The Semi-Weekly Miner

DANIEL SEARLES - - EDITOR

BUTTE, DECEMBER 17, 1884.

Senator Sherman shows that he is in accord with the popular belief by intimating that Governor Cleveland will make a President of whom the country will be proud.

Secretary Chandler's proposition to keep politics out of the navy-yards, now that he is about to retire, is considered one of the freshest, if not the best, of this season's jokes.

When Senator Hill's silver resolution is called up he will make a comprehensive speech in favor of the continued coinage of the metal. It will be the first gun of the silver men.

The whisky men are looking anxiously towards Canada in the hope of finding there a haven for the surplus now in bond. The American colony over there can be depended on to do their share of the good work.

The New York *Times* publishes a table of the popular vote for President, made up from official returns from all the States. When differences were found to exist in the vote for electors in any State, the vote for the highest on each ticket is given. The results show a total vote of 10,046,073, of which the Cleveland ticket received 4,913,901, the Blaine ticket 4,847,659, the St. John ticket 150,633, and the Butler ticket 133,880. Cleveland's plurality is 66,242. In 1880 the total vote was 9,218,251, and Garfield's plurality 9,464.

THE WHEAT OUTLOOK.

There will be a remarkable reduction of the wheat acreage all over the world the coming year. The price which this cereal commands to-day is lower than it has been for generations and will not pay for raising. California, one of the great wheat regions of the world, is sick of the crop. The eastern and central states lose a good sum on every bushel raised; and even much land is not plowed and many intend to let a part of their farm land lie idle next year, while others will increase the variety of crops and raise less wheat. In some states it is conceded that there will be a general abandonment of wheat as a market crop next year. As usual when the prices of any commodity are low, the farmers rush to the other extreme, abandon it, and when prices are forced to a paying figure by a diminished supply, find themselves unable to take advantage of the raise. A variety of crops is always the safest and in the end most profitable.

GOOD COUNSEL.

In charging the Grand Jury at Starkville, Miss., Judge Arnold made some very timely and sensible remarks to allay the apprehensions among colored citizens aroused by such mischievous talk as Blaine's incendiary speech at Augusta. We take pleasure in quoting the following praiseworthy passage from the charge, which we find in a Southern journal:

"Let me say to the colored men on this Grand Jury, and to all who hear me, that there is no foundation for such apprehensions. Whoever has taught such doctrines has taught a lie. I assert, and before God I believe it, that all the constitutional and legal rights of colored people are more secure to-day and will be more respected hereafter than they have ever been. Let the doubts and fears of the colored people on the subject be dismissed. Let them rest assured that no law can be enacted which will discriminate against them, and that there is no party that desires to enact any such law, and that no administration of the law which discriminates against them would be tolerated here or elsewhere."

In giving this wise and reassuring counsel from the bench to the colored people Judge Arnold has rendered an important public service. His words should be copied and read all over the South.

THE NEW REGIME.

Washington society, says an exchange, is already agitated by rumors and apprehensions of new social sets that it is believed will be the result of the political revolution. The Washington *Herald* predicts that there will be three factions, composed of the powers that be, the powers that expect to be, and the powers that tried to be and couldn't.

It is safe to say here that, as far as an official example will be set at the White House, society will be less extravagant, less pretentious, less hypocritical, and more republican in it tastes and conduct.

Whether President Cleveland will drink tea like Hayes, or Sunday-school lemonade like Garfield, or take his Burgundy like Arthur, is of little consequence, but there is a profound conviction in Washington that there will not be a horde of contractors, speculators, lobbyists, and jobbers in the White House to help him drink it.

The whole character and conduct of the man in public life give rise to the belief that he will restore to the President's official life something of the dignified simplicity which characterized the White House in olden times.

That the element of Republican flummery and social ostentation which has grown to be such a large faction in Washington life since the war will be offended at the return to first principles may be readily expected. But it is certain that the people who elected Mr. Cleveland will be satisfied if he sets an example of modest propriety, courteous hospitality, and unpretentious democratic good sense and good taste. And that much his public life up to this time warrants in expecting.

THE "WANTER" QUESTIONED.

When Ed. Marshall was stumping the State of California several years ago he would illustrate some points in his speach by relating the peculiarities of a certain animal which he called a "Wanter." This animal had four legs—two very short ones on one side and two very long ones on the other, and owing to its peculiar structure it could travel only on the sides of precipitous mountains. When it tired in going in one direction it turned itself inside out and took its track back and thus the beast pursued its old and never ending trail until it died upon it. It always wanted, however to tread upon level ground but as soon as the animal struck such it turned over and was compelled to roll back to its old beaten path.

