

W. H. BUCK, Editor and Proprietor.

J. J. HEALY, Local Editor and Business Manager.

Two good men are wanted by Uncle Sam for first-class foreign missions. Applications should be filed at the State Department.

Gen. Newton estimates that the cost of continuing to a successful termination the blowing up of the Hell Gate obstructions to New York Harbor, will require \$2,615,078. Don't pay it; the number of Gothamites who go in at that gate is large enough as it is.

Contracts have been signed with representatives of the Russian government for the construction of a number of corvette cruisers in American ship yards. This contract will bring about \$17,000,000 into this country, and stimulate the hum of industry in the ship yards on the coast.

During a recent canvass in Sullivan County, N. Y., one of the candidates for County Judge pledged himself to receive but half the salary to which the office was entitled, in view of the fact that the people were already sorely tax ridden. He was elected, and now his opponents have petitioned the Attorney General for his removal on the strength of the pledge he had made.

A young schoolmistress who peeped has lost her certificate, and the Supreme Court of Iowa will give her no redress. She had applied for a certificate and during the examination was caught glancing over the shoulder of another applicant and getting answers to questions propounded in arithmetic. The superintendent refused to issue the certificate, and the young lady brought suit in the Circuit Court to compel him to do so. She carried her point in the lower court, but the decision has been reversed by the Supreme Court.

Charles J. Wells, the author of that long and curious poem, "Joseph and his Brethren," died last month in France. He was a charming man, of fascinating address, having the tastes of a scholar and of a hunter. He lived since 1840 in France, and wrote eight or ten volumes of poetry, but having attempted in vain to find a publisher for any of them, he burned the whole mass of manuscript at his wife's death. The drama of "Joseph and his Brethren," was the only work of his life which he preserved. It was first published in 1824, but it was not until 1876 that literary critics announced its value to any practical purpose. Then the world began to talk of it, and the old man, who found it impossible at first to take this revival seriously, so long and so utterly had he given up ambition, woke at last to take a great interest in the matter. And so he died not without honor.

More international contests are in prospect. The lovers of chess are to hold a tournament in New York early in January, in which foreign players are to be invited to assist. In the last great international match held in Europe, America did not get the highest place. Still, as the country that produced the chess prodigy of the century, and indeed of all time, Paul Morphy, she is entitled to consideration from foreign experts. It is unfortunate for chess, in this our busy land and age, that it finds among its greatest admirers men whose ordinary occupations are engrossing, and sufficient call on the mind without further burdening it in moments of leisure by a hard study. Hence many who are fascinated with chess wisely substitute some pastime that taxes the brain less. However, the periodical chess revival in this country is now about due.

Somebody has made the astonishing discovery, and is parading it in the news papers that there has been no short session of Congress immediately preceding a Presidential election for forty years—a discovery that no one used take the trouble to verify or dispute. The "short sessions" of Congress—that is when they are regular annual sessions—are short because they are limited by law to the 4th of March. They come to an end on that day because the Representatives themselves come to an end (officially) on the same day. This happens in March of every year that ends with an odd number as 1875, 1877, 1879; but the Presidential elections come in the years that terminate with even numbers or divisible by two, as 1873, 1876, 1880, and in such years there is no 4th of March limitation by law to bring the session to a close. There's no phenomenon in the discovery at all.

General Grant during the reception at the Academy of Design in Cincinnati amused himself and gratified two young ladies by kissing them. One of the young ladies, who was in short dresses and was presented to him, received the osculatory salutation as a tribute to her youth and winsome manners; thereupon it was remarked to him that he was not distributing his favors fairly, and having expressed his willingness to deal justly, a handsome young woman of about twenty-four years was introduced to him and was treated like the little miss and saluted with a soldierly smack, which was apparently relished on both sides. A further

suggestion from the somewhat aged and not very prepossessing female who is connected with the institution that he should continue in the good work met with less favor; as he informed her that he should prefer a more private place for that. Much merriment ensued at the expense of the matron.

THE NEW RECORD.

