds, thus reducing our city and county bonded indebtedness to one million dollars. There are, however, in all our tax meetings so many persons with bonds in their pockets, that it is impossible to get at the sentiment of the real parties in interest.

We trust that our people will bear this matter in mind and that during the time just preceeding the meeting of the County Board and City Council, to levy taxes for the present year, they will assemble in mass meeting and instruct the authorities to levy no tax for the payment of interest on bonds not in accordance with the above resolution.

Mr. Vanderbilt's Scheme Improved Upon.

[Graphic, 4th.]

Shall the farmers of the West raise a fund of $8,000,000 to build a fleet of twenty first class steamships of 2,500 tons burden each for the purpose of carrying their wheat to Europe at first cost? This is the important question which is asked very earnestly by Judge Driggs, who is already recognized as the benefactor of this region for his services in draining the Jersey flats. He argues that such a fleet could carry grain and all produce abroad quickly and cheaply and that they would pay their own cost over and over. It would bring the producer and consumer close together, and would release a large army of middlemen who now thrive by exhorbitant charges. The scheme does not contemplate any subsidy from the Government. It is worth thinking of. It is a tremendous suggestion, but this is a vast country and just on the threshold of its greatness. The next century will see plans of national development and service unfolded and matured at which capital would now stand appalled.

They Will Have to Take Grant for Governor of Ohio.

[Globe Democrat, 6.]

The nation is now asked to resolve itself into convulsions on the subject of the next Governor of Ohio. It is taken for granted in Cincinnati that no man can be President of the United States who has not first been Governor of Ohio. In order to verify this assertion, it will be necessary to nominate U. S. Grant as the successor of R. M. Bishop.

INHUMAN CRUELTY.

A Drunken Man Thrown from a Train and Left to Perish in the Snow.

[Kansas City Times, 5.]

Yesterday evening as the six o'clock narrow guage train was puffing and steaming, prepatory to starting on its regular evening errand, an Irishman in a distressful state of intoxication, got aboard the train and took his seat. "All aboard" was called out by the conductor, and the train started. Proceeding some 300 yards east, it suddenly slackened its pace, and the roughly clad, hard-handed son of toil—the Irish passenger—was ejected from the car and hurled into the snow some two feet deep. The train moved on, little thinking, and caring less, perhaps, for the human soul that it had committed to the biting frost and stiffening winds. But there are some noblemen yet among God's creatures and children, and he was this time found in the person of Mr. John T. Wilson, the efficient criminal clerk of Jackson county. Arriving at Independence, and in obedience to the instincts of a noble heart, he sought the telegraph, and sent word to Mr. Lum Wilson, his worthy assistant, relating the above facts, and instructing him to succor the drunken man at once, saying that he would pay expenses, etc. Mr. Wilson, accompanied by Mr. John Moore, the attorney, secured a sleigh and started in accordance with directions. Fortunately the man had been seen by persons working near by who immediately took in the situation and went to his assistance. When they arrived they found him nearly frozen and took him to one of their homes, where the restoratives were promptly applied. The man's extremities are badly frozen, and presented a pitiable sight to the gentlemen who had started in search of him.

This is an act of unpardonable cruelty on the part of the railroad employes, and one which will everlastingly brand them as specimens of the grossest inhumanity and unfit to be classed among beings of society. It is actually unsafe for persons of this caliber, men who are capable of committing such heartless cruelty, to occupy the responsible position of guiding a train of passengers. The name of the victim of this heartless cruelty could not be ascertained.

Greenbacks are More to be Desired Than Gold.

[Chicago Tribune, 5.]

We have resumed, and nobody wants gold.

Honor to Whom Honor is Due

[Rice County Gazette.]

The Anthony organs are crowing about the noble part Governor Anthony had in securing punishment for the runaway Cheyennes. As we read the news it was Senator Plumb who did the effective work in the matter.

The Freedman's Bank.

[Philadelphia Press, 2.]

The small remnant of the assets of the Freedmen's Bank that remained after the panic of 1873 had whirled it into hopeless insolvency, is now being frittered away in the payment of salaries, commissions and fees to the trustees, who are supposed to be winding up the bankrupt concern.

Just the Man for the Place.

[Junction City Union, 2.]

Geo. A. Crawford, the life and soul of the glorious Kansas State Exposition at the Centennial, is mentioned as a proper man for President of the Agricultural College. We ought to have the position, and we know of but two objections to him—he is a gentleman and a scholar. To appoint him would spoil the uniformity of dullness in State patronage.