The *Inter Mountain* reminds us of Ed. Marshall's "Wanter." In discussing the silver question it follows the same old beaten path. If by chance it should get out of it it tumbles upon its back and flounders around until it falls into the old rut again. Here it is at home and with an unconsciousness which is really amusing it runs the gamut of its argument against silver from "the light-weight dollar" to the "overloaded treasury vaults" and from the overloaded treasury vaults back to the light-weight dollar. And thus it pursues its narrow path. The other evening it flopped out of its old track and struggled awile with "flat value." Now what is "flat value?" Simply a decreed value—a value fixed by a decree or an act of recognized authority.

Congress has said that a piece of paper with certain words and the figures 100 printed theron is money, and is worth $100 in gold or silver. Still this same authority holds but twenty per cent of the $350,000,000 of such paper in circulation in reserve for its redemption. Hence, according to our evening contemporary, eighty per cent of our greenbacks bear a decreed or fiat value. Yet it makes no war upon greenbacks. The silver dollars, however, which, according to the same luminous light, has but fifteen per cent of decreed value comes under his ban.

The fact is gold bugs made war against silver when it was the measure of values and at a premium. All this talk about "flat value" is nonsense. The paper money of every nation has only a decreed or fiat value. It is accepted by the people upon their faith in the solvency and stability of the government. When that is impaired the purchasing power of the paper is also impaired. We can all remember the time when our greenbacks went begging at twenty-eight cents on the dollar.

Now, since the *Inter Mountain* is so anxious to air its opposition to the standard silver dollar, we respectfully ask it to answer the following questions. Wherein does the continued coinage of silver threaten the prosperity of the business interests of the country? Has silver driven gold out of the country? With only about $3 00 of silver per capita of the population of the country have we so much as to endanger our business and commercial interests? France has $8 00 per capita of its population; is that country suffering from too much silver? Germany and Great Britain have more silver in circulation according to their population than this country has; are their business interests injured by it? What effect would the suspension of the coinage of silver have upon the silver-dustry of Butte? After silver was demonetized in '73 by a dispicable trick its market value fell off twenty five per cent; would not this same result follow the suspension of its coinage? and if so how many of our mines and mills will be running a year hence? What do you know about silver anyhow? Candid answers to these questions may lead to others, and when all are considered the public may come to the conclusion that the monetary system of the country will not be overturned through the efforts of this Butte "Wanter."

A recent special to the Salt Lake *Tribune* says: John Kelly's illness occasions much apprehension among his friends, particularly his political adherents. The *Times* says it has been given out that he is suffering from a severe cold. Intimate friends are averse to talking about his actual condition, but, from their chary utterances, enough is obtained to show that they believe he is breaking down. Kelly will be 64 years old next April. The question of who shall succeed him in the dictatorship of the Tammany Hall Democracy is a very serious one. Kelly will die without political issue. In all the 50,000 voters in the Tammany organization, there is not one fit to succeed him as the head of the party. It is this fact that stares the organization in the face and adds to the bitterness of its defeat at the polls. The defeat of his organization has left him a broken man. There are not wanting those who say his mind is giving way. It is apparent that his reign is over. Tammuny must soon cease. He, as well as his henchmen, are casting about for a leader.

Mr. Blaine has come to the conclusion, as our news columns show, that his defeat was owing to Mr. Conkling's coldness. Mr. Blaine is more than half right; but for this coldness he has only himself to thank. Ae was the cause of Mr. Conkling's retirement from public life. By every means that he could bring to bear he sought Conkling's humiliation, and it would have been wonderfully magnanimous had Conkling helped to elect him. Blaine's defeat was indeed a victory for Conkling, and the only wonder is that Blaine admits what everybody else knows to be true. By the way, it is about time that the reminiscences of the venerable Mr. Blaine should stop.

LEASING OF PUBLIC LANDS.

General Brisben, in a letter to the Helena *Herald*, advocates the leasing of the public grass lands of the United States to native Americans for a term of five years or less and the establishment of a National cattle trail from the Gulf of Mexico to the British line. He favors these propositions because "the English own nearly one-sixth of all the herds west of the Missouri Biver, and they will soon own a half. These British cattle are fed on American free grass for the benefit of people who are not Americans and do not live in the United States. The dividends derived from these foreign investments are declared annually and sent to England, Ireland, Scotland and France, neither the people nor the Government of the United States deriving one cent of benefit from them." He thinks the grazing lands of the United States are worth at a fair rental about $15,000,000 per annum, and holds that the Government should devise some means whereby it could secure this revenue, especially if the lands are to be used to enrich foreigners rather than our own people.