In the early part of the present year we promised our readers to enlarge and otherwise improve the Record as soon as the necessary facilities could be obtained, but unforeseen difficulties have interfered to prevent us from fulfilling our promise until this late date, when we have the pleasure of announcing that the next issue of the paper will appear with all the promised improvements.

The labor and expense of producing the largest newspaper ever published in Montana will not perhaps be fully realized by our patrons, but the extent of the enterprise may be imagined when we state that the expense alone amounts to more than ten times the original cost of the Record office when first established at Benton, not including our new publishing house, which is probably more valuable than any other building owned by a newspaper firm in the Territory. We have also greatly increased our facilities for producing the finest quality of job printing, and now claim to have the largest and most complete outfit in this line to be found in the Territory. It consists, principally, of three steam job presses, one of which is a chromatic cylinder, capable of multiplying any number of colors at one impression; about four hundred fonts of wood and metal job type, all of the latest and most popular designs; a complete variety of book type; a full assortment of job and poster cuts, and a full line of card and paper stock. In fact we have every article necessary to complete a first-class printing office.

Our intention was to issue the first number of the New Record without advertisements, but unless all contributions promised are received by Monday evening next, our mechanical force will not be equal to the task of completing the paper on time. We trust, however, that all who agreed to contribute articles will give their manuscript ready by Monday.

Mr. Healy's Frontier Sketches will be resumed in the new paper, and thereafter will appear every week, or as often as the author has leisure to write. As the sketches are narrations of actual facts, without exaggeration or embellishment, their value can hardly be over-estimated, and we regard them as one of the most important features of our new enterprise. The size of the enlarged Record will be nearly double that of the present issue. It will contain thirty-six columns, each column twenty-seven inches in length and of standard width. It will be set in Brevier and Nonpareil type, and all the material used in its make up will be entirely new.

It makes pleasant reading for a person of ordinary sensibility, the recital of treatment to which American sailors are subject to occasionally on an American vessel by an American Captain. A case is now before United States Commissioner Osborn, in New York, which develops features of torture inflicted upon seamen that would do credit to the real and mythical histories of the Spanish Inquisition. It is in evidence in this case that Captain Merriman, of the bark John Zitelson, left Birmingham for New York, April 28th, with a crew of eight men and a boy, that for the first twenty-four hours out of port the men were allowed no rest, that they asked the Captain for watch and watch, that is four hours on and four off duty, and that in reply to this request the Captain informed them that they must either work or be put in irons. A man by the name of Malloy replied that it was impossible for them to work longer without rest. He was immediately clapped in irons. Four others were also ironed and placed below the half deck a space three and a half feet high, and the hold closed. The place was dark and the air suffocating. The men were kept in irons respectively three days, four days, five days, ten days and Malloy twelve days. For forty hours they had nothing, and for over fifty hours not a drop of water to drink. At the end of the forty hours' fast they were given three and a half crackers to be divided between the five. The next day they received four crackers, and on the third day each person received one. As a diversion for Malloy and one of the other men by the name of Johnson they were taken on deck the second day and strapped up by the wrists for an hour. A rope was made fast to the irons on their arms and run over a pulley, so that their toes could just touch the deck. Each lurch of the ship sent them staggering across the deck, causing the irons to sink into the flesh. When Malloy was finally released he could not stand. On the twelfth day he was brought on deck and told by the Captain to get down on his knees and ask his pardon. This Malloy had the nerve to refuse, notwithstanding the state of weakness he was in, and he was finally permitted to return to his work. On the arrival of this vessel in New York the seaman appealed to U. S. Shipping Commissioner Duncan for redress. He awarded them damages ranging in amount from \$125 to \$50 each. Captain Merriman, refusing to pay this award, his case will now go before a

Court, at whose hands, it is to be sincerely hoped in the cause of civilization, he will get his deserts.

