

WHAT at New York yesterday was \$1.22 for No. 2; at Milwaukee \$1.04 for No. 1; at Minneapolis, 98c.

POPE PIUS IX. has expressed his willingness to contribute to the Centennial exhibition of works of art from the galleries of the Vatican or from workshops over which he has control.

THE Methodist is willing to have church property taxed—provided all bounties of every sort are simultaneously "shut down on." It wants a square deal all around.

A CALL has been issued by the Hon. Liberty Hall, President of the Minnesota Editorial Association, for a meeting at St. Paul, January 19th. As business of importance will come up a full attendance is requested.

THE Chicago Times (Dem.) says that the brains and talent of Speaker Kerr's new Congressional Committee are pretty much all in the Republican minority which makes up the tail ends, and it is inclined to think that the tail will wag the dog.

GEN. SHERMAN seems to have been only a very little in advance in his foraging about a reduction of the army. We doubt if on the whole the country now gets better work for the money it spends in any other branch of the service than in the army.

When Henry Ward Beecher returned home from a church meeting Monday night he was served with a summons and complaint in a suit for malicious prosecution, instituted by Francis D. Moulton in the supreme court of King's county, for \$50,000 damages.

BEHOLD how good a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! The Cincinnati Enquirer, the leading Democratic paper of Ohio, mildly refers to the leader of the Democratic party on the floor of Congress as "a brawling, empty-headed, unknown village politician of Waterloo, Ill."

MINNEAPOLIS is happy. It has a "crooked whisky" case and St. Paul hasn't. The wholesale liquor store of Jonas F. Brown has been seized by the United States Marshal, because Mr. B. has been carrying on the business of a rectifying distiller without paying a special tax. The stock inventories \$35,000, which will become United States property if Mr. Brown proves to be a guilty man.

FIFTEEN States have taken a census of population in 1875, and the total increase since 1870 is estimated at a little over 2,000,000. As these States had in 1870 something more than one-third of the population of the United States, a common average progress throughout would aggregate an increase in five years of upward of 5,000,000, or a total population of 44,000,000.

MR. HENRY C. BOWEN was successful in obtaining a verdict in his favor in his libel suit for \$100,000 against the Brooklyn Eagle. The jury found for plaintiff, and fixed the damages at \$1,000. As will be remembered, the cause for this suit was an article in the Eagle alleging that Mrs. Bowen had confessed on her death-bed to having had improper relations with Mr. Beecher.

THE New York World says that Democratic ex-Congressmen, falling to get official positions in the House which they wanted, put in applications for places in the very lowest departments of drudgery in the south wing of the Capitol. Two ex-members of the House have lately sought work in the document-binding room, work which includes the wheeling of all mail matter in a barrow to the Post Office.

A MUTUAL COUNCIL is to be called by Plymouth Church and Mrs. Moulton to consider the two questions submitted by that lady,—the sufficiency and validity of the reasons of the Church for dropping her name from the roll; and the sufficiency and validity of Mrs. Moulton's reasons for abstaining so long from the services and sacraments of the Church. This course was decided upon at the Plymouth meeting Monday evening, when it was also voted to call an Advisory Council.

A STATEMENT with regard to the navies of the United States and of Great Britain shows that while we have 80 ships afloat, the English have 288, carrying 63,000 men. While Great Britain has nearly four times as many vessels in number, the aggregate fighting strength of her navy, in the ships and in number and weight of guns is eight times as great. While the British navy costs \$52 per year for every \$22 that ours costs, it is eight times as powerful. There is evidently room for reform in our navy management.

THE Mark Lane Express regular weekly review of the grain market says: "The large imports since the 1st of September have kept prices down, but we cannot expect the imports to continue while rates are so low. The business in Europe is sensibly dull and prices barely maintained. At Paris, and at several provincial markets, flour has again dropped a franc, and wheat is 6d. Belgium and Holland are about a shilling lower. Vienna is drooping and Odessa dull, holders maintaining high prices."

A "HAPPY NEW YEAR."