As to the Texas trail the General says: "We must not proscribe a state because it is unfortunate. Some of the Texas cattle have fever, and it is not safe to drive them over other people's ranges, but we cannot wall up Texas and her 8,000,000 head of cattle because some of them are diseased and dangerous to other cattle. What then? Give Texas a trail over which her cattle can be driven, quarantined and made safe. Texas must not be boycotted on account of a misfortune, but rather helped out of her present distressing difficulty, which few in the North appreciate or understand. It will be objected that the trail will cost something, and suppose it does? Is not an industry that exports annually over $18,000,000 worth of meat deserving of the fostering care of Congress? Besides, if Congress can expend millions of money and donate billions of acres of the public lands to railroads, she can afford to expend a small sum and grant a small portion of land to establish a great national cattle highway for our stock and in providing a supply of cheap meat for the people. Texas has just as good a right to get her products to market as any other State in the Union, and I stand squarely with Texas on this subject of a national cattle trail."

General Brisben was a member of the Cattlemen's Convention recently held at St. Louis, and it is fair to presume that in his communication he voices the opinions of the advocates of the propositions named. While admitting the force of his reasoning we do not concede that he has made out a strong case by any means. There are many weighty objections against leasing public grazing lands which the General appears to have overlooked, and which may be briefly summed up as followe: If the public grazing lands be leased they must be leased in large tracts to be of any benefit to large cattle growers. They would of course be struck off to the highest bidder. The result would be that owners of small herds would be shut out and be compelled to abandon the business of stock growing. They would be swallowed up by syndicates and corporations and hence the industry would be placed in the hands of a few men. Cattle growing would become one of the great monopolies of the country and consumers of beef would be turned over to the mercy of the few producers of the article. The $15,000,000 rental of which the General speaks, would be paid by the people in the increasd price charged for beef. And then, again, the leasing of public lands would lead to disputes and more or less ill-feeling among stockmen themselves, unless each one's tract was bounded by unfordable streams or impassable mountains.

The General would permit none but native Americans to rent grazing lands. "Put none but Americans on guard" over our cattle ranges, would be the motto of the old soldier. While all would prefer to see American capital enjoy the benefits of American grass, we cannot see how foreign capital can be shut out of the cattle growing industry. We may as well attempt to legislate it out of our mines and mills and smelters and out of eastern coal fields and other industries in which it is engaged. The General is inconsistent in the use of his "foreign capital" argument, for in the next breath he favors a "National cattle trail" from the Gulf of Mexico to the British line. Why a cattle trail to the British line? If Englishmen are to be debarred from renting our grazing lands, does anyone suppose they will permit American cattle to be driven upon their lands? And then again if American cattle be driven over the British line how could we in justice forbid the driving of British cattle to American territory? The fact is that "National cattle trail" project is nothing more nor less than a plan whereby Texas cattle owners can overrun this northern country with their herds. They want the government to grant and buy them the right of way to the rich grass regions of Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, and Montana. That is all. The people up here don't want anything of the kind. Texas has just as good outlets for her beef cattle as we have. She is no more isolated than the territories named. She has more railroads upon which to transport her beeves than we have. This cattle raising business is fast resolving itself into the "survival of the fittest," and if Texas finds itself outstripped by her more fortunate and better provided northern neighbors she should devote her grazing lands to some other purpose. The government should not be called upon to protect Texas cattle at the expense of cattle raisers at the North and that is just what a "National cattle trail" from and to the points named amounts to.

The Cincinnati organ of Senator Sherman has at last dropped the Blaine programme, and nominates the managing man of Ohio for the Presidency in 1888. This may be considered another case of remarkable prematurity.

The secret of General Grant's refusal to accept a pension is explained by his admission that he would like to be placed on the retired list. As a retired general on three quarters pay he would receive $10 375 a year, while the pension proposed was only $5,000 a year.

Envious Republicans have discovered in Governor Cleveland something which in their feeble minds incapacitates him for the Presidency—he cannot dance. Perhaps not, but as the new executive promises to make some of them dance out of office his ignorance of the Terpsichorean art will hardly be noticed.

Senator Plumb advocates the leasing of lands in Indian Territory, although Senator Vest has proposed an investigation involving the matter. Somebody rises up and says Mr. Plumb is a stockholder in a cattle company now occupying tracts in Indian Territory. Mr. Plumb would hardly be influenced by a selfish consideration of that kind, but the Cincinnati *Enquirer* thinks he would "stand around" and see an election carried by deputy marshals without a protest.

Ben Butterworth is not to enjoy his seat in congress without molestation, Mr. Follett, the present incumbent, being determined to contest his election. If this were any other man but Butterworth consent might be given, but in the present condition of the Republican party there is likely to be use for some loud-mouthed profanity and it is thought that no other member could do the subject such ample justice as Butterworth. Hence it seems Butterworth is indispensable to the Forty-ninth Congress.

