The New North-West.

JAMES H. MILLS, : PUBLISHER.

—A committee of the Women's National Christian Temperance Union visited Washington this month with a temperance petition representing twenty-three States, and including more than thirty thousand names.

—All subsidy schemes have received a black eye in the House of Representatives, but that in no degree appeases the hunger of the applicants and their retainers. They are out of meat, and must, if possible, have something.

—There is a fair prospect that the inconvenient and annoying twenty-cent silver coin will soon be out of circulation, the Committee on Banking and Currency having agreed to report a bill discontinuing their coinage.

—A bill fixing the rate of compensation of Postmasters and putting a stop to the trade of postage stamps by small postmasters has been agreed upon by the House Post-office Committee, and will be reported on the next call of the committee.

—Dr. Chapin, of New York, in a recent address to his Sunday-school on the subject of future punishment, said it was not so much a study of his to keep people out hell as to keep hell out of the people. And there's a good deal of common sense in the idea.

—There is a disposition on the part of several members of the House Committee on Commerce to recommend larger appropriations for internal improvements this year than usual. Labor can now be obtained at cheaper rates than for many years past, and liberal appropriations will give employment to hundreds of impoverished workmen.

—The Philadelphia *Press* is of the opinion that Major E. A. Burke's telegraphic reply to Mr. William E. Chandler's letter throws no light on the vexed question of Louisiana returns, and does nothing to raise in public estimation the Louisiana politician. It rarely does any good to get angry, and Major Burke helps neither himself nor his cause by this letter of irrelevant vituperation.

—Governor Potts returned to Helena from the East Wednesday evening. While in Washington he met Jay Gould who said the Utah and Northern Road would certainly be completed to Marsh Valley in time for the spring freights and 100 miles farther during the summer and fall. This will bring it near to Eagle Rock bridge. Mr. Gould will himself visit Montana during the summer.

—The Philadelphia *Times*, in an article discussing Senator Ferry's bill, the object of which is the classification of mail matter and the rates of postage thereon, says in conclusion: "Nothing that by any stretch of authority, much less by direct grant of power, may warrant a governmental supervision of the press, should be made a part of the laws of this land, which owes so much that is good to the liberty of the press and the sanctity of the mails."

—The California Legislature is engaged in a wholesale kind of endeavor to make men better by law. Having passed an act to prohibit incendiary meetings and another to prevent the assessment of candidates for office, it has now come to the consideration of a bill "to prevent the circulation of bogus election tickets, and to prevent frauds at elections." It provides for a kind of local copyright on the ballot. The act is described as authorizing the proper committee of any political party to adopt and have printed at the head of their ticket a vignette. It must be printed on the inside of the ballot, occupying only a certain space, and set forth that the ticket is the regular one of the party, giving the name; it must also show the district or precinct in which the ticket may be lawfully voted. An impression of the vignette and inscription must be filed with the County Clerk before the opening of the polls on election day, a copy to be kept on file for examination, and it is made a misdemeanor for any person to imitate or counterfeit this ballot, or to circulate or distribute such counterfeit. This would be a sad blow to the universal practice of printing split tickets in imitation of the straight ballots of one party or the other; and might possibly assist somewhat in saving the ignorant from voting unsuspectingly for the other man.

The British Fleet.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 14.—A rumor is current this afternoon that the British fleet has passed the Dardanelles.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The *Advertiser* publishes the following in official form: We have reason to believe the fleet has passed the Dardanelles and is now in the Sea of Marmora. We understand Admiral Hornby was left with full discretion as to the force he would take with him and in all probability a larger force has gone than was at first contemplated. We believe the Porte contents itself with a formal protest.

The *Standard* and *Post* confirm the report that the British fleet has passed the Dardanelles. The former's leader says England is ready to act with any or every power in resisting Russian aggression upon their rights and interests but if all hold back we must act by ourselves and leave our neighbors to save their own interests and honor if they can.

CHICAGO, Feb. 14.—The *Tribune's* London special says: As the intention of the Russians to occupy Constantinople has been officially announced in case of the arrival of the British fleet there is every probability that to-day or to-morrow will witness the total extinction of Turkish Empire in Europe. The Sultan has declared that on the entry of Russians he will proceed at once to Broussa in Asia Minor, and should he do so there is little likelihood of his return. It is reported 1800 Russian sailors and naval officers have arrived in Adrianople on their way to take possession of the Turkish fleet in the Bosphorus. It is understood here that Admiral Hornby's orders have been changed so that he will proceed with his whole force instead of six ships as was first directed and that he is instructed to use his guns if necessary to pass forts. This movement and reported order for mobilization of the Austrian army gives a very warlike aspect to affairs and little or nothing is heard about a conference.

