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C. F. BROWN, Editor.

The position the Poles have taken in Detroit in the late riot is being talked over all over the state. After the city of Detroit furnished them employment all winter to keep them from starving to death, now they propose to kill or rule. This has been overcome by a body of armed men guarding the job, and at the next move on their part, trouble will begin.

The tide of republicanism swept everything before it in the local elections in New Jersey last week. Newark for the first time in ten years elected a republican mayor, his majority being 5,000. Trenton gave about 2,000 majority; Orange, a democratic stronghold, elected a republican mayor by 1,500; Jersey City rolled up 4,759 majority for the party of Americanism.

John Cole—the merry old sole—told us the other day that John N. Foster of Ludington had lately entered the congressional race in the Ninth District and was working on the principle that the early bird catches the worm.—Detroit Tribune. Will the Ninth District allow any delegates from the Eleventh to attend their convention? John N. is well known in this section, and there are several here who would enjoy attending.

If Tom Reid needed anything to vindicate his sensible rulings as speaker of the 51st congress, for which the democratic press dubbed him "Czar" during the past two years, it was the action of the democratic house Tuesday, in adopting his odious rule to count a quorum if it was actually present, whether voting or not. With 84 majority the democrats have been fooling away weeks of time in the house because of the absence of their members, being unable to coax or threaten enough members to secure a quorum under their rules. We can remember some of the remarks made by some of our local democrats at the time of their adoption. How do you like it? It is all right, is it?

Such a policy as is advocated by Senator Voorhees and his Free Trade associates will be regarded by the mass of the people as "a gigantic crime." It may lead to crime, and who could blame a poor man without work if he were impelled to crime at the sight of \$29,389,245 in gold hoarded in the Treasury? "There is no terror" to Senator Voorhees "in a surplus like this," but all men are not made like Senator Voorhees, and some, even, are thankful that they are not. To quote his own words, he has "declared a policy so flagitious in principle, so rotten in morality, and so ravenous in its exactions on the absolute wants in life, that its possible duration is only a question of time when the next election by the people should occur."

There are always two sides to every case, and Senator Voorhees has presented half a one. He claims to desire the relief of the people from unjust taxation, and proposes to relieve them to the extent of \$76,670,000, or \$1.12 1/2 per head. At the same time he argues in support of a bill that will provide a surplus of revenue to the extent of \$29,389,245 hoarded up in the vaults of the Treasury.

Stiles Kennedy of St. Louis was up last week and brought with him a man who applied for the position of carpenter at the Indian School. This man Kennedy's gall is simply monumental and his nerve is stupendous. If Stiles Kennedy of St. Louis is going to dictate every little appointment in this county it's about time every self respecting democrat in the county should enter a protest against this referee system. It has gone far enough. Kennedy is probably pursuing the theory that this is his last term for political preferment and that he must make hay while the sun shines, but securing a post office for himself and fitting out several bosom friends in the same style, besides getting a soft government snap for his son, ought to satisfy an ordinary ambitious man, and not prompt him to exhibit his bristles in this manner. The Democrat believes it voices the sentiment of the people in saying that it isn't necessary for Stiles Kennedy to run the Indian School.—Mt. Pleasant Democrat.

TALL SNAKE STORIES.

Some Curious Revelations by a Reptilian Expert.

Crawlers That Possess But Little Brain Power and Are Very Tenacious of Life—Beneficial to Farmers.

"A snake has no means for separating flesh from bones and feathers," said an expert to a reporter for the Washington Star. "It swallows its prey alive. The latter usually dies of suffocation. In the process of deglutition the breathing of the serpent is interfered with, so that after performing it the reptile yawns widely in order to take in air. Sometimes at this moment the victim, though already on its way to the stomach of its devourer, has been known to turn about and crawl out again in safety, effecting its escape."

"When two snakes are in a cage together, and both get hold of the same frog or rat, they will advance upon it until their heads meet, when one of them will proceed to swallow the other. Keepers of serpents at zoological gardens have constantly to be on the lookout for such accidents. I have known one valuable reptile to be rescued after several feet of him had been consumed. When discovered in this predicament only a foot of his tail stuck out of the mouth of a comrade."

"Cannibalism is very common in snakes. A box of imported serpents labeled 'ten cobras' or 'fourteen vipers' will often be found short in the number on this account. It is a curious fact that these reptiles, as a rule, seize animals bigger than themselves. The structure of their ribs permits great expansion of the body, and a snake of superior size is disposed of by doubling up in the stomach."