Throngs of curious people continue to go to Albany to inspect the personal appearance and shake the hand of Governor Cleveland. They do not come away more empty handed than do the numerous political missionaries and disgusted scribes who seek openings for assault upon the manners and methods of the plain Democratic Governor of New York whose frank and open urbanity seems to be as exhaustless as his patience. On all hands it is agreed that his devotion to very laborious and taxing duties which are incidental to his coming retirement from the governorship continues without shadow of change. One thing at a time is evidently the rule with the young man of Albany who is about to enter upon the dignities and responsibilities of the highest earthly station. It need not be doubted that he will maintain the one and discharge the other with a resolute and firm purpose to serve his country in every way that can do it good.

AMALGAM.

As Squeezed From Our Territorial Exchanges.

Another paper is soon to be started in Hailey, Idaho, making seven in all.

Since the last of August, New York capitalists have invested $3,000,000 in Montana ranches.

The Drum Lummon mine is producing 150 tons of ore per diem, which is being worked wet in the two mills of the company.

A chicken belonging to Mr. Eberline, of Breckenridge, Colorado, died from a genuine attack of diphtheria A post mortem revealed the fact.

Antoine Warning, who was working in the timber on the North Fork of the Teton Muddy, a few days since, was killed by the falling of a tree.

To give an idea of the enormous quantity of wood recently contracted for by the Anaconda company, it may be stated that it would make a pile 100 feet high and 18½ miles long.

Small bands of Flathead Indians in the vicinity of Deer Lodge have been inbibing too much whisky and behaving badly. They ought not to be allowed to leave their reservation.

A raid was recently made on the opium dens of Virginia City, and four of the almond-eyed Celestials engaged in hitting the pipe were bagged. They were each fined $22.90, which, being unpaid, they ornamented the chain gang.

Gov. Bunn, of Idaho, was thrown from the roof of a bucking horse recently, and considerably banged thereby. An untamed broncho makes anything but an easy gubernatorial chair.

The machinery used in piercing the Mullen and Bozeman tunnels on the Rocky Mountain division of the Northern Pacific is being shipped to he summit of the Cascades, to perate on the proposed tunnel.

The Utah and Northern is doing an immense coal business just now.. The other night a train of thirty cars going north had 29 cars of coal for Anaconda.

The population of Washington territory, which is asking admission as a state, is about 150,000. It is out of debt, too, and has a handsome sum in the wallet.

The new Union Pacific Hotel Company of Omaha, has issued an order to the effect that the conductors of passenger trains and the Pullman car porters only will be given free meals at its eating houses along the line of the road.

Charges have been preferred against S. J. Armstrong, agent of the Crows, for using his position to compel the Crows to sign a lease to John F. Blake and J. C. Wilson, trustees of the Colorado Syndicate, of the greater portion of the Crow reservation for ten years, at one cent per acre. Such a lease, if confirmed, is worth millions.

Rail Road Smash up.

DENVER, Dec. 14.—Late last night while a freight train on the Denver & Rio Grande railroad was coming down the side of the mountain near Marshall Pass, the air brakes failed. After a two miles run and while going at a speed of not less than fifty miles an hour, the engine jumped the track followed by twenty cars. The engine and cars were a complete wreck. The engineer and fireman jumped and saved their lives, but are badly bruised. The head brakesman was buried under the wreck. The conductor and rear brakesman succeeded in detatching and stopping the way car.

OVER PRODUCTION.

The recent heavy decline in copper suggests the fact that there other things besides railroad iron, woolen and cotton goods and wheat, that can be produced in excess of the supply. The producers of these articles have their warerooms and granaries full and the people do not buy, hence the factories and mills must be closed, and the working people must scratch as best they may. Some present the alternative of a cut in wages from 10 to 20 per cent, which in many cases the operatives, philosophically concluding that a half loaf is better than no bread, are reluctantly forced to accept.

In view of the decline in copper, many eastern mining journals advise producers to go slow and not stuff an overfed market. They seem to think that the present cheapness of the metal will result in its being directed to other uses, which will soon absorb the surplus and relieve the market of the glut. Attention has been directed o the superior quality of roofing material found in copper, and producers are urged to form an organization for the purpose of encouraging its use for that and other purposes in which the metal may be employed. Brass is one of the most beautiful of metals for useful or ornamental purposes. Cheap copper will undoubtedly lead to the increased manufacture of that metal. But whether it does or not it is obvious that something will have to be done to advance the prise of copper. for over-production of this metal leads, to a certain extent, to the same results that over production of other articles of commerce.