A New Banking Bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Ewing, Buckner and Phillips, sub committee of the House Committee on Banking and Currency, have agreed on a substitute for Buckner's bill. It proposes to retire the national bank notes as they may be received by the Treasury through legitimate business channels, and substitute therefor Treasury notes, to be receivable for all debts to the government, or fundable in 4 per cent. bonds at par. The banks may voluntarily retire their circulating notes, and receive for them 4 per cent. bonds, and the Treasury and legal tender notes may be received in payment for such bonds. The bonds heretofore authorized to be issued may be disposed of at not less than par whenever coin may be needed for any purpose. The bill has yet to be submitted to a full committee. It is framed in contemplation of the passage of the silver bill, with which it is intended to be in accord.

THE MILES EXPEDITION.

Dispatches from General Miles state that he has finally come to the conclusion steadfastly entertained in this part of Montana that Sitting Bull has not crossed to the American side of the line and has halted the expedition he had organized to attack Sitting Bull's Sioux. The hostiles he had advices of were doubtless the 160 lodges Spotted Eagle was expecting at his camp in the British Possessions two or three weeks ago—the same who escaped from the vicinity of Spotted Tail agency and created such a sensation on the Bismarck and Black Hills route last fall. They crossed the Missouri not far from the mouth of the Yellowstone and have been skirting around the bend of the river to join the other hostile refugees on British soil. Their presence north and west of Fort Peck was mistaken for an advance of Sitting Bull's forces. Miles has not the facilities enjoyed by General Gibbon in obtaining prompt and reliable advices direct from the refugee camps through the medium of the Mounted Police who are in constant communication with them. His advices led him to believe there were hostile Indians from across the border within close distance of Fort Peck and he promptly prepared to give them battle. It has been rather ungenerously intimated that Miles' alertness and incessant hunting for a fight is in great measure due to his aspirations for a Brigadier Generalship. This may or may not be the incentive. If it is, it is a laudable ambition and he proposes to win it like a soldier with his sword. He understands the true system of fighting hostile Indians, and the one that will soonest conquer peace. Instead of waiting for them to recuperate in horses, arms and ammunition, and make forays on the settlements, agencies or steamers, he believes in hunting and fighting them down and carrying the war into *their* camps. While they are flying for safety and driven about from pillar to post, they can neither accumulate facilities for, nor engage in devastation of, the settlements. Miles is the very kind of a commanding officer to settle the Indian troubles and Montana wishes him not only one but two stars if he can get them by his laudable energy, alertness, skill and courage. While not believing Sitting Bull contemplates return to American soil, as by that act he would forfeit his Canadian refuge and be doomed to inevitable defeat in a short time, the irreconcilables of the north who look to him as a leader are well worth watching and the defeat of those on our side the line this winter would be a better guarantee than we have at present of uninterrupted navigation of the Missouri the coming summer. It does not appear Miles has entirely abandoned his purpose of an expedition against the Northern hostiles, and he can be assured he has the gratitude of Montana for past services, its confidence in him as a commander, its best wishes that he may be given all the force he requires and win the brighest star that beckons him to duty and to glory.

THE FRUE VANNING MACHINE.

Is it "the Way we Long have Sought?"

There are two things evident to Montana miners: 1. That a large percentage of the valuable metals in ores treated by mill process go into the tailings and is either lost or unavailable at present; 2d. That a very large proportion of Montana ores are too low grade to be worked profitably at home or shipped profitably abroad. A process that will at moderate working expense extract the values from these tailings, and divest the low grade ores of their gangue, concentrating three, four or more tons into one concentrate of valuable metals is a disideratum of incalculable benefit to the mining interests of the Territory.

On the other hand, patent processes, especially those originating in the East, have not been generally successful, are regarded with distrust and require the test of practical success to commend them to favor. This is the stern lesson of costly experience. As, despite the scores of other methods proposed and tried, experience has demonstrated satisfactorily that crushing by stamps, the old primitive method after arastras, is best and most economical, many, at least practically hold to the further view that what the plates and settlers will not save will not pay to save, and so the tailings, with their 10 to 35 per cent. of original values are let go to waste. Some of these are caught, it is true, and held for possible future use, just as one lays away half worn clothes for a possible contingency that is usually anticipated by the moths. So with concentrating ores. While every one realizes the ruinous expense of shipping a ton of ore to Omaha, New York, Swansea or Frieburg to obtain from it 100 ounces or more of valuable metals, the immense cost of some concentrating machinery and the failure of others to realize good results has led to the payment of freights on this immense amount of gangue, even while transportation was entirely inadequate for the requirements of the Territory, and the bulk of profits went to the carriers.