THE JOURNAL wishes all its readers a "Happy New Year." It trusts that 1876 may find people everywhere showing happier faces, carrying lighter hearts and living purer lives than were known to the year now almost at an end. Why should it not find the world growing mightily better, moved by the impulse of "the common love for good?" It may. It needs only that each man should devote a trifling portion of this next day to taking a quiet, introspective view of himself, and that he should then decide what he may profitably let die with the old year and what he may brighten up and strengthen for the new, whose foot is at the door. It will be a very perfect man to whom such an examination will not show something that he would be the better without, and it will be a very weak and careless or a very hardened one who will not resolve to make the effort to cut off that which is confessedly hurtful.

A glance backward along the track of the old year will make many revelations fruitful of suggestions in the line we have indicated. It will show what is to be shunned, even if it does not teach what is to be followed, and negative good of this kind is by no means to be despised. It will show a man what progress he has made, if any; whether his feet stand firm on advanced ground or whether they have slipped backward; whether, stronger and freer, he has contributed anything toward bringing in "sweeter manners, purer laws," or whether he has allowed the sapping roots of selfishness, docility, trickery, greed and bad faith to strike deeper and drain his nature of whatever good might have been in it.

"To greatly wish to talk with our dear boys, and ask them what report they have to give, and how they might have more welcome news."

A man may profitably strike a moral balance-sheet with himself at the end of the year as he strikes a balance-sheet to show what have been the gains and losses of the year's business. Good habits and good principles have a value which may be as fairly reckoned among his gains as may the profits of successful ventures in trade. Vicious habits and false principles make leakages as bad in the one direction as non-paying customers and dishonest salesmen do in the other. The former should be looked after and dropped as quickly as the latter. A loose system of accounts will swiftly bring disaster to the strongest house; and the man who takes no reckoning with himself is pretty sure to soon reach the verge of moral bankruptcy.

Scan the past year for what of advantage it may reveal for the new one. Regrets are vain; but good resolves, honestly made and faithfully sought to be kept, bear one a long way toward a higher manhood. What better time for the forming of such resolves than this, when, having scattered his greetings among his friends, a man may fairly wish himself a "Happy New Year," and then mark out the work which is to secure the consummation wished for? A little honesty with self, a little independence and a little firmness will perform wonders in this direction.

CUBAN INSURRECTION. It is asserted in a telegram from London that a movement is on foot among the great powers looking to intervention in Cuban affairs. It is asserted in prominent circles that if there is a near advent of European intervention in Cuba, our government would inform such powers as might combine for this purpose that their course would be highly offensive to the United States, as it would imply the design of controlling affairs in localities contiguous to this country, thereby injuriously affecting our commercial and political interests, and for this reason apart from other considerations, the United States would continue to act in the spirit of the Monroe doctrine.

MR. BEAVER, one of Tilton's leading counsel in the scandal suit against Mr. Beecher, said at the Bowen libel suit at Brooklyn last week concerning Mr. Beecher: "Whatever you may think of his guilt or innocence with reference to Mr. Beecher and his domestic relations, yet every man admires that indelible will and lion-like courage which have enabled him to stand, to resist, to stand up to and to overcome the terrible accusation, maintained with terrible force and against him. Today, notwithstanding all that has been said and all that has been done, he stands untouched in the hearts of a congregation more numerous than any other, I believe, upon the face of the earth."

It is said that arrangements have been made to sell finally the Southern Minnesota railroad under the decree of foreclosure as soon as the legal notice can be given. The object is to clear the road of all its encumbrances and to reorganize the company, so that work on the extension of the road can be begun in the spring, before the land grant expires.

A CINCINNATI dispatch of Monday says: "Yesterday's storm did considerable damage at various points in southern Ohio. At Catawba, Clark county, a new Methodist church was wrecked; damage \$3,000. In that vicinity and in the neighborhood of McConnellsville the streams are at flood height, sweeping away fences, outbuildings, trees, hay stacks and bridges."

