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ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31.

Bulgaria has not found a prince, but she has caused the military manual to be translated from Russian to the native Bulgarian language.

The report that there is little hope for Jake Sharp has a melancholy touch of sadness in it that might touch a philanthropic heart and cause the tear to start into the pitying eye of sentiment, except that he is such an unconscionable thief and will never look right except in a striped suit.

Speaker Carlisle says that there will be no legislation in Congress to prevent the accumulation of surplus revenue owing to the shortness of the session. This settles the hash of Tariff Reform for the present.

The Fabian policy, as it is chronically called, will still prevail in the Democratic party.

They mourn for the death of Literary Life who expected it to make a success with the boom imparted to it by Miss Cleveland, who came across the sky of Chicago like a transit of Minerva and passed out like the huntress Diana firing a parting arrow at the publisher of Literary Life that went through him and came out on the other side.

The death of General Logan having left a wide chasm in the Republican prospect for 1888, Don Cameron's friends rush in the breach to fill it at once with the big Pennsylvania's reverberating name, and the boom is being prepared to celebrate the move. Anon it will be banged, and the circumambient air will be filled with noise.

Mr. George lectured this week on the income tax, and he calls it a tax on conscience because it gives the citizen the opportunity to lie out of his taxes and discount his liability with a system of prevarication.

Still this is hardly the theory for the laboring men, as it has generally been held by them that the rich man's revenue ought to be taxed when it represents interest on inactive capital.

Captain Greene, in Scribner's, ably discusses the necessity for a navy and for coast defenses, and shows how peculiarly exposed we are in having so many cities on the coast.

He makes a list of fifteen American cities with an aggregate population of nearly five and a quarter millions—about an eleventh of our total population—with a property valuation of over four thousand millions and an annual product in manufactures alone of a good deal more than one thousand millions, all, he remarks, subject to destruction, or to ransom to avert it, from any first, second or even third class European power.

We wish to hear the views of some of our enlightened and public-spirited citizens on the subject of the annexation of Manchester to Richmond.

We do not look down on Manchester, and have no right to do it, except from a more exalted position, like Ralfe in the foretop, and that can be done by the colored dude when he parades for a Sunday flirtation with his Dinah on Gamble's Hill.

Therefore, let the pros and cons be stated calmly, and after we hear what the views on both sides are the Legislature can see better than if they tackled this important question in the dark.

Canada's new fishing law bears a later date than the correspondence of Mr. Bayard on this subject.

The purpose of the new act is to give "more effectual protection of the inshore fisheries of Canada against intrusion by foreigners." It amends the act 31 Victoria, chapter 61, for the same purpose, which had itself been amended by 33 Victoria, chapter 15. For the first section of the latter act, which received the royal assent in 1870, the new statute furnishes a substitute that more fully defines the offenses.

The act covers the whole ground, and provides for seizing and confiscating foreign fishing vessels that are even "found hovering within three miles of any coast, bay, creek, or harbor of Canada."

THE EXTRA SESSION.

We published yesterday the views of another paper in full, opposing the extra session, but though that side was presented strongly we think the Governor is right in calling the Legislature together.

The members may feel that influence of a "pledge" to the Riddleberger "settlement," which we appreciate fully, if it can be proved a settlement.

But it only brings us closer to a crash every time it induces an issue with the Federal courts, and times have changed since the ideas of States rights went that far.

The Democratic party with two-thirds majority in the Legislature can afford to tell the truth to the people, and we cannot but believe that a fair showing of the figures and a sensible address to the people would satisfy them by the very hard facts that there is one thing to be done for the good of the party and the State, and that is to call for a conference with the creditors.

If this is not done, the coupons will be used for taxes more and more, and at last the State will be without revenue.

The only real objection to such a policy among politicians is that the Republicans might advocate repudiation.

There was enough known long ago to insure the reverse; and, now mark, when the Republicans advocate a debt settlement, the coupons will be increasing in use everywhere, and any man who uses them will thereby pledge himself to a debt settlement including the coupons.

Then where will be the party which proclaims the present policy of the auditors, and the alternative of repudiation? Inevitably mashed between the Republican party and the debt-paying Democrats.

WOMAN'S VOTE.

Several high authorities of late have prophesied that woman must inevitably be granted the right to vote, but it remains for THE DAILY TIMES of Richmond to point out the way, and we wager a "dukedom to a beggarly denier" that nobody else has had the foresight to point it out.

There are thousands of women who would not countenance the idea of the sex going to the polls on pure political questions, but when the liquor question becomes the prominent one they will see one way of killing or maiming the monster that almost all women regard as the arch enemy of the fireside and the fell destroyer of domestic happiness.

It will be a curious struggle, but it is inevitable when we think how deep the prohibition craze has penetrated into the heart of very many communities.