While this condition of affairs exists a new process—the Frue Vanning Machine process—comes before Montana miners for consideration. It is either the long-wished-for method of concentrating ores and reclaiming tailings, or it is a failure. The importance of what it proposes to do, the cheapness of the machinery used, the small power and amount of water required, the testimony of those who have tested it practically, and the fair conditions on which its proprietors propose to introduce it in Montana entitle it to a fair trial, and render a description of it of interest. If it fails it will cost no one anything; if it is a success it will to a great extent revolutionize the manner of handling ores, and utilize a large percentage that is now waste. We therefore submit the following in relation to it:

The Frue Vanning Machine is the invention of Capt. William B. Frue, of Detroit, Michigan, a practical gold and siver miner, and discoverer of the Silver Islet mine, Lake Superior. It was first tested at the Wyandotte Smelting Works, near Detroit, Mich., was patented in 1874, and the first mill erected for using the machines was at the Silver Islet Mill, Lake Superior, where 24 of the machines, fed by 50 stamps, have been in operation since April, 1875. In the winter of 1876–7, after they had been fully and satisfactorily tested in the above works, their introduction into Colorado was undertaken by Mr. L. C. Trent, mechanical engineer, who is now the general agent for Montana. The machines are manufactured by Frazer, Chalmers & Co., Chicago, which is sufficient guarantee of their good construction. A double machine occupies a floor space of 15x11 feet; weighs 4,000 pounds; costs $1,300 in Chicago, and will cost set up in Montana about $2,000 or $2,100. It has a capacity of treating 8 to 10 tons per day, requires about one inch of water and one horse power to operate and propel it. The cost of handling tailings through it is 50 to 60 cents per ton, and it saves 65 to 90 per cent. of the mineral contained in them. It is estimated that there is now carried off in the tailings at Butte an average of twenty ounces to the ton, which is worth $28. Mr. Trent believes that the vanner will make a net profit of at least $10 per ton from these otherwise unavoidable tailings. In the matter of concentrations from stamps he estimates the entire expense of crushing with stamps and concentrating with a Vanner at $2 to $3 per ton. It is now being done in Colorado for $1.30 per ton. There is very little wear and tear to the machines, the wear being principally upon the rubber surface of the canvass belt, and this is readily and cheaply replaced by a rubber paint manufactured for the purpose.

The principle of working is very simple. It consists of an endless canvass belt covered with rubber, and having flanges on the side. It is set with a gentle inclination in a frame work enclosing the propelling power. These belts are 27½ feet long and 4 feet wide. The movement of the top of the belt is upward. The feed is about two-thirds of the distance toward the head of the machine where tailings or ore are evenly fed, with a sufficient quantity of water with the vanning motion to give them wash. This floats the worthless matter down faster than the belt ascends and it is carried to the dump. The metallic particles adhere to the smooth rubber surface. This appears to be the essential principle involved. As the belt passes over the head roller and turns under a jet of water strikes the surface, loosening and parting the metallic particles from the belt, whence they fall into the receiver. This is the entire operation, save where further concentrations are desired by a repetition of the process.

In the concentration of copper ores it is stated in the *Engineering and Mining Journal* that one of these machines, at the Liberty mine, Maryland, concentrated raw ore carrying only two per cent. copper to 58 per cent. copper at one run, and the assay of tailings showed only one-ninth of one per cent. The following extracts are from the same journal:

"At the Silver King mine, in Arizona, silver ore from $100 to $300 per ton has been worked. The first vanner put in for trial yielded in 40 days' running, of 24 hours, 22 tons of concentrates, assaying $1,600 per ton, and working up to 90 per cent. of the assay value. This is an exceptional fine ore to treat, and three more vanners are now being put in place. The ore is, in this case, also, stamped directly on to the machine.

"The black auriferous sea sands of Oregon have lately been worked with marked success. In the first experiment at San Francisco, one ton only of the sand was treated, assaying $8.20 per ton in gold. The concentrations yielded $1,935.47 per ton, the tailings showing only a trace of assay.

"The first actual mill of vanners ever erected, was that at Silver Islet mine, Lake Superior. Here 20 machines, in double row, taking the pulp from 50 stamps, worked regularly 60 tons per day; while four machines redress the concentrate from the lower vanners to make it of equal value with that from the first row of machines. Silver ore carrying only $8 per ton pays well for running in this mill; as, owing to the presence of native silver, and but little base mineral, the concentrated ore runs very high. This mill is now idle for want of ore, the mine being very lightly worked; but it paid for cost of construction in a few month's running.

"In the Marmora gold district of Canada, the gold bearing arsenical pyrites is concentrated by the vanner, and the product shipped to Germany; the arsenic paying the shipping expenses."

The very fact of the minerals being finely disseminated, which renders it so difficult for the German machines to treat, is a matter of advantage to the vanner, and its treatment of sulphuret is most successful. It is especially with base ores that the vanners have achieved the greatest success, having worked with best results the low grade tellurium ores of Boulder county Colorado, which it had been said were "as impossible to concentrate as the four winds of heaven."