Unwashed and Unknown.

[Paducah (Ky.) News.]

By the time the troops get ready to return from the point the people of Kentucky will know more of Breathitt, its people, their customs, manners, etc., than they ever knew before. Bassett and the troops may be considered the pioneer geographers and historians from that benighted portion of Kentucky.

Will Soon be Around Hunting up a Job.

[Salina Democrat, 3.]

The Kansas press generally commend the proposed selection of Hon. George A Crawford to succeed Congressman-elect Anderson as President of the Agricultural College. Certainly Mr. Crawford is in every way qualified to fill the position, but you must remember that Governor Anthony will soon be around hunting up a job.

Hard to See Where the Laugh Comes in.

[Philadelphia Bulletin, 2.]

Among the "funny rules" adopted at the hilarous meeting with which some of the members of the bar closed the old year was the following: "When you have emptied your client's pockets, had him enough money to pay his fare home. This is an innovation on the established practice, but it is more blessed to give than to receive." This is intended to have a very funny appearance, but there are people who have had large practical experience in litigation who will find it hard to discern precisely where the laugh comes in.

Bismarck's Next Meal.

It looks a little as if Prussia has got another attack of manifest destiny, for the German government is certainly rolling its hungry eyes at Denmark in the same greedy way that preceded the swallowing of so many of the small principalities that are now lost in the German empire. A short time ago the prospect was that Holland would be the next object of attention, but it will really be easier to absorb Denmark, if the remainder of the world is willing, than Holland, which might, even single-handed, prove a hard-earned prize. It is not clear, yet, however, that the other nations of Europe are willing to abandon Denmark to German rapaciousness.

Facts for Climatologists.

[Globe Democrat, 5.]

Climatologists have often attempted to measure the relative degrees of cold between two different places by the thickness of the ice without reference to the thermometer, but they have generally failed to complete their observations by an exact statement of the rapidity of the rivers, their breadth and the nature of their banks, all of which are of great influence in the formation and the thickness of ice. Thus running water will begin to freeze at twelve degrees below freezing point, but if the current is at all rapid a very much lower degree of cold is necessary to freeze the stream. It is, therefore, of no scientific value whatever to tie told the bare fact that in Russia ice three feet thick has been formed on the rivers, and in France two feet.

Legal Verbosity.

[Paola Spirit.]

Perhaps the following clipping is a libel on the legal fraternity of Kansas; its truth is nevertheless vouched for by the Chicago *Tribune*, an extremely veracious journal as all will admit. At any rate we give space to the description that it may be branded as it deserves if it reflects unjustly upon any of our legal readers. The story goes thusly: One of the "profession" out in Kansas lost a young hog, and the verbosity of the fraternity is well illustrated by the description of the strayed animal which "Lex" sent to the paper. The opening sentence will be sufficient for our present purpose. [Here follows our description of Mr. Macafferty's lost hog.]

Head Downward for Ten Hours.

[Houston Telegram.]

On the evening of the 5th instant, a young man named Adams started from Columbia to this city on horseback. He thought that it would be more pleasant to ride on the railroad track and striking the track just out of Columbia spurred his horse into a gallop. Adams says that he thought his familiarity with the track would keep him out of danger, but all at once the horse came to a bridge, which was without flooring. Adams was thrown over the horse's head, as the poor animal's legs went through. When he recovered consciousness he found himself head down under the bridge, one foot being fast in the stirrup. He was so bruised that he could not lift himself and there he remained in the greatest agony. There was a whistle and a roar, and he knew that there was a train coming. As the wheels crashed over the bridge he felt a shock. The cow-catcher had thrown the horse off, but the saddle had wedged in between sills. He hung until sunrise and was then rescued, almost dead.

DOES THE EARTH BUDGE?

Congress Asked to Explore the Subject—The Appropriation Committee as Bulge Hunters.

[H. V. B. in Cincinnati Gazette.]