It will remain for the West to take the lead; and we believe that in the course of time some man of enterprise in politics will see his chance in formulating a local campaign on this plan. We hope Richmond will be the last to follow the example.

Our ever-sensible neighbor, the Index-Appell, is wrong about the suggestion for a conference on the debt question being suggested first by Governor Lee.

It was mapped out in full in the Reformer long before anyone else gave any practical draft of the idea.

M. Clemenceau, the famous French statesman, is in Vienna to attend the marriage of a brother, and he has vouchsafed the following reliable statement relating to the fears of war between France and Germany:

"There can be no war between France and Germany unless Germany makes the first attack, because every responsible Frenchman is determined that France shall offer no provocation. Even if Russia and Germany should fight, France would remain passive. It would require gross provocation indeed to rouse France to war. Of course, France will refuse to disarm. It must be admitted that France has been coquetting with Russia, but this was intended merely to frighten Germany."

In Mr. Powderly's recent little troubles he has been alternately abused and complimented.

We do not believe in Mr. Powderly, but it is not on account of Mr. Powderly's individual lack of wisdom and his vacillating character. The reason is deeper and relates to the principles he represents, which would make the best and wisest man in the world bad. It is impossible to impose a centralized imperialism on immense bodies of men and maintain it by educating them to false beliefs. Millions of men, incited to discontent and ignorant of the progress of the labor element under our system, can be persuaded for a time into anything that is all promise and theory; but when brought face to face with the wrongs committed by this aforesaid centralized power and its domination of the local interests, they must certainly rebel.

And that is just where the Knights of Labor, by the operation of their own ideas, will bring themselves.

SPECIAL AND PERSONAL.

A Hoosier statesman, desiring to boom his popularity in New York, smilingly called Gotham the "Kansas City of the East."

Henry George says: "If land were free to those who want to use it there would be no glut in the market or cry of over-production." How happens it, then, that with the land only moderately free—going to those who want it at \$1.25 an acre—there has been for two years past a surplus of some 50,000,000 bushels of wheat carried over, and so full a produc-

tion of other farm products that the agriculturists have made very little profits?

Tom Ochiltree, the statesman Munchausen from the Lone Star State, says that he considered Bill Stuart one of the most brilliant men of all the list of his distinguished personal friends.

That is a good co-ordinate to a fact, but the question is, did Colonel Ochiltree ever see Stuart.

The World finds that English papers are not sufficiently versed in American affairs.

The London Daily News in a half column of editorial comment on the McQuade trial confounds the ex-Alderman with the gallant General James McQuade, who has long been in his grave; makes Mr. Charles Francis Adams, who died a few weeks ago, his own son by calling him the son of the former American Minister of the same name, and creates John Keenan an alderman.

The Tuxedo Park Club are having a high old time with a fashionable carnival on ice, the lake being hard frozen and covered with iceboats in which ladies and gentlemen scud at the rate of sixty miles an hour. It is rare fun to the participants and to the lookers-on, but the iceboat is not as safe as sitting by a Christmas fire, and three times boats have upset or run into the open water. A lady in an iceboat is beautiful to behold, but trying to swim in icewater she is neither a mermaid nor a belle, and the only one who enjoys that part of the sport is the doctor.

Birmingham, Alabama.

The New Orleans Picayune has studied up the Pittsburg of the South, and says of it:

"When these establishments shall be completed, as is expected in the course of the next fifteen months, Birmingham, Ala., will have twenty furnaces, with a capacity of 2,015 tons per day—equal to more than 735,000 tons per annum, or a yearly net production of considerably over 600,000 tons.

"There are iron furnaces going up at Sheffield, Ala., and at Chattanooga, Tenn. The daily output of iron is about 200 tons, with other iron works in process of establishment. In the course of a year the Southern States, including Virginia and Tennessee, will have a capacity to manufacture some 3,000 tons of pig and bloom iron, or over 1,000,000 tons annually."

WHAT THE YOUNG FOLKS SAY.

Unjust Discrimination—Little Dot—Oh, dear, I don't see why people can't be as good to their children as they are to themselves. Little Dick—What's matter, Dot? "I've got an awful toothache." "Don't your mamma have toothache, too?" "No, she's got herself teeth whet she can take out."—Omaha World.

He was a nobby young man of blue blood and good financial backing, and as he sat down in the car he pulled out his handkerchief. An odor of perfume was wafted through the car, and a boy sitting beside his mother suddenly called out: "Say, ma, why can't we buy onions which smell as nice, as that?"—Detroit Free Press.