Mr. Trent, who is here to introduce the machines, has visited Butte and Jefferson City and will soon visit Philipsburg. There are at present the following Vanners at work: In Colorado, 60, (every mill in Boulder county using them); California, 35; Arizona, 4; Oregon, 13; Canada, 12; Idaho, 2; Lake Superior regions, 45; Missouri, 2; Maryland, 2. It was designed to bring two up this winter and set them to work at Butte, so as to test them early, but transportation could not be had. Mr. Trent is now negotiating with A. J. Davis, Esq., and it is probable the first Vanners will be erected at his mill. It is expected they will be in operation early in June, as it only requires a couple of weeks to set them up. Mr. Trent has proposed to put up the machines, and unless they perform all he claims for them the company will return the money. Negotiations are also in progress looking to the erection of copper crushing and concentration works at Butte which, if consummated, will soon follow the working of tailings. We have in our possession a number of testimonials from companies using these machines which concede to them all and more than the merits claimed for them above, but space will not permit of their insertion. We have endeavored to give some idea of the machine and what is claimed for it. If it can produce the results here attested for it elsewhere it will revolutionize mining matters and the transportation of ores in Montana, and our idea is that it will accomplish what is claimed for it. Mr. Trent proposes to stay in Montana until he proves them by actual working test a success or a failure.

MAGINNIS' BILL.

All the Delegates Endorse it Fully.

WASHINGTON, February 8.—The Committee of Territorial Delegates unanimously adopted the following at their meeting to-day:

Resolved. That the Committee on Public Lands, of the House of Representatives, be respectfully requested to report House Bill No. 2442, introduced by Maginnis, of Montana, to regulate the cutting of timber on public lands in the Territories with favorable recommendation, as in our belief said bill is well adapted to furnish such relief as the people of the Territories require, and that its passage ought not to be jeopardized by being attached to or connected with other proposed legislation, about which there may exist serious differences of opinion. The bill proposed gives immediate relief and the interest of the Territory require such action on the part of Congress. In view of the threatened action by authorities the Delegates from the Territories unanimously and urgently ask such action at the hands of the Committtee on Public Lands so that the adjournment of the present session of Congress will not leave them in their present unfortunate condition.

Trade Dollars.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The third assistant postmaster general has telegraphed and written to the postmaster at New York as follows: "Trade dollars not being legal tender you are not obliged to receive them. A joint resolution of Congress approved July 22, 1876, is the authority on which the above decision is based. The second section of the law referred to contains the following explicit provision: 'The trade dollar shall not hereafter be a legal tender.'"

In pursuance of Mr. Bowles' almost dying words, "Don't let us have any parade—now or hereafter," his funeral was a simplest character.

NOTES OF THE DAY.

Tom Thumb has become bald.

Four of the seven clerks in the Ohio Senate are practical printers.

A barber in Dubuque has been offered $10,000 for a patent lamp-chimney which he has invented.

A colored woman down in Arkansas said her child was very sick wite "majestic' chills, and she feared it was going into a "melodious" fever.

During this year 700,000 trees will be set out on the line of the Union Pacific railroad. This is by order of the company, and will add much to the value of their land.

Shack Nasty Jim, the once famous Modoc, has raised 1,200 bushels of corn, and wants to learn the process of preparing it so it may be eaten out of a flask.—*Worcester Press.*

The oldest postmaster in the United States is Nathan Wood, who has been postmaster at Deep River, Indiana, for over 40 years, having been appointed first during Gen. Jackson's administration.

Robert Bonner, who owns $250,000 worth of horseflesh, almost invariably rides down to his office and up home in street car. When he has bought a few more valuable horses he will probably make the distance on foot.

There is a young man of North Troy, Vt., thirty-three years of age, who is said to have had the happiness of courting ninety-nine girls since his childhood, and is now looking for another to complete the hundred.

Miss Augusta Chambers, a charming young actress, who recently went out as leading lady of Mr. Daniel s Theater, in Deadwood (Black Hills), has, in the time she has been there, a little over two months, received 276 offers of marriage. In one day she received 17. Listening to them interferes with the time necessary to study her *role*.

The Crown Prince of Germany and his wife have not, considering their station, a very large annual income. It is only about $75,000. They have, however, two residences rent free, and the right to give a certain number of dinners every year at the charge of the Emperor. His Majesty is said to have an annual income of about $4,800,000.

Geo. Cruikshank, the famous English caricaturist, died on Friday at the advanced age of 86 years. Probably no artist in his line has achieved a greater reputation than Cruikshank. He supplied many of the leading pictorials of England with caricatures, and published several collections of his pictures. Many of Dickin's novelwere illustrated by him. He was particularly happy in illustrating political squibs, in that respect being to England what Nast is to America.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

Sweeping Report Against Pagan Immigration by the House Committee.

