

PRINCE OF WALES ROASTED.

The Prince of Wales is less than human if he does not suffer many a day from the unmerciful roasting he received at the hands of Sir Edward Clarke, leading counsel for Sir William Gordon Cummings in the famous baccarat scandal trial.

Before the fearless lawyer had concluded his speech in defense of his client, he had the audience cheering him and applauding his words, and when he declared Sir William signed the document, which was afterwards used against him, "in order to save the Prince of Wales from scandal," there was a deadly silence followed by murmurs of applause which were only restrained by the lord chief justice reminding the audience that the court room was not a theatre.

THE WOOL QUESTION.

Appropos the discussion of the wool question among well-informed journals the following from the Chicago Tribune seems to be worthy of a place among those political effusions occasionally found in candid republican journals and which should be labelled "Curiosities."

McKinley seems to have shut up the market for it at home. As the law is working the wool-growers are paying the increased duties levied on the imported mixing wools.

If a man count at the rate of 800 a minute and count ten hours each day it would take him thirty-eight years of continuous labor to count out the \$500,000,000 which it now costs this government to maintain itself each year.

The Esmeralda is playing the part of a vagrant in order to get back to Chili. It goes into a port and threatens to stay there unless furnished with coal to get away. It is given and she steams to another where she plays the same game.

That baccarat scandal trial jury lacked the backbone of independent men. The fear of royalty was too great for it to overcome and amid the hissing of spectators its verdict against Sir William Cummings was read. This means the jury believes Sir William cheated and that the Prince of Wales was in a bad crowd at Trandy Croft.

The verdict in the famous baccarat scandal case clearly shows that no English gentleman has the ghost of a show in a trial in an English court in which the Prince of Wales is an opposing party.

Protectionists cite free sugar as an argument to prove that the McKinley tariff, which increases the average of duties upon imported articles from 47 per cent. to 60 per cent., is just the thing the people want. Funny, isn't it?

ABOUT NEWS.

There is news and then again there is news. As defined by the lexicographers news is "fresh information of something that has lately taken place, or something before unknown, tidings, intelligence, recent account, etc. We are told in Ecclesiastes: "There is no new thing under the sun," therefore a new thing is not news under the old time acceptance of the term news.

Shakespeare says: "Though it be honest, it is never good to bring bad news. Ill tidings tell themselves," and adds elsewhere:

"Yet the first bringer of unwelcome news Hath but a losing office; and his tongue Sounds ever after as a sullen bell, Reminded knolling a departed friend."

It is hardly necessary to state here that Shakespeare could not have retained a position as reporter upon some of the so-called newspapers of the day. And this brings us to the consideration of the oft asked question: What is news? The definition of lexicographers has been given, but that will not do for newspaper men, and it is of "news" as it presents itself to newspaper men we desire to speak.

Now no greater mistake is made by young, green newspaper reporters than by publishing as news all such public property. They seem to forget that it is not so much what is put into a paper that makes it acceptable to the public generally as what is kept out of it. It is a very easy matter to fill out two or three columns of matter and palm it off upon the reading public as news, but it is not such an easy matter to hold the names of the readers upon the subscription books of the paper.

Then what is news in a newspaper sense? As the Tribune views it news is that quality of information which may be read in the family circle, in mixed assemblies, in the school-room, or in our churches, if necessary, without bringing the blush of shame to the mother, the wife, or the daughter. Therefore we say there is news and news; the one legitimate, which adds to the stock of general information to be treasured and prized by; the other illegitimate, which, like all other offensive matter, should be permitted to lie undisturbed in the secret burial to which the public has consigned it.

An exchange remarks: "It pays sometimes to be thrown over the breastworks in politics," and then, in confirmation of its truth, it cites the case of Warner Miller, who was beaten for governor of New York, being president of the Nicaragua company, and Ingalls, who is to receive \$25,000 for loaning his name to a New York publication. It could also have added the name of our Thomas H. Carter, whom defeat made land commissioner, with a bright prospect for a cabinet office, whereas if he had beaten Dixon he would have remained a plain country congressman, without the present brilliant outlook before him.