Little Julia is in the habit of saying "Amen" to the grace her papa says at the table, and she usually says it heartily and withunction. But she failed to say it altogether at breakfast a few mornings ago, and sat looking gloomily at the table, which had rather less on it than usual, and nothing that Julia likes. Some one at the table asked why Julia was silent. "Puh," she said with fine scorn, "I don't think I'll say amen for such a breakfast as this."—Boston Record.

A middle aged man, whose business keeps him away from home on all days except Sunday, had occasion to chastise his eldest boy one Sabbath about three weeks ago. As soon as the shingle soance was over the child ran crying into the house. "Why, Johnnie, what is the matter?" asked the mother in alarm. "That big fellow's been licking me," whimpered the boy. "What fellow do you mean, Johnnie?" "Why that fellow what stays here every Sunday," replied the urchin, with a gulp.—Chicago Herald.

This is an odd conceit of another very little girl, last Sunday, when it began snowing. A day or two previous mamma had been making some new pillows and emptying the old ones, which was rare sport for the little one, inasmuch as she got her dress covered with the down. Looking out of the window at the falling flakes she said: "Oh, mamma, look at the sky all full of white specks!" Then in a moment, "I dess God has been making some new pillows."—Boston Record.

SPORTING GOSSIP.

Teemer, Hamm and Ten Eyck have returned from England. Teemer says Beach is the best sculler in the world.

Pat Killeen, the heavy weight of Duluth, is matched to fight Ed McKeown for \$1,000 a side on Dec. 28, at Minneapolis.

Rotherhill, the stallion just imported by Mr. Swigart, of Kentucky, is an own brother to Petrarch, the sire of The Bard and Miss Jennings.

It is stated that Paddy Ryan has refused an offer from Pat Sweeney of \$500 a week and expenses to travel with the John L. Sullivan combination.

Of the 10,000 members of the League of American Wheelmen New York state gives 1,735; Pennsylvania, 1,485; Massachusetts, 1,444; New Jersey, 944, and Ohio, 845.

Hanlan has gone to Canada. He says he hopes to row his match with Beach in New South Wales some time in June. The stakes will be \$5,000 a side, and Beach will allow Hanlan expenses.

A scheme for a memorial to the memory of the late Fred Archer has been placed before the English public. Subscriptions have been invited for the purpose of founding at Newmarket an institute for the use of stable boys, apprentices and others employed about training stables.

Volante, of the Baldwin stable, was the biggest Santa Anita winner, having \$30,835 set down to his credit. During the season Mr. Baldwin's horses started in 195 races, of which they won 54, ran second in 31, third in 85, and unplaced in 75. Their total winnings in stakes and purses foot up the grand sum of \$95,956.

ART AND ARTISTS.

The date for the opening of the annual exhibition of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts has been definitely fixed for the 10th of March next.

The works of art belonging to the city of Paris, but stored in the Boulevard Morland for lack of exhibition room, are to have a palace to themselves called Musee des Beaux Arts de Paris, which will stand in the Ile Louviers.

KEEPAKES.

Each lover has a keepsake For the memory of his love; One has a note or a ribbon, And one a curl or a glove.

But I am rich in keepsakes; Three notes I treasure apart, There are two, accepting my presents, And one, declining my heart.

IF—SUT.

If I were a woe, woe sprite, Of all my pastimes rare 'Twould be my chief delight To nestle in thy soft hair.

If I were a white, white rose, How coveted would be my rest, Lulled to a sweet repose On thy gently cradling breast.

Being neither rose nor elf, I'll cease my poetical play, And content my prosaic self To rest in some usual way.

TURN AND TURN ABOUT.

The old man he carried the hod, His son he got rich in molasses; The grandson a scholar he grew, And took the first place in his classes. A statesman, he rose to high rank, And he left a great name and much riches. A sinner took to dealing in stocks, And lost everything but his pantaloons. And thus goes the old whirling— The son of this filigant gold 'un Spent his money in bumming around— Now he carries the hod like the old 'un.

Best Not to Tell. "Ah," said the superintendent, "and here is Tommy Goodboy's missionary offering, \$27.50. That will make some little heathen hearts glad. Now tell us how you got this money, Tommy." "Yes, sir," said Tommy, speaking up loud'y and distinctly, like the good boy that he was; "part of it I pa won on 'Change, some of it I ma won on a crazy quilt raffle, some of it sister Laura won at progressive euchre, \$2 brother Bill won on the horse race, twenty cents I got for marbles I won playin' keeps, and the rest I won in a grabbag and a prize cake at the church fair." After a brief consultation the brethren decided that they would send the money on to the heathen, but wouldn't tell them how it was raked in. There are some things it isn't best even for the heathen to know.—Brooklyn Eagle.

A Loyal Heart.