WASHINGTON, January 1.—Under a pretense that it can accomplish a wonderful reform in the methods of our national surveys, a very quiet but exceedingly energetic movement is on foot to get our present Congress to hunting for a certain supposed bulge in the surface of the earth. If the members of the House Appropriation Committee should report a liberal sum to search for Symmes' Hole, the matter would be understood; but the proposition they are now considering, to turn the Land Office and the various national surveys over to the Coast Survey, and charged it with ignoring all former lines, and prosecuting a geometric survey of the United States, will hardly be understood by general readers as a project to assist in a search for the earth's bulge. The members of the committee themselves do not probably understand it. The matter has been disguised to them under various high sounding terms They have been approached with great shrewdness. The advance has been one covering the whole year. The Academy of Sciences worked in secret on the matter, being requested to take it into consideration by a spontaneous resolution written up and handed to Mr. Hewitt to introduce. The committee of the Academy brooded over the great bluff of the subject in secret. The Academy itself considered and acted upon it in secret, and made a report to Congress, in which the real end in view—the ascertaining of the bulge—was carefully concealed. And now the Committee of Appropriations is wrestling with a bill which its innocent members suppose to be a measure of great economy, and one that will establish this Congress as to the patron of science. It is however, simply a bill to prosecute an exploration for the bulge. The constituents of these gentlemen should bear this in mind when the grave question of renomination next arises.

This problem of the bulge is capable of being stated in several ways. As elucidated by a member of the Academy, it is thus expressed: "Perhaps the equator itself is not a circle, and the earth's figure, therefore, not precisely a spheroid of revolution about its polar axis, but more nearly an ellipsoid of three axes." But, perhaps, with due respect to the Academy, the matter may be placed in a clearer light. If a small boy should sit down carefully for a few moments on a sphere of putty it would soon assume the form of an oblate spheroid, such as the earth has for some time been supposed to be, and up to the time when the theory of a bulge began to excite the scientific world. Thus far, in the search after scientific knowledge, if the pressure exerted by the small boy on the putty has been moderately even, the "oblate spheroid" of revolution will have been produced. If the boy will lay out the equator on his flattened globe according to existing theories, and seat himself this time in the plane of the equator for a few moments, he will have before him the "ellipsis of three axes" over which certain scientific gentlemen are loosing a good deal of sleep. To sum the matter up in plain language, the new theory is that the earth, in addition to being flattened at the poles, bulges out unevenly at the equator. And so the earth, when seen in profile by the eye of academic faith, has the outline of an alderman with full stomach. The great question now is, Where is this bulge? Does the United States possess it? Does it bravely bear the sage deserts upward toward the skies? Or are the depressed plains of Arizona its counterpart, and so the bulge itself an enduring feature of antipodal regions? In other words does the earth stand with its back to our beloved country? These are the questions which the Academy of Sciences and the Coast Survey intend, by the grace of the House Appropriation Committee, to settle if it takes all the remaining summers of our national history, and requires as it progresses the transfer of all other departments of the government to the Coast Survey.

Another question which is closely related to that of the bulge, and dependent upon it for more accurate solution, is that of the wobbling—to speak with unscientific tongue—of the axis of the earth. Will the bulge, if discovered and ascertained, account for any of the irregularities in the wobbling? Of course, when this comes up in the Academy for discussion, it will be mentioned as the subject of nutation, and the Precession of the Equinoxes, and this infidel term "wobbling" will be left to the use of those who speak of the earth as being "bulged," instead of being a possible "ellipsoid of three axis." To find the Academy of Sciences engaged upon the end and related subjects and problems, is to discover it about its legitimate business, but it is both refreshing and unusual to find a Democratic Committee of Appropriations furnishing the legislation and the money necessary to a twenty-five year's examination into the momentous question whether the earth bulges, or has a dent in it anywhere in the United States.

THE SENATORSHIP

[Rice County Bulletin, 2.]

There are very few papers in the State opposing Senator Ingalls' re-election. The Kansas City *Times* yelps at the Senator on general principles, and finds a few echo its sentiments in our State. The Leavenworth *Press*, edited by Ex-U. S Marshall, Miller, hurls its editors' personal venom toward Mr. Ingalls, but the people of this State are not to be influenced by any such means. While there are many worthy and capable gentlemen named as being in the Senatorial race, none of them can claim superior ability, or anything like the experience of influence of the present incumbent. It is an evident fact, patent to all observers, that the sentiment of a large majority of the people of the State is for Mr. Ingalls. The Legislature will act contrary to the wishes of its constituents if they fail to re elect him. The charges made by such papers as we have quoted above, that Mr Ingalls is not friendly to the soldiers and sailors of the late war, are false and without foundation—the facts are the reverse. An attempt has been made to pass off on the people of Kansas, a set of resolutions gotten up by a lot of bounty shysters and lobbyists in Washington, as the utterances of soldiers and sailors of the late war. The veterans of the Union army have no better friend and advocate of their just claims than Kansas' senior Senator. He has always been a bitter foe to the schemes of the bounty sharks who are constantly devising methods to swindle the soldier and sailor out of the pittance due them from the government. People unacquainted with the ways and doings in Washington have very little conception of the innumerable jobs put up by the band of harpies who infest that city, and it is a wonder that Congressmen are not more frequently deceived by these artful dodges than they are. To Senator Ingalls, vigilence the country has been saved from paying many spurious claims. His abilities as a statesman are so well known and universally acknowledged that comment is unnecessary. He is recognized throughout the country as one of the leading members of the Senate, and his influence where the interests of his State are concerned, is far superior to that of any other man that can be put in the Senate from Kansas. His record while a citizen of this State since its early days, and during his term as Senator, is familiar to the people and has been a credit to the State and the man.