A HEAVY failure at Worcester, Mass., is announced—that of James A. Smith and G. N. & J. A. Smith, woolen manufacturers, with liabilities estimated at from \$300,000 to \$600,000. They own six mills.

The kingdom of Siam will expend about \$100,000 to display its productions and industries at the centennial exposition.

RECEPTION TO GOVERNOR PILLBURY.

Two days evening a complimentary reception was given at St. Paul by the Chamber of Commerce of that city to Governor Pillsbury, of Minnesota, and the Board of Trade, of Minneapolis, by invitation, was present in full force. The representative men of the two cities met around the tables of the Metropolitan Hotel as "two souls with but a single thought." Twenty regular toasts were offered, and responses were made by Gov. Davis, Gen. Baker, Col. King, ex-Senator Ramsey, President Powell, the Rev. E. D. Nell, Horace Thompson, Col. T. E. Barr, Gen. Sibley, Col. Stevens, Judge Flaudrau, Paris Gibson and others. It was in every way a pleasant affair.

A gentleman residing in St. Louis has had sent to him by a friend in California two beans resembling in shape a beech nut, which are possessed with a remarkable power of animation, which they show in advancing, retreating, and turning somersaults. Their antics are indeed wonderful to witness. They are known in the State from which they came as the jumping bean. He keeps them in a small box, and if left at night in the bed-room upon a table they make such a racket that he is obliged to shut them up in a drawer so he can sleep.

STEARNS COUNTY'S RECORD. Stearns county must be credited with substantial progress in tax reform. Last year the aggregate of taxes levied was \$106,637.29; this year the amount is \$89,516.93—a reduction of \$18,219.66. In almost every town the taxes are less than they were last year. The saving to each voter, or male over 21 years of age, is about four dollars. It is a pleasure to chronicle the march of tax reform all over the State, and the hope may be indulged that it may eventually reach St. Paul and Ramsey county.—St. Paul Pioneer-Press.

SIXTH THOUSAND DOLLARS SPENT OVER A TWENTY-FIVE CENT TRANSITION. Six years ago Messrs. Wolcott, Johnson & Co., of Freehold, N. J., sold to Lewis D. Mount, a farmer, a twenty-five cent package of what they represented as seed that would produce excellent early turnips. The seed brought forth late turnips, and of such a poor quality that Mr. Mount was compelled to feed them to his cattle. Mr. Mount sued for damages before a Justice of the Peace, and was granted a judgment of \$99 damages. The plea of the defendants was that they had purchased the seed under the impression that it was first-class, and having paid the ordinary price, no fraud was intended.

An appeal was taken to the Court of Common Pleas a year afterward, and the judgment of the Justice of the Peace was sustained by the full bench. The case was then carried to the Supreme Court, and two years ago the judgment of the Common Pleas was affirmed.

The case was then taken to the Court of Errors and Appeals, and the judgment of the Common Pleas was affirmed. The efforts of the Union were organized with an aggregate membership of 1,100; 1,300 drinking men have signed the pledge, mass-meetings have been held at the rate of one a week, and a daily temperance prayer-meeting has been carried on. The efforts of the Union have to pay day in the factories, shops, etc., changed from Saturday to Monday has met with considerable success.

A negro's cabin was burned in Sumter, S. C., and his family were within when the fire began. Their escape by the door and single window was cut off, and he broke a hole in the roof through which to descend to their rescue. He could only get one out at a time. His wife and two children were taken out, leaving one child behind. The negro in his last descent had been badly burned by the spreading flames, but he bravely tried again, and was burned to death with the child.

The Philadelphia Total Abstinence Union has resolved to dispense with the usual parade on St. Patrick's Day next March, but instead, "out of love for American liberty, and a desire to render to the one hundredth anniversary of American Independence all the honor due the occasion, great efforts will be made to make the annual parade on the 4th of July next a memorable one in the history of the organization."

Mr. Peter Herdie, a millionaire of Williamsport, Penn., made the Protestant Episcopal Church of that place a Christmas present of a new edifice, fully furnished, with an organ and other requisites, which he had built at a cost of \$460,000.