"It is often asked what these crawling creatures are good for. For one thing, they are able to penetrate where no larger carnivorous animal could venture, into dense and noisome morasses, bogs, jungles and swamps, amid the tangled vegetation of the tropics, where they feed on swarms of smaller reptiles. The hedgehog, weasel, rat, peccary, badger, hog, goat and many kinds of birds keep snakes within due limits as to numbers, while the latter devour innumerable lesser vermin. Thus the balance of nature is maintained."

"Snakes have small brains, slight intelligence and little sensibility to pain. They can live for a long time deprived of their vital organs, while the heart, if taken from the body, will continue to beat for a considerable time. If the head be severed it will try to bite, while the body will continue to move, coil and even spring."

"Many serpents which do not live in trees will climb them in search of birds' eggs. They do much damage in poultry yards. When once the eggs are missed from a hen's nest and a snake's track is discovered the farmer knows that the thief will repeat the offense, so a watch is set and no mercy is shown to the culprit when caught."

"On the other hand, snakes are of important use to agriculture by consuming the mice that devour the crops. Snake catchers who pack serpents for transportation across the ocean commonly supply them with food for the journey in the shape of eggs."

"There is a well-authenticated story of a cobra that got through a chink in a hen-house and ate so many eggs from under a sitting fowl that it could not get out again through the same crack. Next morning it was killed and cut open, when, as the eggs were found to be unbroken and still warm, the experiment was tried of replacing them under the mother, who, in due time, hatched out the brood none the worse for this remarkable accident."

"Black snakes, though not venomous, are killed by farmers wherever found, because of the havoc they make in poultry yards. This kind of serpent climbs trees with ease and has been described as the 'nimblest creature living.' There is one very extraordinary serpent called the 'anodon,' whose business, according to Prof. Owen, is to restrain the undue increase of small birds by devouring their eggs. Far back in its throat it has certain projections which serve as teeth, though, in reality, they are points of the spine projecting into the gullet."

TALK ABOUT WEATHER.

New York Man Who Tells the Temperature by Tasting the Atmosphere.

There is a man in New York who is an expert weather sampler, and just as the tea expert tastes his brands to appraise them, so this man tastes the weather. He will at any time of the day, or at any place, so long as it is in the open air, taste the atmosphere and tell you what the temperature is. He never gets more than two degrees away and seldom more than one. The other day, says the Tribune, a friend played a joke on him by using a thermometer which was not in working order. The sampler, after tasting the weather, said that it was thirty-one degrees above zero. The thermometer said it was thirty-seven, but the expert would not be convinced that he could be wrong. He insisted that they walk along until they found another thermometer. They found it and it registered thirty-one degrees.

"When the leaves turn early," says a Michigan man, "we have a hard winter. When they turn late we have an open winter. One would suppose that the time at which winter set in would have everything to do with the turning of the leaves, and it is known that some open winters set in early and some cold ones set in late. But I have noticed that the time of cold weather beginning does not mark the turning of the leaves. The present winter set in early in Michigan. There was usually cold weather in October, but the leaves did not turn until a month later than the average time. All lumbermen arranged for an open winter that account, and they have not been mistaken. In fact, I have never known the sign to fail."

THE PROFESSOR SWOONED.

Because the Young Ladies Laughed at His Attempts to Speak English.

A rather severe lesson in manners and hospitality was given by Sig. Macchi, commissioner-general of the midwinter fair for Italy, to the twenty or thirty stenographers who assembled in an office of the Mills building the other evening to listen to the views of Prof. Buzzoni, a teacher of shorthand in one of the leading institutions of Italy, says the San Francisco Examiner.

The object of the meeting was to take steps toward an exhibit of the different systems of stenography in this country at the fair, the ultimate aim being the perfecting of the system embodying the best elements of the leading systems now in vogue.

Prof. Buzzoni, who speaks very little English, began reading an address, but was from time to time interrupted by the younger female portion of his audience, who were unable to suppress a desire to laugh outright.

Sig. Macchi at last asked the speaker to desist and, calling attention to the professor's lack of proficiency in the English language, spoke of America's boasted hospitality and generosity to strangers, and so shamed his listeners that quiet was restored.