WASHINGTON, February 6.—The report supporting the resolution prepared by Mr. Willis and approved by the whole Committee of Immigration and Labor, makes the following suggestions:

1. The statistics of the Custom House for the past 20 years show that, dividing said 20 years into periods of five years each, the average increase of said period is 50 per cent., estimating the present number of Chinese on the Pacific slope at 150,000, which is the lowest estimate from any source. If the above rate of increase should continue, by 1880 the number of Chinese would exceed the native voting population, together with the immigration from other places, over 50,000. The question, therefore, is not one of prospective but of present importance, and demanding immediate legislation if these immigrants are objectionable.

2. The lowest class of immigrants are from the fourth or lowest class of Chinese, among whom, when in China, the marriage relation is denied, and polygamy, prostitution and concubinage recognized if not legalized. The children and wives are sold into slavery; the sanctity of oaths is disregarded; infanticide, especially of females, is common and unrebuked; cleanliness is almost unknown, and paganism is the only religion.

3. They are mostly brought here under contracts, by which they agree to pay certain brokers or the Six Chinese Companies a large percentage upon their passage money. When these Chinese attempt to return home they are unable to do so unless the Six Companies give them a permit. The companies exercise a control over them greater than the civil government. The women who come here are without exception immoral, and are bought and sold like sheep in shambles.

4. Viewing the subject from a labor standpoint: These Chinamen live fifty in one room 20x80. They have no wives, no children, and no homes, in the sense in which the word is known in America. Their food is rice. Packed like sardines, and enjoying none of the comforts of a home, they live upon fifteen or twenty cents a day.

5. The report argues that they are unfit to become citizens of America; that they disregard oaths, keep up pagan customs, and that it is impossible to execute the laws over them or to make them regard sanitary regulations.

6. The chief objection to the Chinese is their utter failure to assimilate with our people and institutions. In this respect they are like all European emigrants. They have been in the country 27 years, and they are the same to-day as when they first came—the same in dress, social habits, religion and political views.

The committee are considering the form of a law to prevent Chinese immigration. They hold that Congress has already the power to deal with the subject and apply the remedy. Mr. Willis says that there are a number of Supreme Court proceedings affirming that Congress in its power of legislations over such subjects is not restrained by treaty stipulations, and that the present treaty with China must not stand in the way of the legislation demanded by the highest conditions of public safety.

Important Public Meeting.

OMAHA, Feb. 6.—This evening an important mass meeting of the leading business men of Omaha and Council Bluffs was held at the Court House in this city, under the auspices of the Omaha Board of trade, to discuss Chaffee's pro rata bill with reference to the Union Pacific, and to take some action thereon. The meeting was largely attended. Hitherto there has existed between Omaha and Council Bluffs the most bitter jealousy, but in this matter the hatchet was buried, both cities acting harmoniously, and a general feeling was expressed that hereafter it would be better to unite their interests. Several forcible speeches were made denouncing the bill, and resolutions were adopted urging the Senators and Congressmen of Nebraska and Iowa to exert themselves in an effort to defeat it. A resolution was also adopted recommending a free bridge over the Missouri between Omaha and Council Bluffs.

THE ANDERSON TRIAL AND OUTRAGE.

Plain Talk From Secretary Sherman About it.

WASHINGTON, February 11.—Secretary Sherman being asked if it was true that he, Matthews, Garfield, Hale and White had sent a dispatch to Anderson, said it was true, and as that fact had been made public, he would furnish a copy of the dispatch, and they meant all they said. Sherman then stated that he regarded the arrest, trial and conviction of Anderson as a great outrage under the color and form of law. Anderson was not indicted. The Grand Jury had refused to indict him. The proceeding against him is called an information, and is expressly prohibited in cases of felony by the Constitution of the United States and of most of the States, but is provided for by the law of Louisiana. The information was filed by a man who was an officer of the White League, identified with all the numerous crimes of that organization. The judge who tried the case is a public defaulter for over six hundred thousand dollars. When Anderson was arrested he was acting as a collector of the port of New Orleans, and the arrest was made while he was in the discharge of his duties at the Custom House, which stands, as Sherman thinks, on the ground or under the sole jurisdiction of the United States by cession from Louisiana. He was hurried to prison and required to give excessive bail. The cause of this resentment against Anderson and his associates is, that in the performance of their duty, in plain pursuance of the law, and upon ample testimony they eliminated from the election returns in Louisiana because of violence and intimidation. Though this was not alleged in the information, yet everybody knew that this was the gravemen of their offence, and without it no man on this jury would have convicted Anderson. It is this that excited this population, heated with passion, to the highest state of resentment. The pretense set up——

[Storm south—Operator.]

Nothing has been done, pending the trial to interfere in any way with the course of the judicial proceedings, but if Anderson is imprisoned under this sentence it will be a mockery of public justice, and will bring into contempt all efforts at peace and conciliation. It is an unlooked-for and terrible commentary upon the efforts of the President to quiet the turbulence and violence of Louisiana politics, and seems to be an act of folly and madness.

The following is the dispatch referred to:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4, 1878.