In the case of coal mining the stoppage of iron works and woolen and cotton mills necessitates the shutting down of coal mines or another shave on the already low pay of 50 cents a ton. The operators, which is the new generic name for the capitalists engaged in money-making enterprises, can in most cases afford to remain idle and wait till things take a better turn. Many of them are glad of the opportunity to take a rest, and relieve themselves of the risks and perplexities in such a season of depression. But the working people cannot afford to rest. They are, happily or unhappily, placed in a position where they must earn their bread or go without, and they look with great alarm on the prospect of enforced idleness.

Some have contended that the remedy lies in more or cheaper money. Now a scarcity of money is indicated when it bears a premium, but the lending rate in the East is low, and the purchasing power of money was perhaps never greater than at present. There is plenty of money, thanks to our wise coinage laws, but over-production and a glutted market give the people little opportunity to earn it. What we want is new markets for our manufactures and new uses for our copper. The world is large and the people are many. More are unclad than clad, and as many are hungry as are fed.

Now let our manufactures seek foreign markets, and let our government protect and foster commerce and in supplying the millions abroad we may then give work and a living to our millions at home. The trade of Mexico and the Central and South American states has been neglected, and while these countries buy their goods of German or English manufacturers, American factories are closed for want of a market.

This is all wrong, but the remedy does not rest altogether with Congress. In the matter of copper production the success of those engaged in it will depend more upon certain adjustments which may be made between the employer and the employe than in national legislation. Individual action will go further than law-making and all interested should ask themselves if they have not responsibilities in this matter that are far above a desire for ease upon the one side or maximum remuneration upon the other.

ST. JOHN ON THE WAR PATH.

A recent special to the Salt Lake *Tribune* says St. John writes that he never offered or proposed to sell out to the Republicans. He continues: "I am to-day, and always have been, a comparatively poor man. The Republican party may burn me in effigy and continue its threats of personal violence; it may open its floodgates of falsehood and vilification and bitterness upon me, but it can never swere me one jot or tithe from doing what my conscience tells me is right. The campaign of '88 has already began, and the warfare against the liquor traffic will be vigorously prosecuted. The political party that stands in the way of this movement of the people in defense of their homes will get hurt. The spirit of intolerance exhibited by the Republican press to-day is doing for that party just what the same spirit did for the pro-slavery party thirty years ago Hanging men in effigy and indulging in falsehood and villification is not argument." This is the word with the bark on. St. John is right. Hanging a man in effigy is a poor argument against his cause. The act denounces the weakness of these who engage in this foolishness.

Dynamiters seem to foil the London police with ease. They are constantly toying with explosives in and around that great city, but it is only semi-occasionally that the police manage to find one. The reeent London Bridge affair is still a mystery, notwithstanding the efforts of officers to reach its true inwardness.

The telegraph operators from all the companies in Boston met yesterday and formed into a protective association. It is understood that this action is in common with the other operatives throughout the country.

The finest building stone in Idaho territory is found in Belleview gulch.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15,—Thurman of the committee on literary reports favored a bill providing for the erection of a statute of General Lafayette.

Logan presented a large number of petitions from tobacco and cigar manufacturers and labor organizations in Illinois, New York, and other states, protesting against the ratification of the Spanish treaty, also petitions signed by over 600 ex soldiers of the Union army, praying congress to purchase for the Capitol at Washington a portrait of General George H. Thomas, and recommending that it be selected by Miss Ransom, referred.

The chair laid before the senate VanDycks resolution heretofore offered, relating to the Spanish treaty, and requiring the committee on rules to report a rule providing the consideration of commercial treaties, in open session. Miller of California, said this matter was under consideration by the committee on foreign relations, and moved the reference of the resolution to that committee. Hoar raised a point of order that the matter should be considered with closed doors.

Platt called for the reading of the rule authorizing the closing of doors. Rule 35 was read, and it provides that on demand of two senators the doors of the senate may at any time be closed. The chair inquired whether the motion of the gentleman from Massachusetts [Hoar] was seconded. Hawley seconded the motion. The senate then went into secret session

In fifteen minutes the doors were re-opened and the Senate took up the Dakota bill, in secret session.

Senator Van Wyck's resolution for the discussion of the commercial treaties, in open session, was referred to committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE.

A motion to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution setting aside Thursday, January 16, for the consideration of the McPherson and Dingely bills. was adopted after a short debate; yeas 174, nays 88, which was exactly the necessary two-thirds in the affirmative.