But his treatment had been too much for the teacher of stenography, who had been growing paler with anger as he proceeded and who at the conclusion of his compatriot's words swooned outright.

A doctor was hastily summoned and restoratives were administered, but it was over an hour before the patient recovered sufficiently to be conveyed to his hotel.

Much to the regret and mortification of the few who listened attentively to the professor's address, the meeting was adjourned indefinitely.

"The outrage that has been committed to-night," said Sig. Macchi, "and the lack of manner and breeding shown would be hard to find in all of Italy and I am afraid that this proposed movement inaugurated by one of my country's most prominent teachers has received a death blow, as Prof. Buzzoni is of a high-strung, nervous disposition and must feel deeply the laughter and disorder that greeted his efforts."

FIRST SIGHT OF RED HAIR.

How It Aroused the Wonder of Colorado Indians Years Ago.

"I was in Colorado in 1875," said a resident of Canon City, Col., to a reporter for the Washington Post, "before the influence of the white man was utterly dominant. The Indians around what is now Meeker had seen but little of the white man and knew comparatively nothing of him or his ways or habits except from hearsay and tradition. I mean to say that there were many of them to whom the white man was as much a curiosity as an Indian would be to a New York Bovey boy. As you see, nature saw fit to give me a shock of carmine colored hair. When I first went among the Indians they all thought it was painted. Just as they universally paint their own bodies and faces and heads. An old chief came up to me one day and looked at my hair very carefully. 'Ugh,' said he, and then turning to the guide who had our party in charge, he asked him to ask me where I got the kind of paint that would color and not be greasy or look dauby. The guide told him that my hair wasn't painted, but he wouldn't believe him. He came over and once more closely scrutinized my locks, running his hand over them and then looking at his fingers. I didn't know what he was after. I had an idea that he was calculating how nice my red scalp would look hung about his dirty old body, and was inclined to resent it. Our guide, however, laughingly told me that the old chief had said. Two or three more of the bucks gathered about us, and they and the guide had a powwow. Finally the guide asked me if I would object to putting water on my hair. He said the Indians wouldn't believe it wasn't painted until they saw that water wouldn't wash the color out. Of course, I took some water and rubbed it on my hair and then showed my hands to them. It took four or five days of wondering examination to convince them that I hadn't found some particular fine paint and got myself up in a bright suit of hair."

TWO ROYAL DIAMOND FLUSHES.

Wield at the Same Time in One Room and Secured in the Same Way.

All the San Francisco men about town who play cards are talking about the two remarkable hands held a few evenings ago at the Pacific Union club, and the doctrine of chances is being calculated to ascertain how soon such a coincidence might be expected to happen again. The general belief, according to the Examiner, is that no such hands were ever held simultaneously before since poker was first played, and that no one now living will ever see them so held again. For the benefit of the truly good it may be stated that a royal flush is the highest hand in poker. It consists of a sequence of ace, king, queen, knave and ten in any one suit. As may be supposed, the appearance of this hand is like the visits of angels and not much more frequent than dentition in hens. Considerable poker is played at the Pacific Union, but a royal flush had not been seen in months until the occurrence of the other night. There are four tables in a row in the poker-room at the club. Four men were sitting at each of the two middle tables. At identically the same time one of the players at each of the two tables held a royal flush in diamonds. And as if this coincidence were not sufficiently unusual, each of the lucky two got his hand in exactly the same way, getting the ace, king, queen and knave on the deal and the ten spot on the draw. One only won thirty-five dollars on his hand, but the winning of the other was so big that he has kept the exact amount to himself, so as not to excite remark.

NEED OF THE POET.

The Laws of the Mind Make Him an Important Factor.

It is impossible for men to live in the world without poetry of some sort or other. If they cannot get the best they will get some substitute for it, and thus seem to verify Saint Augustine's slur that it is wine of devils, says James Russell Lowell in Century. The mind bound down too closely to what is practical either becomes inert, or revenges itself by rushing into the savage wilderness of "isms." The insincerity of our civilization has disgusted some persons so much that they have sought refuge in Indian wigwams and found refreshment in taking a scalp now and then. Nature insists above all things upon balance. She contrives to maintain a harmony between the material and spiritual, nor allows the cerebrum an expansion at the cost of the cerebellum. If the character, for example, run on one side into religious enthusiasm, it is not unlikely to develop on the other a counterpoise of worldly prudence. Thus the Shaker and the Moravian are noted for thrift, and mystics are not always the worst managers. Through all changes of condition and experience man continues to be a citizen of the world of idea as well as the world of fact, and the tax gatherers of both are punal.