The strike of a thousand operatives of the woolen mills at Rockville, Conn., is almost sure to be a failure. There will be five offerings to do the work at the reduced prices for every one that goes on the strike. This is a season when half a loaf to the laboring man is better than none.

Intelligence has just been received from Philippe Islands, giving details of a dreadful hurricane there the 30th of last month. Two hundred and fifty lives were lost and 3,800 dwellings destroyed. Many cattle perished, and the crops in all directions were ruined.

The recognitions on seven of the indictments against T. Wood for felony, have been declared forfeited.

MINNESOTA NEWS.

The people of Cottonwood promise to aid the Hutchinson railroad with \$5,000 in bonds and \$3,000 in subscriptions.

The Duluth Tribune office narrowly escaped destruction by fire on the night of the 20th. A defective fuse was the cause.

Two horse thieves, named Gates and Boyle, escaped from Blue Earth City jail Christmas evening. They also stole the jailer's horse on leaving.

S. C. Jones, of St. Peter, committed suicide by hanging himself at the Ogdon House, Faribault, Monday evening. His business was selling cement.

The trial of August Zemple, at Mankato, for manslaughter, resulted in his acquittal, the fact being established that the shooting was done in self-defense.

The large foundry of Geo. B. Wright at Austin was entirely burned Monday night. Loss about \$15,000 and no insurance. Supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

A verdict has been rendered against Theo. Simpson and other citizens of Winona who made subscriptions to the Green Bay road and refused to pay the same. The subscriptions amount to \$95,000.

A farm house belonging to Mr. Lawler, living two miles south of Kandiyohi, was burned Saturday night. There was nothing saved. There was quite a sum of money burned; report says \$700. Insurance \$150.

Charles Beaumont, a young news dealer, was run over by a train on Saturday evening, at Nashua station, about thirty miles below Austin, and so badly crushed and mangled that he died in two hours after the accident.

The work of restoring the Column Vendome, destroyed by the Communists, was Monday completed, and the statue of Napoleon was placed on the top of the column. No public ceremonies attended the proceedings.

Prof. Hood's interest in the Red Wing institute and adjacent lands has passed into the hands of S. D. Greenwood, the price being \$25,000. The purchaser assumes certain extensive liabilities and Prof. Hood remains in charge of the school.

A. H. Stone of Pleasant Grove, drove into Rochester Friday evening with a \$200 pair of horses, tied their back of a Broadway store, and in an hour afterwards (six o'clock) discovered that they had been stolen. It was in one of the boldest cases of horse-stealing on record.

Mr. Oliver Siers, who lives five miles south of Rochester, was surrounded by wolves one night recently while walking through the timber, and had to fight for it. Fortunately for Mr. Siers he carried a revolver, and by shooting two of the brutes frightened the others away.

The residence of Mr. Thomas Welch, in Webster township, Rice county, was destroyed by fire a few days ago. While Mrs. Welch was in the chamber trying to save some furniture the floor gave way. The lady barely escaped from a terrible death, with a broken arm and some slight bruises.

A brakeman by the name of Charles Larson, on Jenks' freight train, while coupling cars at Long Lake Thursday, fell between the cars and was run over. Both legs were badly mangled and he was injured internally. He was taken to St. Paul, but died during the night. He was one of the oldest brakemen on the road.

Some time early last fall, a son of Mr. David Oundt, of this city, a young man, some eighteen years of age, went to work in the pine woods, near Pokagon, Ind. About the middle of October last, he went some eight miles from the camp to a store, where he bought some clothing, and started back to the camp, and has not since been heard of.—Anoka Journal.

Donald G. Mitchell's plans for a building to represent Connecticut at the Centennial have been partially adopted. The house will be a quaint old structure, two stories high, with porches in front and a long, sloping-back roof. The external walls will be of plaster and shingle, with the old-fashioned cross-beams. There will be a wide open fireplace, before which anybody so disposed can indulge in the reveries of a bachelor—with all the more zest, perhaps if he happens to be a married man.