American Girl Diplomatists.

[Philadelphia Press.]

It is a singular fact that fifteen of the ladies connected with the present Diplomatic Corps at Washington are American girls whose beauty and diplomacy captured distinguished husbands. Among the number are waves of the French, Italian, Guatemalan and Turkish Ministers, and many others of lesser rank, including Mrs. Yung Wing, of the Chinese Legation, who was a Miss Bartlett, of Connecticut. In the Diplomatic Corps of Europe there are also several American ladies, such as the wife of the Italian Minister to The Hague, and others. Whether American women have a peculiar penchant for diplomacy, or diplomatists for them, is a difficult question to decide. At all events, diplomacy is a career for which our women seem to be admirably adapted. They have also broken down the exclusiveness of hereditary aristocracy, and some of them are connected with the oldest noble families of England, and the continent. Proverbial as is their beauty, their natural grace and dignity of manner, and their intelligence are no less striking.

More Prosperous Than a Year Ago.

[Atchison Champion, 5.]

The Leavenworth TIMES of the 1st inst., publishes a very interesting historical sketch of that city. It was evidently prepared with care, and embodies a large array of facts and statistics. Concerning the city, THE TIMES says all of its business industries are in a much more prosperous condition than they were a year ago, and that all the people have been doing well.

THE WEATHER AND WHAT NOT.

The oldest inhabitant is emphatic in declaring that it is the severest winter ever known in Kansas. We have become so accustomed to sudden weather changes, that even when the storm closed two weeks ago with about twenty inches of snow fall, we thought our weather clerk had been perpetrating one of his little jokes and looked for the snowy mantle to disappear in two or three days anyhow; we did not think it worth while to provide any running gear, even on the cheapest make-shift plan, but contented ourselves with floundering through the snow with our wheeled vehicles to the disgust of horse-flesh and waste of time. But the snow came to stay. It has not thawed or drifted to any great extent. Two weeks of continuous sleighing. Streams, little and big, bridged from bank to bank with ice a foot in thickness. We are establishing visiting and business relations with our neighbors over in Johnson county, a thing heretofore impossible, on account of the "Raging Kaw." Such weather is surely a novelty in Kansas. Nor is it to be regretted. It is fun for our young and agile folks who own skates; it is a godsend for the ice dealers; it is splendid for winter wheat; it is disastrous to the malaria which has been shaking so many of our people; it calls to mind the merry boyhood and girlhood days we passed before we left country homes in New York or New England where winter always brought with it more or less sleighing, skating and all other seasonable cheer. Some of our people are poorly housed, though speaking for this locality, there is no lack of fire-wood to be had in abundance for the cutting and hauling: it is hard on tramps, but what right have people to tramp now that specie payment has been resumed, and the country has fairly entered upon an era of old fashioned prosperity. There is no longer any excuse for the tramp. We have assurances from President Hayes, from Secretary Sherman, and from all the bond-holding and banking population that "the winter of our discontent" is forthwith to be made "glorious summer" by the magic of "honest money."

Although much of the talking which one hears around the heating stove of the country store or the blazing hearths of rural mansions, is about the weather, now and then the rustic mind rises to the contemplation of themes which occupy the attention of editors and statesmen. When the Senatorial election is discussed, the prevailing opinion is that either Mr. Ingalls, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Anthony or Mr. Simpson will get away with the toga. The most people with whom I converse think Ingalls has the "best show." It is pleasant to know that the people are taking an interest in this thing; it is all right; only there appears to be a very general impression that filthy lucre must needs figure very potentially in the choice of a Senator. People appear to have fallen into that way of thinking. It is bad for the people, bad for the reputation of Kansas. I wonder who is responsible for this thing. Is it Pomeroy, Caverly, Caldwell, Lane? Here is a problem which I have heard advanced: "If the price of a vote for Senator six years ago was seven thousand two hundred dollars when gold was at a premium of 15 per cent. what ought such a vote to be worth now with gold at par?" I have no patience with questions of this sort! I will not "figger" on them. I admit there is enough in the history of former Senatorial elections to suggest calculations of the kind, but I cannot help thinking that the day of merchandise in votes for United States Senator has gone, never to return.