There is as much poetry as ever in the world if we only knew how to find it out, and as much imagination, perhaps, only that it takes a more prosaic direction. Every man who meets with misfortune, who is stripped of material prosperity, finds that he has a little outlying mountain farm of imagination, which did not appear in the schedule of his effects, on which his spirit is able to keep itself alive, though he never thought of it while he was fortunate. Job turns out to be a great poet as soon as his flocks and herds are taken away from him.

TENANTED BY WILD HOGS.

A Large Alabama Tract Where No Human Being Dwells.

In the northern part of Limestone county, Ala., is a tract of land consisting of more than one thousand acres, which is not on the map of the state, nor can it be found in the register's office of that county. No one claims it and no taxes have ever been paid on it. It is a vast wilderness, inhabited by snakes, deer and razorback hogs. It is a free hunting ground, and thousands of these hogs are killed every year, more for sport than for anything else. The hogs are wild and cannot be domesticated. Their yield is said to be enormous. Tom Booth, of Pulaski, Tenn., secured a male and female and did all in his power to tame them, but failed. He kept them a year, and at the end of that time they were as wild as at first. The more he fed them the thinner they became. Within the year they consumed four hundred bushels of corn and were as lean as church mice. During that time the sow had five litters of pigs, numbering two hundred and ten. Mr. Booth could not tame any of these nor get them fat enough to make even soap grease. Finally he gave them to a negro, who now considers himself under no obligations to Mr. Booth. The flesh of these hogs resembles horseflesh. It is as tough as a coon-skin, and a large-sized hog of this species rendered would not make grease enough to fry a skillet of batter cakes. They go through a garden like a shovelful of plow, and no vegetable escapes them. They can crowd through a crack that would hardly admit a mouse, and their sharp noses act as levers for garden gates. The Tennesseans make great fun of Alabama's razorback hogs.

REFUSED A THRONE.

The Heir Presumptive of Austria Thrown Over for a Young Lieutenant.

Some time ago, says Vienna Letter in the London News, it was believed that the heir presumptive to the Austrian throne, Archduke Francis Ferdinand, would marry his Bavarian cousin's daughter, Princess Elizabeth. It is now heard that the idea existed, and was much favored by the emperor, but the young princess frustrated these plans. More than a year ago she began to look approvingly upon a handsome young lieutenant, Baron S—. The young officer began by riding past her windows a couple of times a day, then he obtained a room with windows facing Prince Leopold's palace. In the winter, at court balls, the lieutenant danced oftener than any other with the princess, and in the spring lawn tennis brought them more together still. All at once the young officer was transferred to a regiment stationed in Alsace; and this seemed the tame end of a romantic story. But in the summer, when Princess Elizabeth staid with her emperor grandpa at Ischl, she is supposed to have used her time so well that the emperor promised to make the baron a prince, to give him some landed property, and to allow the happy couple to marry if their love was proof against time. The princess is nineteen, sweet, perfectly natural, and very sweet-tempered. That she should have preferred a union with the man she loves to the certainty of an imperial throne will not alienate the sympathies of those who know her and love her for her natural grace.

Russian Realty Regulations.

Princess Hohenlohe, the wife of the governor general of Alsace-Lorraine, inherited from her uncle, a Russian general, estates in Russia worth 30,000,000 or 40,000,000 rubles. Under the Russian law foreign non-residents cannot hold property, and the princess was compelled to sell her estates at once. She asked the czar to grant her a little time, as the financial stringency, which prevails in Russia as well as in this country, has made real estate hard to dispose of. The czar, however, for political reasons, refused to grant the extension and the poor woman was able to realize only a beggarly pittance of 10,000,000 or 20,000,000 rubles from her heritage.



The Alma Sanitarium Management take this opportunity of announcing to the readers of the RECORD and their friends that the institution is open for their inspection at any time, except Sunday. We also place at your convenience all of our remedial appliances, as well as our Mineral and Turkish Baths, and assure you, that you will be treated with the same consideration as our resident guests. Full information as to hours and prices, will be cheerfully given.

Village Council.

ALMA, MICH., April 24, 1894. The Common Council of the Village of Alma in special session on above date.