Mr. Blaine, who is being interviewed, is free to own that the anti-Catholic cabal, with which his name has been connected, is a profound mystery to him, of which he had never heard until the Foster letter made its appearance.

It is rumored that the Khedive is negotiating for the sale of Egypt's founder's shares in the Suez Canal. The Government of Great Britain and M. De Lesseps, representing a combination of French capital, are bidders. The latter has offered \$9,000,000 for the shares.

A workman at Columbus, Ohio, tried to pass over the Scioto river "hand over hand" on a wire of an unfinished bridge, but shortly the wire began to cut his hands, and though he made desperate attempts to return, the pain compelled him to let go, and he was dashed to pieces on the rocks, fifty feet below.

News has been received of a dreadful calamity which occurred in the little village of Aillikon, in the canton of Aargau, Switzerland, on Saturday. Christmas festivities were being celebrated in a school house at that place when the flooring gave way and eighty persons were killed and fifty more or less wounded.

The Grand Jury at Jacksonville, Fla., makes the following disclosure: "We find there are three prisoners in the jail who have been there nearly two years for the pitiful sum of \$10 cents each. These prisoners have cost the county nearly \$600. We recommend that the county commissioners pay the fines, release the prisoners, and thereby save money for the county."

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

Twenty-one Illinois railroads are in the hands of receivers.

Yvesvius is throwing up again. Swallowed Tweed, perhaps.

In a row at Freetown, Miss., Christmas, between whites and blacks, three of the former were killed.

During the year 1874 there were as many as 4438 persons in England and Wales imprisoned for debt.

Henry C. Clegg & Co., the New York bankers, have arranged with their creditors and obtained full discharge.

A sugar refinery valued at half a million dollars, at Hastings, N. Y., was totally destroyed by fire on Sunday.

Judge Daly, of New York, has decided that hired pianos can be seized for the debts of those who hire them.

J. & T. Pearsall, fruit importers, New York, failed Friday on account of the embezzlement of over \$52,000 by their book-keeper.

At Weston, West V., on the night of the 23d, John West and his son Edward were assassinated while returning from church.

A woman died suddenly at Troy, N. Y., Monday, from internal injuries sustained by the pressure of a crowd the previous day.

Mr. Julius Sheldon, of Manchester, England, is making an exact copy of Shakespeare's house at Stratford-on-Avon, for exhibition at our Centennial.

During a severe thunder storm at Memphis Sabbath the house of James Vincent, was struck by lightning, and both he and his wife are still in a critical condition.

The new engine and engine-house at Winnipeg, together with all the city's fire-extinguishing apparatus, were destroyed by fire Monday morning. Loss \$25,000.

The trial of Emory, for the attempted assassination of Col. D. E. Anthony in May last, was concluded at Leavenworth, Kas., Friday, and resulted in his acquittal.

A. C. Johnson, President of the Ohio National Bank at Washington C. H., Ohio, has been arrested, charged with embezzling \$10,000 of the bank funds.

The London Times solemnly says: "The British Christmas is most generally observed with a popular indulgence in brutal intoxication. It is a humiliating confession."

Patrick Kane, of Cleveland, Ohio, who was convicted of manslaughter Friday for starving his idiot son to death, has been sentenced to the penitentiary for ten years.

Mayor Fulton, of Galveston, writes to Mayor Cobb of Boston that the latter city gave more money to aid the sufferers from the Texas floods than all the other cities of the country combined.

The Rev. Mr. Noble, a Free Methodist preacher of Portage, Wis., has purchased a steambath, in which he travels up and down the Wisconsin river holding revival meetings at every landing.

Nine hundred soldiers will to-day embark at Madrid for Cuba. The Epoca declares that Spain is resolved to retain Cuba even if the insurgents should obtain greater forces and rely on some powerful protector.

Bernard J. Reilly, a well-known and wealthy St. Louisan, has been pretending to be poor, and settling claims on a small percentage, when he could have done better—when, in fact he was rich—and now he is in jail for it.