Lacy, from the committee on coinage, weights and measures, moved to suspend rules and pass the bill prohibiting the issue of treasury notes of a less value than $5, and providing for the issue of $1, $2 and $5 silver certificates. Cassidy said the effect of the bill would be to place an additional amount of silver certificates in circulation, leaving the metal to accumulate in the treasury and furnish argument to be used by the opponents of silver to show that silver will not circulate among the people. The motion to suspend the rules was lost; yeas 49, nays 216. Hopkins, from the committee on labor, reported a resolution requesting of the Attorney General his opinion whether eight hour applies to letter carriers. Adopted. The speaker appointed the following committee, one from each state and territory to attend the executive mansion and witness the opening of the New Orlean Exposition. The committee includes Henley, Colorado, Cassidy, Nevada, George Oregon, Singizer Idaho, Maginnes, Montana, Caine Utah, Brents Washington and Post of Wyoming. Peters from the committee on commerce moved to suspend the rules and pass bill to promote efficiency of the revenue and marine service. The house refused by a vote of 77 to 93 to second the motion. Aiken from the committee on agriculture moved to suspend the rules and pass a bill to establish a department of agriculture. Blount, Potter and Browne, of Ind., spoke in opposition to the motion, which was advocated by Wilson, of Iowa, Aiken, Budd, Hardeman and Cox, of New York. The motion to suspend the rules was agreed to, yeas 166 nay 69. Adjourned.

The London Explosion.

LONDON, 6 a. m., Dec. 14.—Beyond the undoubted fact made to blow up the London Bridge the police have absolutely no information of the affair. It is now supposed that dynamite was used in the explosion and was dropped over the bridge and alighted on the buttress. The damage done consists chiefly of broken windows in the houses in the vecinity. A boot black relates his experience of the explosion, as follows: "I was cleaning a gentlemans boots, when suddenly I felt the earth shake about me, and immediatly after there was a terrific explosion, and I was stunned. When I recovered consciousness the gentle had disappeared." The buttress on which the explosion is supposed to have alighted is only slightly damaged. Persons crossing the bridge at the time of the explosion were thrown down, and many gas jets in the vecinity were extingushed by the concussion.

Howgate Heard From.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 —Lieutenant Greely the Artic voyager, has recently received a letter from Captain Howgate, the fugitive signal service officer, asking for a loan of money. The letter came to Greely through a daughter of Howgate who resides in Cleveland. Howgate did not give his address. Greely replied through Howgate's daughter saying he had not the money to spare. The letter itself he placed in a private drawer in his office in the signal service bureau. On Wednesday he received an anonymous communication stating that his private drawer had been opened and some of his private papers copied, among others the letter from Howgate. On receipt of this communication he laid the matter before Secretary Lincoln, and two detectives and an officer of the signal service corps were sent to Nebraska, where it is thought Howgate is, to arrest him.

Earl Morley on Politics.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The Earl of Morley, liberal member of the Lords and Under Secretary of War, addressed an audience at Plymouth today. He said it would undoubtedly be necessary in 1885 to renew the coercion act in Ireland, or else there would certainly be a revival of outrages and lawlessness. While giving Ireland the greatest measure of justice, England must, the Earl said, be firm, and never for a moment allow it to be supposed she will consent that the union be dissolved.

In regard to Egypt he said England could never allow any other European power to occupy a prominent position there.

Ohio Dynamite.

COLUMBUS O., Dec. 14—The officers of the coal exchange of this city report that they have information of an effort made at 2 o'clock this morning to blow up the house of a miner named Lauterbach, who has returned to work. The statement is made that dynamite was placed near the door where two children were sleeping, and that the doors and frame were torn to pieces, but the children were not injured beyond a severe shock. The city council held a meeting and appointed 20 extra police.

The Transcontinental Business.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—The members of the Transcontinental Railway association who have been in session several days in consultation with the trunk lines on the question of the latter's proportion of the thro' freight rate between the Atlantic and the Pacific met here to day in an informal session and without deciding on any matter of moment, adjourned till to-morrow. The statement that is to be published to-morrow is, that it has been discovered that on December 1st, the necessary notice of 30 days' of withdrawal from the association was given by the Central Pacific. The cause is said to be dissatisfaction with the arbitrators' award of the California business which gives it 19½ per cent, while its feeders including the Union Pacific, Denver & Rio Grande and Burlington, all of whose freight must pass over its lines between Ogden and San Francisco are allowed an aggregate of over twenty-five percent. If this statement proves true, the present association will end Dec. 31, and a meeting is now being held that will have to deal with its formation anew.