Present—President T. A. Ely and trustees Baker, Garrett, Jones and Montell.

Absent—DeLavan and McCallough.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved. The following claims were presented.

Fred Kernen freight and cartage, \$1.10

Fred Kernen drawing nose cart to Brainerds fire, 1.00

Bert Thompson drawing hook and ladder to F. P. Grams fire, 2.00

John Greig village marshal, 40.49

Samuel Oil Co 2 bbls gasoline, 7.98

Edging Bros & Everard record book, 4.50

Wm Hantani engineer of water works, 13.25

Wm Moore work on hose and hydrant, 7.75

A. E. Egan night watch, 16.92

Chas Hustins work at cemetery, 1.50

Fred E Shipman work at engine house, .68

On motion the claims were allowed except claims of Fred Kernen for freight and cartage, \$1.10, and claim of John Greig for cartage at corrected footing, \$5.40.

On motion bill of Fred Kernen allowed at corrected footing, 50 cents.

Trustee McCullough appears.

Position of C. C. Thompson and others for sidewalk on south side of Walnut street, beginning at Dr. Bagley's residence on State street, running east on Walnut to Pine street.

On motion petition of property holders allowed and sidewalk ordered.

Village attorney John D. Spinnery reports on the matter of water tax as follows: I would recommend that engineer at water works shut off the water used by the following persons, and that the same be not turned on without a certificate from the village attorney that their water taxes for said place are paid: T. E. Finley, residence; Lewis Vaughn, residence; Elliott House; Prudence Webb, store; D. Robertson, house, superior street. I would recommend that the following water taxes be remitted, as I am satisfied upon investigation that the water was not used or mistakes were made in charges: E. N. Chadwick, amount \$1.00, May 1st, '93, to May 1st, '94, \$1.00; Mary E. Ely, amount from May 1st, '93, to May 1st, '94, \$1.00; E. B. Green, amount from May 1st, '93, to May 1st, '94, \$1.00; James Garrett residence, amount from May 1st, '93, to May 1st, '94, \$1.00; Alma Table Co., amount from May 1st, '93, to May 1st, '94, \$1.00.

I would recommend that the following water taxes be either remitted or the water shut off as the council see fit: J. H. Byard, Bushnell house, Superior st., \$3.00; C. E. Lewis, photo gallery.

On motion the report of the village attorney was accepted and adopted.

On motion the water tax of Mr. Byard and C. E. Lewis is remitted.

The committee on con. and sal. report that they have entered into an agreement with John Greig to serve as marshal of village at a salary of twenty-five dollars for the ensuing year. They also agree to give said John Greig 75 per cent of all money collected by him known as the village water tax.

On motion the report of the committee was accepted and adopted.

On motion the request of the fire dept. com. ask for further time was granted.

On motion the marshal is instructed to inquire the ordinance prohibiting the riding of bicycles on the main streets of Alma.

On motion the proposition of the Gratiot county printing co. to print the village business at the following rates was accepted and adopted: To publish council proceedings one year for \$40 dollars, plus the ordinary and legal notice at one-third less legal rates, tax sales at legal rates, job printing at regular rates.

C. F. Hoover, Manager.

The street commissioner is instructed to inspect all sidewalks and report conditions of same at each meeting.

On motion the board of Crawford & Seagr for the sale of liquors on the north side of Superior st. with Jas D. Garvin and Delos W. Adams as sureties was accepted.

On motion the committee on fire dept is instructed to procure brush and paint and allow engineer to paint the woodshed in rear of water works building.

Prothon notary adjourned. S. Terms, Clerk.

MONTAQUE, Mich., Nov. 13, 1893.

W. W. Wadsworth, a wealthy farmer of Muskegon Co., personally appeared before me, this day, and says: "That for the past year or so he was afflicted with weakness, trembling, heart failure, extreme nervousness and headache; that he consulted with Physicians but received no benefit. He was persuaded by a friend to try a sample bottle of Dr. Wheeler's Nerve Vitalizer, and he says the trembling and nervous feeling was immediately stopped by its use. Afterwards he used two bottles of the same medicine and says he is entirely cured." Signed, W. WADSWORTH. Sworn to and subscribed before me a Notary Public for Muskegon County, State of Michigan. JAS. MORRISON.

This medicine sold by B. VanDen-Bergh, 784 13W

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