Investigation shows the affairs of the Lancaster Savings Bank, Boston, to be much worse than at first thought. It is said at least \$25,000 of its funds have been loaned upon securities entirely worthless. A receiver will soon be appointed.

Our Ministers to Austria, Germany, Mexico, England and Russia are now absent from their posts. Some are in this country on leave of absence and others are circulating about Europe upon what are known as "junketing tours."

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CITY COUNCIL.

St. CLOUD, Dec. 23, 1875. SPECIAL MEETING.—Present: Ald. J. G. Smith, President, Bennett, L. Clark, N. P. Clarke, Dorr, Edalbrock, McClure, Owen, Scherer and Wilson.

The Committee on Ordinances, to whom had been referred the ordinance offered at the last meeting, reported Ordinance No. 25, which is published officially in another column. Several amendments were offered and rejected.

No other business was transacted.

REGULAR MEETING.—Present: J. G. Smith, President, Dorr, Edalbrock, N. P. Clarke, Owen, Powell and Scherer.

An invitation from a committee of the Little Giant Fire Engine Co. to the Council to attend the banquet to the State Firemen's Association at the West House on the evening of January 14, was accepted.

The following bills were presented: A. Smith, fuel and use of stove for election in 1st ward \$2.00

J. J. Dorr, wood 5.50  
F. Bettenberg, sundries for Engine Co. 2.20  
W. B. Mitchell, blanks 14.30

The rules were suspended and the first three bills allowed. The last was referred to the Committee on Accounts.

The monthly pay roll for December, \$165.83, was presented by the City Clerk, who was directed to draw orders therefor.

The Hon. H. C. Waite, upon request, made some remarks favoring action on the part of the Council toward the ornamenting of the city by requiring shade trees to be planted on the different streets and blocks.

He suggested the passage of an ordinance to secure the end desired. Ald. Owen, L. Clark, Edalbrock and Scherer were appointed a committee to consult with the citizens of the different wards to ascertain their views on this matter and report at the next regular meeting.

ADJOURNED.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A Brooklyn scholar, aged 14 years, embodied in a composition last week the statement that "the idea of a devil first came out of Persia, but it didn't amount to much till after the discovery of America."

A piece of wood cut from a tree is a good conductor. Let it be heated and dried, it becomes an insulator. Let it be baked to charcoal, it becomes a good conductor again. Burn it to ashes, and it becomes an insulator once more.

A lady in Connecticut not long since, visited a brother who resided in a distant city, taking her little daughter with her. Fatigued with the long ride, the child was impatient to retire in the early evening. "You must wait till your uncle prays," "I didn't know that uncle prayed; I thought he was a Democrat."

Miss Louisa Alcott, who is something of an authority in the premises, is quoted as having said that Oliver Optic's books are anything but good. She thinks they are filled with slang and everything else that tends to demoralize the youth. She likes the Rollo books of Jacob Abbott much better.

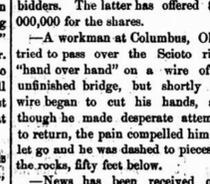
The United States Government does not insure its buildings, because the annual premiums would exceed the average loss from fire. For the same reason none of the late Wm. B. Astor's property was insured. A. T. Stewart's property is also uninsured. The owners of large properties, scattered over a wide area, save money by not insuring.

The American official rig for court receptions in England—plain dress coat and vest, with knee buckles, black silk stockings and low shoes—was intended to be very subdued and unpretending, but the American Legation, amid a crowd flaming in scarlet and purple and flashing with gold and silver, are the most remarkable and conspicuous persons to be seen.

UNAMBIGUOUS VERDICT.—The most rigid analyses by good chemists have failed to discover anything in D. B. DeLand & Co.'s East German Salsaparilla which can, in the least degree, be detrimental to health. While the women of our country entertain sentiments widely different upon other matters, all concur in a verdict that the Salsaparilla is the only infallible article in use for light and sweet bread.

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J. PRONZINSKI'S FALL AND WINTER CLOTHING, HATS AND