To General Thomas C. Anderson, New Orleans, Louisiana:

The undersigned feel it due to you under the present circumstances to assure of our unchangeable belief, that in the matter whereof you stand charged you are altogether guiltless before the law, that you are falsely accused and maliciously persecuted; that the proceeding against you, though in the form of law, is without the substance of justice; that we hereby tender our earnest sympathies, and express our hope that the sense of justice and love of peace of the people of Louisiana will protect you and not permit the best interests of the whole country to be disturbed by a revival of sectional animosity. In any event we are confident the American people will redress any injustice of which you may be made the victim.

Signed—John Sherman, Stanley Matthews, J. A. Garfield, Eugene Hale, Harry White.

Blank Bids for Postal Contracts.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Complaint has been made to the Postoffice Department that a number of postmasters in various parts of California have certified bonds accompanying blank bids for postal contracts and that some persons contend that such certification vitiates the bids, even though they are subsequently filled up before presentation to the Department. This is a total mistake. No bids will be rejected for this cause, and it is very doubtful whether a postmaster can be held to any serious account for acting in accordance with this very common and long-established practice, which is not prohibited by any existing law and which is justifiable by several considerations of prudence and public benefit. Bonds accompanying bids under the present system are not based upon the amounts for which the parties undertake to perform the service, but upon the previous cost of the service, which is specifically set forth in the Department's advertisement. They are made conditional upon the faithful performance of the service, in case the bidder shall be awarded the contract, and as a qualification of sureties is made dependent upon their ownership of unencumbered real estate, worth double the amount of their liability on the bond, the security seems to be perfect whether the bid is blank or not. On the other hand, the number and competition of bidders would be lessened if all persons were to run the risk of local postmasters disclosing to other parties the amounts bid for any particular routes, which would be the case if the bids were completed before submitting the bonds for certification. The Department has long known of the existence of the practice above indicated, but has never been called upon to make a formal ruling in regard to it, until quite recently, when Postmaster Coey telegraphed for instructions, when the second Assistant Postmaster-General replied by telegraph as follows:

"Proposals and bonus must be perfected before the execution of postmaster's certificate. This ruling reflects the verbal opinion of the present law officers of the Postoffice Department, but has not yet been promulgated for general guidance, and is subject to reversal or modification; at all events, it will not be construed to affect the validity of any bids received up to present time at the Department in a complete form even though they may be proved to have been filed on at the last minute before 3 o'clock of the day when the acceptation of bids for the next term of four years on the Pacific Coast and elsewhere west of the Mississippi river was terminated."

The Metropolis Investigation.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 13.—In the investigation into the cause of the loss of the Metropolis, to-day, several witnesses testified to having heard the Captain say after the wreck, that he had been told by Lunt, one of the owners, that if he had any accident not to make any half way business of it; if he made a wreck of the ship he should make it a good one. This testimony was a corroboration of that heretofore given by Paul J. White, engineer, and A. M. Newton.

Monetary Resolutions.

DES MOINES, (Iowa) February 11.—The House this morning adopted a resolution by a party vote, declaring for the maintenance of public credit, for currency convertible into coin, the gradual and steady resumption and remonetization of silver, the immediate repeal of the remonetization act; that gold and silver be made a legal tender for all debts, and that the present volume of legal tender currency should be maintained for the present.

TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—Mr. Dowd, President of the Bank of North America, states that their embezzling teller intends to plead guilty when arraigned, as he has conscientious scruples about putting the county to expense.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The President has nominated Charles Silent, of California Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Arizona Territory.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—The German-American Bank has lost about one-fourth of its capital, and a reduction from one million to seventy-five thousand has been agreed upon by the stockholders.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 11.—Hon. Chas. M. Conrad, progression member of Congress, U. S. Senator and Secretary of War under President Fillmore, died here to-day, aged 73.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—Darius R. Mangam, ex-President of the National Trust Company, hearing he had been indicted on charge of perjury in swearing to the financial condition of the Company, appeared in court and gave $20,000 bail. The bondsmen are Commodore Garrison and Appleton, publisher of *Appleton's Journal*.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—John C. Cruikshank, former Secretary of the National Trust Company, was arrested on the indictment found by the grand jury, charging him with perjury.

Honors to the Dead.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 8.—Archbishop Gibbons was this morning officially informed of the Holy Father's death and requested to communicate the intelligence to the other archbishops.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 8.—A solemn High Mass for Requiem for the Pontiff was celebrated in the Cathedral this morning by Bishop Hendricken.

ROME, Feb. 8.—The congregational of Cardinals to-day heard the late Pope's last wishes relative to the conclave and his funeral. Cardinals Bilio, Pecci and Dipietro will govern the church pending the election of a Pontiff.

All the church bells in Rome are tolling. Funeral services will be held in all the churches, but the Requiem in St. Peters is expected to be very imposing. The remains are to be temporarily deposited in the choir chapel of St. Peters, and finally be placed in the crypt. The conclave decide whether the funeral shall be public or private.