Drug clerk (to customer)—Twenty grains of quinine! Yes sir. Shall I give you something to take away the taste of it? Customer (eyes bulging with astonishment)—Take away what? Drug clerk—The taste of the quinine, sir. Customer (solemnly)—Young man, quinine is bread, butter an' pie to me. Its parents, relatives, fren's; it's my washin', ironin', clothin', and a place to sleep in. Take-away—the taste—of—it! I'm a Wabash valley man, and I'm a good mind ter comb ye down.—New York Sun.

Punishment for Deserters. Gen. Sheridan, in his annual report just made public, recommends that habitual deserters from the army be branded with india ink. He thinks some punishment of that kind would speedily check a practice which is producing a large number of professional deserters.—Cleveland Leader.

Madame Fursch-Madi sings too well to please some of the American Opera company people, and they had better fear that she would become that detestable thing, a "star" performer. So Stage Manager Hock picked a fuss with her at St. Louis, and Theodore Thomas said Fursch-Madi or he must go. Mrs. Thurber, purse-holder for the company, and friend of Fursch-Madi, said the latter should sing. She did, and Mr. Thomas has not resigned either.

The Virginia State Debt.

To the People of Virginia: At a meeting of Virginia Bondholders, convened by the Council of Foreign Bondholders, and held on Friday, the 24th of September, 1886, at the Cannon-street Hotel, London, the following resolutions were passed unanimously: "That this meeting deplores the long contest in which the bondholders have been forced for the maintenance of their rights, and, while asserting its steadfast determination not to accept the Riddleberger settlement which, in view of the limited ability of Virginia to settle with her creditors, and the sacrifices they have already made on her behalf, it considers dishonest and unjust, hereby expresses its willingness to meet the State and enter into a reasonable compromise based upon the present taxation and the available revenue, after providing for the Constitutional appropriation for government, schools, and other public expenditures.

The State had the benefit of the whole of the money she originally borrowed (\$34,000,000). It laid the foundation of her roads, railways, and canals, and brought millions of dollars into the country. Had you not constructed these public works with the bondholders' money you would have to be taxed now for them.

No State which borrowed money ever enjoyed the benefit of its loans more than Virginia has done. (See Senate Document XXIV, Session, 1877-78.)

The present unsettled condition of the debt is keeping capital and immigration out of Virginia, and as long as matters so continue you will never develop the splendid resources of the State in the way they deserve. The revenue of Virginia is increasing. The last assessment shows an increase of \$55,000,000 in taxable values. Your present revenue is largely increased if the taxes were more carefully collected and the present assessments on property equalized throughout the State.

What might have been difficult to do a few years ago is easy now, and each year the burden will become lighter. When the debt question is settled capital and enterprise, which now holds aloof, will flow into the State. The settlement offered by the bondholders proposes that the bonds now in existence bearing tax-receivable coupons should be deposited in some trust company; that new bonds should be issued in their place, bearing no tax-receivable coupons, and at a low rate of interest. When the State pays a half-year's interest on the old bonds, the tax-receivable coupons for that half-year shall be cut off the old bonds by the trust company, cancelled, and delivered to the State. Any increase on the present revenue will be appropriated by the State, and the bondholders will not have any claim on it.

There was a cash balance last July in the Treasury of \$735,000, and the average purchase of Riddleberger 3's by the State has been at the rate of \$80,000 per annum in cash. The State has some millions of dollars of assets which would help her in arranging a settlement. The bondholders are as deeply interested as you are in maintaining the credit and prosperity of your State. They ask for a fair hearing and a discussion of the question by business men, and not by politicians, whose interest it is to prevent an understanding being arrived at and an honorable compromise made. The best way of bringing about this settlement is for taxpayers to tender coupons in payment of their taxes. In view of the conciliatory spirit and liberal offer made by the creditors I venture respectfully to submit to you that it is your moral duty, as well as your legal right and privilege, to tender coupons for taxes now due. JAMES P. COOPER.

SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS.

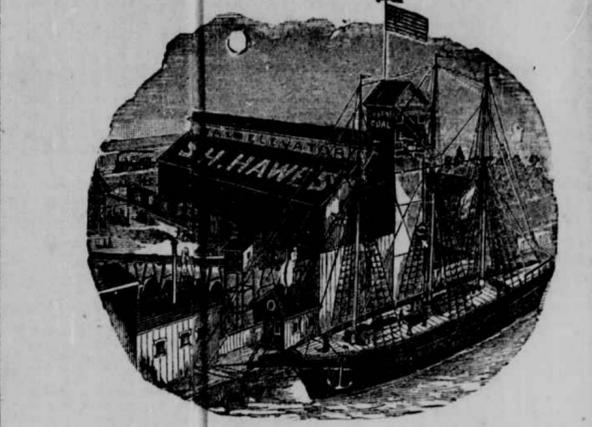
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