In a recent interview Mayor Kleinschmidt, of Helena, is reported as saying that low water mark has been reached in the prosperity of that city and that for the next decade, at least, the tendency will be upward. The Tribune hopes the prediction of the sanguine mayor may prove true, but if his prediction is based upon the assumption that Helena will become the permanent capital of the state it is "as baseless as the fabric of a vision." Great Falls is a candidate for that honor with the most flattering prospects of success at the polls.

HYPOLITE, president of Hayti, wastes no time in wordy arguments with those who rebel against his authority. He puts down the rebellion by force of arms and then shoots the rebels. This course simplifies matters amazingly and saves the expense of feeding and guarding prisoners.

The Prince of Wales should now throw away his baccarat kit and join the procession of reformed gamblers.

COMPLAINT OF INSURGENTS.

The Chilian insurgents are very bitter in their denunciations of this government for taking the Itata without permitting her to land her arms and ammunition, and declare that: "The United States does not recognize the cradle of republicanism ideas and commits a grave error in thus indirectly assisting a dictator." One of their newspapers goes farther and shouts louder, as follows: "Let Americans take our ships and our arms, but let them reflect that they leave nailed in the hearts of 3,000,000 of men sentiments of having been deceived in their hopes, and of having lost faith in the nobleness of mind and liberality of sentiment of the government at Washington."

This is all very fine and very brave talk, but it exhibits such a lack of knowledge of the obligations of neutral powers and such petty spleen that the conviction is forced upon the minds of intelligent men that this government would commit no mistake by withholding aid and comfort from the Chilian insurgents even if existing treaties, international law and precedents did not bar it from extending favors to them in their contest with the head of their government. Balmaceda is their president, whose six years' term will expire next September. If, as they claim, they are the people, and that Balmaceda is a dictator, they should vote—not fight—him out at the September election and put in a man of their own. Chili is a republic and her people claim for it a republican form of government, and they should, like the people of this country, abide by the verdict rendered at the ballot-box.

If the people of the United States attempted to remove, by force of arms, officials whose acts are offensive to the majority, Mr. Harrison would now have a war of immense proportions upon his hands, and if the insurgents should complain because neutral powers would not lend them aid and comfort in their fight against the government, they would certainly be told to endure the bed they made for themselves awhile longer, and prepare a better one at their next election. And this is what neutral powers say to the Chilian insurgents. Hands off in family quarrels is an apt advice to nations as to individuals.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

The River Press, in commenting upon the boundless wealth possessed by northern Montana in her great ranges, says: "We cannot resist the temptation to again remark that the grasses on the boundless ranges of northern Montana are worth more to her than all the timber, of which western Montana so exultingly boasts, is worth to that favored section. For instance: There were shipped from northern Montana last year 300,000 nut-ton weathers, which brought net \$3 per head, or \$900,000; also 50,000 head of beef cattle, net \$30 per head, or \$1,500,000; also 3,000,000 pounds of wool, net 18 cents per pound, or \$540,000; making a grand total of \$2,940,000 in one year from those three items. In addition to this there should be added the increase in sheep, cattle and horses, and quite a number of the latter sold of which no account could be obtained. How long will it take the timbered region on the west side of the mountains to gather in \$2,000,000 net at home from the sale of its chief product, lumber? The larger per cent of the value of that product is eaten up by labor and transportation charges, leaving only small margins to the producers. Not so with the herds of sheep, cattle, and horses. The greater portion of their value goes to the producer, besides their increase from year to year, while the ranges on which they live will from season to season renew their crops of grasses for ages to come. But the timber once destroyed is not renewed for a century. Give us northern Montana."