Reuben Springer's Will.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 15.—The will of the late Reuben Springer was probated to-day. The document, with six codicils, covers nearly forty pages of legal paper manuscript. The whole is in his own handwriting, and the will declares it is made without the advice of any human being. The largest public bequest is 750 shares special guaranteed stock of the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago railway to the Music Hall Association, of a par value of $75,000, the income to be used for the support of the Music Hall building. He gives $ 0,000 to the College of music, and $20.000 to the Museum Association, besides pictures and works of art in bequests to churches executed in 1878, was changed March 18th 1884 doubling some and largely increasing all others. The final bequeaths are to St. Mary's Seminary of the West, for the education of Roman Catholic priests, $100,000. To the Little Sisters of the Poor, $35,000, Good Samaritan Hospital $30,000, for Ancisca Brothers $35,000, Sisters of Charity of Cedar grove for a foundling asylum $20,000. Support of Catholic schools $40,000, there was also a large number of smaller bequests. All his blood relations were also remembered. His estate is valued at three millions.

Rolling Mills Suspended.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 15.—Notice was posted on Edger Thompson's steel works at Briddocks, to-day, ordering the suspension of the works to-morrow in all departments for an indefinite period. The order which is a complete surprise to the workmen, is caused by a lack of orders and great depression in the nail business. The firm are unable to say how long the works will remain idle. Resumption might be ordered in a few weeks, and perhaps not for months. As all depended upon the market and the demand. About 1,600 employes are directly affected by the suspension, but indirectly between 3,000 and 4,000, all are suffrers. The monthly pay-roll amounts to a hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Blaine on Interviews.

NEW YORK, Dec 15.—The *Tribune* of Tuesday will say editorially: Mr. Blaine desires to have it stated that all the reports of interviews held him since his arrival in Washington are entirely unauthorized. One in which he is represented as discussing his relations with Mr. Conkling has been extensively published throughout the country; but is from beginning to end an inexcusable forgery. Mr. Blaine asks that his friends will do him the favor to discredit utterly, all expressions in the form of interviews which may be imputed to him. If he has any occasion to communicate with the public he will do so over his own name.

Rebellion in Corea.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—A *Times* Hong Kong dispatch says it is reported from Nagasaki that the Coreans have rebelled and that the King has fled to the hills and his general are killed. The outbreak occurred during an entertainment given by the King to the British minister and others. On a given signal the King's son and his ministers were massacred and the queen disappeared. A collision occurred between the Chinese troops and the Japanese. The foreign residents in Corea are safe. The gun boat Espera has arrived in the Scout river. The purpose of the rebellion is unknown. The results are of certain interest to several powers.

Napoleon "Bobs up Serenely."

PARIS, Dec. 14.—The Bonapartist banquet to-day was attended by 1,200 persons; Maurice Richard presided. He declared that France was in the same state of anarchy now as before the accession of Napoleon. Now, as then, the only remedy would be for the people to elect a responsible chief. "We are therefore," he said, "forming a national league to elect a worthy chief." He concluded by proposing a toast to Prince Napoleon. Pascal declared the object of the meeting was to proclaim Napoleonic sentiments and openly demand that Prince Napoleon be made chief of the government.

England, Spain and America.

MADRID, Dec. 13.—The *Imparcial* says the negotiations between England and Spain for a commercial treaty will soon be terminated. Spanish wines will obtain a reduction to 30 and perhaps 32 years. England gets the most favored nation treatment in Spain, but not in the Spanish colonies. The British ambassador at Madrid has assured the government that Great Britain would do nothing to influence America in regard to the treaty of commerce. If British influence caused the defeat of the American treaty now under consideration, he said, the English protocol would share the same fate.

Bayard In Cleveland's Cabinet.

ALBANY, Dec. 15.—Lt. Governor Campbell, Judge Lindley, John G. Prother, members of the Democratic National Committee, John I. Martin, Cleveland elector, and John G. Priest of National Advisory Committee, all of Missouri, called upon Governor Cleveland this afternoon to suggest the name of James O. Broadhead of St. Louis, as Attorney General of the United States. The gentlemen afterward made a tour of the capitol. When Senator Bayard paid his respects to the president-elect, it is understood he left for home with the assurance that he could make his choice of any position in the cabinet.

The Berlin White Book.

BERLIN, Dec. 15.—The White Book just issued contains a dispatch from the German consul at Canton referring to the pending railway activity in China, which the consul says will promote trade and benefit the subsidized steamship service.

A New York Failure.

NEW YORK, Dec 15.— Henry Levy and Son, importers of fancy goods in this city, made an assignment to Wm Belshenen, with preferences, $66,000 liabilities and $30,000 unsecured liabilities mostly foreign.

JEFFERSON DAVIS' LETTER.

