

The Cairo Bulletin.

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NO. 105.

The Bulletin.

Corrupt

(London Times, March 29.)
Although the public servants of this country are now free from the suspicion of being corrupt, they were not always so, and we are still but too well acquainted with the art of electoral bribery. In England there was a time when official Parliamentary corruption had reached a strange height of shamelessness. The purchase, so late as last century, of votes in the House of Commons, the open sale of Parliamentary seats and the traffic in public offices, made up one of the most discreditable chapters of our history. We recur to it in order to remind America of the means by which the public service of the country has been made the purest in the world. The right was so long and hard that it often seemed hopeless. The reformers had frequently to contend against court, military and Parliamentary majorities dependent on corruption for power. Gradually, however, the salaried servants of the crown were excluded from the House of Commons, except when chosen anew by their constituents: Ministers were deprived of the power to offer bribes, and public opinion sentenced even suspected persons to exclusion from office.
The last semblance of corruption vanished when the posts in the public service were made the prizes of competitive examinations. There is nothing to hinder the United States from making their civil service as pure as ours. The first step, we repeat, is to declare that its posts shall no longer be used to buy votes. Nothing would do so much to purify the Presidential contest, give a healthy tone to public morality, and make it impossible for Ministers even to fall under the suspicion of selling offices. No doubt such a reform might inflict immediate loss upon the party by which it has been accomplished, but in the long run even that party would gain, and the profit to public morality would be indescribably greater than the victory, whether of Republican or of Democrat.

Alec Stephens a Poor Old Man.
(From the Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer.)
Mr. Stephens is poor now, and we regret to know that he is burdened to support many dead-beats, which must be a serious matter with him at the present low ebb of his finances. It is said that, whenever court assemblies in Crawfordville, the Judge and most of the bar "put up" with Mr. Stephens, and there is a lot of hang-ers-on in his establishment that get a living out of him. Mr. Stephens has been very liberal in his charities, and has educated more men and women than any man in Georgia, yet in a number of instances these people whom he reared and educated still cling to him for support. There is another class that must be a serious tax to Mr. Stephens. We mean the old political hacks, who in these times of young America find their occupation gone and ask Mr. Stephens for aid. He can only open his house to them, for he is unable to do more. They accept, and the consequence is that he is loaded down with Burritt's boarders, those who never miss a meal or pay a cent. Mr. Stephens is one of the best and purest men Georgia ever produced, and while he was rich none went from him empty-handed; and we think it a shame that now in his old age he should be taxed to support a lot of paupers, when he is almost a pauper himself. We think some of his many proteges might interest themselves in the dying statesman, and see that he will not be put into a pauper's grave, which he surely will be if the vampires that are sucking his substance are not removed.

Women Voters in Wyoming.
(Cor. Omaha of the Philadelphia Republican.)
As I happened to be in Wyoming last fall I made it a point to visit Cheyenne on election day expressly to see the workings of the "new system." I did not see a single respectable woman at the polls. On the contrary, they were all of the lowest description—performers in low variety halls, waitresses in the saloons and well-known prostitutes. They were driven to the polls in open wagons by the blacklegs, gamblers and worst characters of the town, generally the whole outfit being pretty well under the influence of angle-foot. I must mention in connection with the affair that wagon were sent to Fort Russell, a military post, four miles distant, to induce the landresses attached to the garrison to go to town and vote. I heard afterwards that nearly all refused, saying, "If their husbands couldn't vote because they were soldiers, they didn't think they had a right to."

A Slight Mistake.
(From the New York World.)
An amusing imbroglolo of names gave vivacity to the reception of the Brazilian Emperor yesterday. When General Hancock was presented to His Majesty, the Emperor, not catching the name exactly, observed to one of his attendants: "He is a very fine looking man; young, too, for so learned a historian; how sad that he should have been put upon trial for corrupting the revenues!" When it was explained to the Emperor that the distinguished person before him was not named Hancock, he seemed greatly relieved, and remarked: "Ah, certainly, Hancock—that is a great American name," showing thus that, fortunately for us, the Sovereign of Brazil is more familiar with the revolutionary than the recent history of our country.

HAGAN'S MAGNOLIA BALM preserves and restores the complexion; removes freckles, tan and sallowness; makes the skin soft, white and delicate. Its application cannot be detected. 3-10-d&wly.
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Mr. Weber's Letter.
This somewhat humorous letter is written by Mr. J. T. Weber, a leading druggist of Springfield, Mass.:
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Gentlemen—There is a funny little old man here who used to hobble against the doctors because they could not cure his rheumatism; he tried and has since become a walking advertisement for Benson's Caprine Porous Plaster, and he walks without his crutches, too. The plaster is without doubt, an article long needed, and a great improvement on the ordinary porous plaster. Yours, &c.
J. T. WEBER.
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Notice.
Notices hereby given to the Stockholders of the Cairo City Ferry Company, that a meeting will be held at my office, corner of Eighteenth street and Washington avenue in this city, on Monday, May 1st, next, for the election of seven directors to serve the ensuing year, and for general business. THOS. W. HALLIDAY, Secretary. Cairo, Ills., April 12, 1876. 1-10-11d

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