The Pope's last act was to provide for the continuance of his servant's salaries and the pensions of their widows.

NEW YORK, Feb. 8.—Cardinal McCloskey leaves for Rome to-morrow in the steamer City of New York to take part in the election of a successor of Pope Pius IX.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—The semi-official *Journal de St. Petersburg* of yesterday, in commenting on the dispatch of the British fleet says: As far as Russia is concerned we think this measure ought not to make her deviate from the policy she has hitherto followed. Long before the last incidents which now bring the English fleet into Constantinople waters, that eventuality was foreseen, and was made the subject of instructions to the Russian commander-in-chief. If we are well informed those instructions directed that in case the Ottoman capital should be occupied by the Imperial troops and a British fleet should appear before that city, that the fleet should be received with all the consideration due to a friendly power, and that if the necessity for protecting the lives and property of British subjects should cause troops to be landed, these should be regarded as a welcome auxiliary for the maintenance of order as long as their activity was confined to that purpose. Now that the English fleet is approaching Constantinople, and has given rendezvous to other great powers, we may assume that the same courtesy will be maintained between the naval and land forces of the different states if they should meet on Turkish soil. Sixteen months ago this measure was proposed by Russia and refused by the Cabinet of London. How much bloodshed and suffering might have been avoided by the acceptance of that proposal.

More Financial Legislation Proposed.

WASHINGTON, February 11.—Ewing Buckner and Phillips, a sub-committe of the Committee on Banking and Currency have agreed on a substitute for Buckner's bill. It proposes to retire National bank notes as they may be received at the Treasury through legitimate business channels, and substitute therefor Treasury notes, to be receivable for all debts to the government or fundable in 4 per cent. bonds at par. The banks may voluntarily retire their circulating notes and receive for them 4 per cent. bonds, and Treasury and legal tender notes may be received in payment of such bonds. The bonds heretofore authorized to be issued may be disposed of not less than par whenever money may be needed for any purpose. The bill has yet to be submitted to the whole committee. It is framed in contemplation of the passage of the silver bill, with whith it is intended to be in accord.

Defaulting Bank Teller.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—Wm. Dowd, President of the Bank of North America, states that on Saturday, upon the commencement of the examination by the Bank Department, the paying teller, A. M. Turney, confessed that he was a defaulter to the amount of $100,600. He has been in the service of the bank 25 year, and was much respected. The bank has been thoroughly examined by official State examiners They find the unimpaired capital of the bank, after the defalcations, over all debts, to be $732,879. The bank has recovered $16,029, reducing the amount of their loss to $86,570. Turney was arrested and locked up.

Cyclone in Georgia.

AUGUSTA, Feb. 8.—About 7 o'clock last evening the city was visited with a shower of hail, followed by a rain storm, accompanied by thunder and lightning and a rumbling and trembling of earthquake. This was followed a little after 1 o'clock by a cyclone, which struck the city on the southwest, near Centre street, and demolished the houses. The lower Market House was literally lifted and smashed into atoms. Several brick and wooden buildings were wholly or partially destroyed. The cyclone traveled from southwest to the northeast, and covered a space about 300 yards wide. Some casualties are reported.

REDUCTION OF RATES.—The Western Union Telegraph Company has adopted a new rule, as follows: When the tariff is 25 cents, the rate for each additional word will be 2 cents; when the tariff is 40 cents, each additional word 3 cents; tariff of 50 cents, each additional, 3 cents; tariff of 75 cents, each additional, 5 cents; tariff of $1, each additional, 7 cents; tariff of $1.25, each additional, 8 cents; tariff of $1.50, each additional, 10 cents; tariff of $1.75, each additional, 12 cents; tariff of $2, each additional, 13 cents; tariff of $2.50, each additional, 17 cents. The company will charge for the word "collect" hereafter the same as for a word of the message.

THE JEWITT CASE.

Bail Refused—Writ of Habeas Corpus Granted.

NEW YORK, February 6.—The examination of Receiver Jewitt, of the Erie railroad, was begun to-day, Police Justice Morgan deciding in favor of the claim for the prosecution, that the examination should proceed. He also declined to accept an offer of bail, the court to fix the amount. The bondsmen offered by Mr. Jewett were ex-Governor Morgan, Marshal O. Roberts, R. Sheriff and Henry G. Stebbins, or any two of them the court would ascept. The counsel for Mr. Jewitt entered a protest against the examination, which had not proceed far when a writ of *habeas corpus* and *certiorari*, issued by Judge Donahue in the Supreme Court and returnable this afternoon, was served on Judge Morgan, and brought the proceedings to a close. Judge Morgan was cited to appear before the former and produce all the testimony taken in the case. The examination was then adjourned until the next day, to await Judge Donahue's decision as to whether bail should be accepted in the case or not. Charles Barrett, an expert accountant, who examined the balance sheets in December, testified that the total amount of the funded debt of the company for 1877 was $63,324,370, and the floating debt, $4, 861,533.