It is thought this Legislature will do something in the way of reducing the extortionate freight and passenger rates charged by our railroads. A railroad bill similar in its leading provisions to the one now in force in Illinois, will be introduced early in the session. The K. P. and the A., T. & S. F. companies have somewhat reduced their rates for passengers; the lower rates taking effect on New Year's day. This is all well enough; but temporary concessions made just prior to the convening of the Legislature will hardly satisfy the representatives of the people. If the railroad companies will not deal fairly and justly by the people of their own accord, they must be made to do it. It is hoped there will be enough of that sentiment in this legislature to secure the passage without much difficulty of the bill above mentioned.

Temperance legislation is also anticipated. Many of the members of this legislature were elected with the understanding that they would support a stringent prohibitory law. Few, if any members were pledged or committed directly against such legislation. Even Democratic members are not necessarily estopped by anything in their platform from going the whole prohibitory "hog." "Liberty of individual conduct, unvexed by sumptuary laws," was, to be sure, one of the planks; but liberty of individual conduct does not assuredly mean liberty of individual misconduct. When liberty of that kind goes to the extent of filling the land with desolation, misery and crime, and adding almost insufferably to the expenses of government, it is high time it were placed under all possible legal restrictions. To that no good Democrat should object. That, I presume, is what Prohibitionists in all the parties are aiming at.

There is a suggestion of irony in all the talk about the appointment of George T. Anthony to the Presidency of our State Agricultural College, unless, indeed, the said college is in itself an absurdity. The idea of a man who holds, and publicly declares, that agricultural life and labor is a degredation; that it "clips the wings of fancy" and drags man down to the level of the ox; the idea of selecting such a person out of a whole State full of "Willis' Barkises" to be the head of an institution established ostensibly for the purpose of ennobling and dignifying the farmer's calling, would be too ridiculous for toleration anywhere, but in minds which have long been subject to the stultifying influences of Kansas politics.

If, however, as some people have the temerity to think, the Agricultural College is not all it purports to be, that there is a great deal of what is roughly termed balderdash in the notion that young men and women can best be reconciled to a life in the corn field and cow yard by passing several years in classic shades, amid bookish surroundings, with nothing to do in the way of manual labor but plying a boot brush, or thrumming a "government" piano. If this, I say, be a true and proper way of regarding the institution, then, indeed, it matters less who gets the Presidency, though even in appointments to sinecures the principle of not overdoing the thing in the case of the "fat goose" ought to be considered. J. A. B.

LORING, Jan. 4, 1879.

HOUSE AND FARM.

—Turnips are good winter feed for cattle.

—Over 80,000 Canadians emigrated to the United States during the year ending June 30, 1878.

—Stock should have an abundant supply of salt always within reach. No animal will eat more than is good for it when it has plenty.

Most of our plants are injured in winter especially, by too much heat. They should have a little fresh air every day and all the sun light possible

Somebody is Benefited.

[American Stockman.]

Whatever may be said of the present low prices for farm products there is at least one grand consolation in the fact that in them the poor find relief from the oppression of low wages and enforced idleness.

After Thirty-Six Years.

[Winfield Courier, 2.]

On last Tuesday a week a lady and gentleman met in this city who had not seen each other for thirty six years; and although the gentleman was then a smooth faced lad, she instantly recognized in the white headed man that face which was so familiar to her in childhood, but did not even know of his existence from that time till the day they met.

School Facilities.

[Kansas Spirit.]

The eastern and more densely populated part of our State has even now as large a share of commodities, well arranged, well built and well furnished school buildings as any other area of equal size in the United States. The grounds on which these buildings are erected are, in almost all cases, ample and well adapted to the culture of trees, either ornamental or fruit, or any and all varieties of shrubbery.

A Old Swindle Again in the Field.

[Exchange.]

The hulless-oats fiends are again in the field in those sections where live newspapers are not taken. The men who do not believe in "book farming" are the ones swindled with this new oats at $10 a bushel. They have been known in the Westamong reading farmers for 40 years and discarded as of no practical value; but that makes no difference to the non-reading farmer, whose cupidity tempts him to put faith in the city gammon sharks.

Cherokee