England honors valor with a lavish generosity. No nation in modern times ever voluntarily granted such munificent gifts as were bestowed upon Marlborough, Wellington, Nelson and other great commanders who had led the nation through great perils. Towards such there has always been an ostentation in her generosity. They were made monumental families to inherit and ever show forth to the world a living proof of what England has done, and an assurance of what she will do in the future for those who pilot her through national dangers successfully. But most of these recipients of her bounty were of the blue blood of her aristocracy or of the blood royal. Towards her minor heroes she shows anything but a substantial gratitude. A medal, or clasp, or cross is the highest reward ever granted to the private soldier for deeds of the most sublime heroism. In no other country exists such national gifts as Blenheim or Walmer Castle and their princely adjuncts. Of no other country than England could such a tale as this which follows be told: One of the heroes of Balaklava is now, or was quite recently, an inmate of the Dover Work house. The "immortal blunder," as the London Times calls it, of that reckless charge, is nevertheless one of the proudest incidents in English army history. This hero, who had ridden into the red jaws of death with the immortal six hundred, returned from the charge with his windpipe shot away. An appreciative nation decorated him with the Victoria Cross, but he had to depend upon charity for an artificial silver gullet, and still has to depend upon private charity for an occasional renewal of it. The guardians of the poor at Dover sometimes let the old veteran go up to London to solicit aid which an ungrateful country refuses to render, for the simple reason that he was a private in the ranks and has no titled or influential friends to present his claims. Well the Times says, "Here is glory with a vengeance. Can it be wondered that the British army is the mere fraudulent undermanned skeleton spoken of in the Times a day or two since, when the bravest of the brave, and unhonored and unrequited, are permitted to end their days in the work house?" Such neglect and the feeble use of the cat o' nine tails are enough to account for the waning strength of the British or any other army.

It seems that there is more unhappiness in store for mankind, and this latest phrase of human woe all grows out of the problem as to what we should eat and drink—particularly what we should drink. Professor, or rather Dr. Buck (no relative to Buck Beer) of Leipzig, believes that the morality of a nation depends in a great measure upon its eating and drinking. The doctor has classified the different moral effects of certain articles of food and drink and has arrived at several important conclusions. He thinks that the nervousness and snarishness of the present age is chiefly owing to the excessive use of tea and coffee. Coffee acts on the digestive organs of confirmed consumers, and produces a kind of chronic derangement which reacts upon the brain producing fretful and maudlin moods. Coffee drinking ladies are apt to become imbued with the mania that they are persecuted saints, and their doubly distilled and highly refined organizations are not appreciated at par. The inordinate use of tea develops a snappishness of temperance; a kind of touch and go disposition; an over sensitiveness to external influences; a nervous inquisitiveness into the affairs of others, and a degree of petulance that is said by ancient authors and modern satirists to characterize old maids and the inhabitants of the Celestial Kingdom. The Doctor, although a German of the purest teutonic character is averse to lager beer. He pronounces it brutalizing in its effects, and says that wine "inturpates but eventually unmaims." Alcoholic drinks combined with a flesh and fat diet subjugate the moral man entirely unless their influence is counteracted by violent exercise. He thinks the tone of a man fattened by the free use of fermented or distilled fluids and juicy meats is only functional to the body as said is to pork—in preventing putrefaction. In place of these tabooed beverages the Doctor only leaves mankind chocolate. That, he allows, is neutral in its psychic effects, and the most harmless of all our fashionable drinks. But chocolate, unfortunately, does not quench thirst any more than a plate of hot soup, so that really only water and milk are left to mankind as thirst quenchers, and these in large cities are almost unattainable in a pure state. Other eminent writers have said a good word for tea and coffee, and some favorable mention has now and then been made of wine and beer, when used in moderation. Of the former it has always been claimed that they moderately exalt the activity of the brain and nerves and that tea increased the power of digesting the impressions we have received as well as the food we eat, and that it revives the faculty of judgment, while coffee acts on the reasoning faculties, and that they both seem to cheer without inebriating the overworked mental and physical organs.

Kentucky never made great pretensions as a sea serpent or big snake State, but she holds her own when it comes to wild men. Clark County reports the last of this class, who is said to be so desperate that he would devour a fat little boy with great relish.

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HARPER'S PERIODICALS.

Table listing Harper's Magazine, Harper's Weekly, Harper's Bazar, and Harper's Young People with their respective prices.

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