Gen. Sherman's Charge Not Sustained.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec 14—In reference to the recent controversy between Gen. Sherman and Jefferson Davis, in which the former charged the latter with having threatened to force certain states to remain in the confederacy, it is stated that Davis' letter containing this threat was written to Gov. Vance, now United States senator, in reply to his letter to President Davis, of Oct. 5th 1882. It has been stated also that the letter of Davis had been destroyed, but this is a mistake, the letter is here and is now in the possession of a gentleman of Raleigh. It is as follows:

RICHMOND VA., Nov. 11, 1862.—TO HIS EXCELLENCY, GOV. VANCE, RALEIGH, N. C.,—*Dear Sir:* I have the honor to acknowledge your's of the 25th ult., and regret the disappointment to which some recruits from North Carolina have been subjected. I concur with you as to the policy of allowing conscripts, as far as state service will permit, to select the companies and regiments in which they are to serve. The right secured by law of the volunteer to select his own company was lost, it is true, by the enrollments, but the policy was so obvious of associating men together who would best harmonize with each other, that it was my purpose to continue the privilege beyond the limit fixed by law.

The danger to the coast of North Carolina, and our inability to draw troops from the army of northern Virginia rendered it proper that the greatest exertion should be made immediately to fill up the regiments in Gen. French's command; but this did not interfere with allowing conscripts to select among those regiments one to which they would be assigned, so long as vacancies existed in the companies chosen, and that I expected would have been done. I will send your letter to the war department with a copy of this reply to you, and hope for the future there will be no ground for dissatisfaction; and that as far as feasible the disappointments to which you refer may be corrected by transfer.

I feel gratfied to you for the cordial manner in which you have sustained every proposition connected with the public defense, and trust that there will always be such co-ordinate intelligence and accordance as will enable us to co-operate for the public good. The conscript act has not been popular anywhere out of the army; then, as you are aware, it serves to check the discontent resulting from retaining twelve months' men beyond the term of their original engagement, and was fairly regarded as a measure equitably to distribute the burdens of the public defense. But the State authorities have nowhere offered any opposition to its execution, or withheld their aid, except in the State of Georgia; and so far as the cadets of the military institute are concerned, in the state of Virginia, I shall endeavor by a judicial decision to settle the question raised in these two States.

In the meantime I have been cheered by the evidence of popular sentiment which supports any measure necessary to protect our country and secure our political independence Like yourself, I have noted the party instinctions that existed at a former time, would be buried in the graves of the gallant men who have fallen in defense of their birthright, and that we should all, as a band of brothers, strike for the inheritance our fathers left us. With sincere regard I am

Respectfully and truly,
JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Washington Notes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The House Committee on Appropriations intends to report both the District of Columbia and diplomatic appropriation bills during the present week. Randall has expressed a determination to get all appropriation bills through the House as soon as possible, so they may be discussed by the Senate at an early day. The interstate commerce bill will be called up for continued discussion when no appropriation bills are before the House. Regan hoped to secure action upon it Toursday, When this bill is disposed of, the friends of the Mexican pension bill will endeavor to secure action upon that measure. They will be antagonized, however, by the friends of the educational bill. In the Senate a bill for the admission of Dakota is unfinished business, and its consideration will continue daily, after the morning hour, until disposed of A vote will probably be taken Tuesday.

Callendar said the measure is entitled to whatever advantage that designation confers in the bill, to establish commission and to regulate interstate commerce. Should this measure come up, it is likely to consume the remainder of the week. It is understood, however, that Senator Blair will antagonize it with one of the "labor" bills now on the calendar reported from the committee on education and labor. Two other measures are made a special order for the week, but it is doubtful if they will be reached.

Chief Justice Waite Ill.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—No decisions of general public importance were rendered by the United States Supreme Court to-day. Chief Justice Waite, who was taken sick on Saturday, was absent from his seat the first time since he has assumed the duties of the office. His illness is not considered as serious, but he is confined to his bed. Justice M. Aller is acting as temporary chief Justice.

A Saloon Keeper Wants War.

PHILADELPHIA. Dec. 14.—The *Press* will publish to-morrow an article stating that a saloon keeper of this city who claims to have become a millionaire by the death of a Cuban uncle, has written O'Donova Rossa, saying that as soon as he has received the money he would give $100,000 for a scientific warfare against England.

Mayor Edson Nominates.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Mayor Edson sent to day to the board of aldermen the nomination of Fitz John Parker for commissioner of public works and Morgan J. O'Brien for corporation counsel. Both nominations were laid on the table.

Wm. M. Evart's Dinner.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—Wm. M. Evarts gave a dinner to-night to the Barthod's statue committee. After dinner the committee considered the question as to what was the best way of raising the needful $150,000 for the completion of the foundation.

A Rough Passage.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—The officers on the incoming trans-Atlantic steamers, report this as the roughest passage ever experienced, from Dec. 2nd until the 10th all vessels encountered heavy storms and hurricanes. On the New Foundland banks a tremendous sea was running.

Patti was given a dinner to-night, at New York, in recognition of her completion of her twenty-fifth year on the lyric stage.