A New Ore Crusher.

The Alden Improved Ore Crusher is one of the latest additions to the machinery for reduction purposes, and the last number of the *Scientific American* has this to say concerning it:

"At the time of our examination galena and zinc ores were being crushed. The following results were obtained: Through No. 16 mesh. 12½ tons in 24 hours; No. 30 mesh. 10 tons in 24 hours; No. 60 mesh. 6 tons in 24 hours.

"In the process of reducing ore this machine does the work of the preparatory breaker, and obviates the need of the intermediate machinery ordinarily employed between the preparatory and the final treatment. It works upon the principle of abrasion instead of direct compression. It breaks, crushes, and pulverizes by rasping and rubbing fragment upon fragment between the horizontally corrugated steel faces of the jaws. The motion of the rubbing surfaces is obtained by the oscillation of the dies, which both swing at the same time, in one and the same direction, and to an equal extent.

"The following is a summary of the advantages claimed: It takes ore from the dump and breaks, crushes, and pulverizes it at one operation to any desired degree of fineness, ready for smelting, concentrating, or amalgamating; it is adjustable, and can be instantly regulated to yield coarse, broken, egg, nut, pea, powder or dust; the heaviest piece of the largest machine (receiver, 14 inches by 7 inches) weighs 2,400 pounds; that of the smallest machine (receiver, 10 inches by 3 inches) weighs 487 pounds.

"The machine is built in three sizes, and is adapted for crushing and pulverizing gold, silver, copper, and zinc ores; also for crushing quartz, flint, emery, corundum, feldspar, manganese, phosphate rock, soapstone, plaster, firebrick, slag, etc."

Promotions in the Army.

There is now before Congress a resolution for fixing the manner of promotions in the army, the text of which is as follows: Section 1 provides that promotions of commissioned officers shall be lineal through all grades up to and including the grade of colonel, in cavalry, artillery, and infantry of the army; *Provided*, That in case of a voluntary transfer of an officer from one arm of the service to another to a position below his lineal rank, he shall thereafter be entitled to such promotion, and only such as pertains to the position thus accepted by him.

Sec. 2. That subalterns of cavalry, artillery and infantry promoted from second lieatenants to first lieutenants, and from first lieutenants to captains, during each half year, shall be assigned, by the Secretary of War, on or before the next succeeding first day of January and July of each year, to such vacancies as may have occurred in the grades to which they shall have been promoted in their arms of the service, during that period, and in such manner as shall incur least expense for transportation; *Provided*, That each and every officer so assigned shall retain the rank to which he is entitled under the provisions of the first section of this act.

Sec. 3. That in every "Official Army Register" hereafter issued, the lineal rank of subalterns of the line of the Army shall be given separately for the different arms of the service.

Prize Essay.

It has been suggested by a few prominent citizens of Bozeman (and we heartily concur in the suggestion) that a special premium should be offered of, say $200, for the best essay on the mineral, agricultural and grazing resources of the Territory, and such other matters in regard to climate, water, timber, physical features, etc., as may be suggested; or the proposed prize may be divided so as to give say $50 each for essays on the mineral resources, the agricultural resources, the grazing resources, including the kinds of stock best adapted for different sections, and the climate and sanitary influences of the Territory. The The prize or prizes to be competed for at the next M. A. M. & M. A. Fair to be held at Helena next fall. The approved essay or essays to become the property of the Fair Association, or the joint property of the individual subscribers to the premiums, and to be published and used as an emigration pamphlet for the benefit of the Territory at large.

Bozeman will pledge $50, or one-fourth of the above amount, for the purpose suggested.

Do we meet with any response from our sister towns?—*Bozeman Courier.*

The Army Pay Bill.

The bill recently introduced in the House by Banning, chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, fixes the annual pay of officers as follows:

	Per year.
The General	$10,000
Lieut.-General	8,000
Major-General	6,000
Brigadier-General	5,000
Colonel	3,000
Lieut.-Colonel	2,500
Major	2,000
Captain (mounted)	1,800
Captain (not mounted)	1,500
First Lieutenant (mounted)	1,600
First Lieutenant (not mounted)	1,400
Second Lieutenant (mounted)	1,200
Second Lieutenant (not mounted)	1,000
Ordnance store-keeper	1,000

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 11.—The *Agence Russe* repeats its declaration of Saturday, that the entry of the fleets of the powers into the Bosphorus at the moment when peace is being negotiated, will imply full liberty of action for Russia. It says if the presence of the fleets is necessary for the protection of Christians this duty belongs equally to the Russian troops.

R. T. KENNON. H. H. ZENOR

KENNON & ZENOR,

Corner of 1st and C Streets

DEER LODGE, - - MONTANA,

MANUF