The lottery sharps in Louisiana are not chumps if they don't bear the best of reputations for honesty. In order to capture the votes of the farmers of their state for an extension of life in the business, they have organized a farmers' loan agency in New Orleans to supply money to the farmers at the preposterously low rate of 1 per cent. per annum, principal and interest payable at the end of twenty years, without security beyond the note of the borrower. The scheme is a catching one, but thus far it has caught but few of the sons of toil, as the alliance has adopted amendments to its constitution prohibiting members from supporting the lottery under penalty of expulsion. The bait is a tempting one, and it remains to be seen whether it will be swallowed by any considerable number of the farmers.

SIR WILLIAM GORDON CUMMING is a pretty lucky fellow after all. There was a little jury of one in the shape of a bright American girl who acquitted him of any wrong doing at Trandy Croft, and emphasized her verdict by immediately marrying him. There was an exhibition of womanly pluck if not good judgment.

In the event Blaine will not be a candidate for the presidency and Harrison dare not be the republican party has Hayes to fall back upon. He is still sound in limb and wind and with the aid of his old-time states, Louisiana, Florida, and South Carolina he would make a good run, if he didn't win.

MURDER OF W. J. PENROSE

The announcement that the Hon. W. J. Penrose was assassinated in Butte night before last when on his way to his home, will create a profound sensation throughout the state. In his capacity as editor of the Butte Mining Journal Mr. Penrose was known as a fearless writer, denouncing in pointed language what he conceived to be wrong in practice or in principle, and as fearlessly advocating what he believed to be right. He did not mince his words or clothe his language in velvet, or round his periods to please aesthetic ears. Like the man himself, his language was plain and blunt, and, we believe, honestly spoken. Gentle in his nature, courageous in a marked degree, of strong convictions, outspoken in his expressions, warm in his friendships and bitter in his enmities, he possessed a host of admiring friends, and, doubtless, many enemies. During the past few months he had received many threatening letters, to which he paid but little heed. The writer or writers were unknown, but he or they have accomplished with the bullet what could not be effected by the anonymous pen—forever silenced the fearless editor by a most cowardly murder.

Language fails to express the more than horror with which the dastardly act is viewed by right thinking men. If as editor or law-giver he had transgressed the law he stood ready to answer to the law. The wrongfully aggrieved had their remedy in the statutes of the land, and none but a cowardly murderer would seek redress through the weapon of the midnight assassin. Our language is too poor to give a proper name to such a wretch and hell too cold to furnish him a proper abiding place.

Poor Penrose is gone—assassinated in cold blood, but the miserable coward or cowards who compassed his death will answer for it. There is no resting place upon this earth for such spawn of Satan. The press of Montana will be quite as fearless and as outspoken in their denunciations of wrong, and as unconcerned as to the consequences as though the martyred editor was still alive. And more than that they will spare no effort to bring the assassin to the punishment he so richly earned. In the absence of proof to the contrary the Tribune is compelled to look upon the murder of the Hon. W. J. Penrose as a dastardly blow delivered against the freedom of the press of Montana, and that editor is recreant to his trust and to his duty if he fail to denounce the crime in unmeasured terms and the criminal as unworthy to live in a free country.

The school authorities of the state of New Jersey were called upon to settle a difficulty between teacher and pupil in which the latter stole a kiss from a girl and would not acknowledge he had committed a crime nor would he take a whipping from the teacher. The boy was dismissed from school, but the county and state superintendents remembering they were once boys, reinstated him. This seems to go some ways towards establishing a precedent that boys may occasionally steal a kiss from a pretty girl school mate without incurring the penalty of a birching. It was a precedent that many of us sought to establish thirty or forty years ago, but somehow school officers never took our view of the matter at that time. If we ever be a boy again we will live in New Jersey.

The aftermath of that baccarat scandal trial is not at all pleasing to the ears of English royalty. The sympathy of the people seems to be extended to Sir William while the noble ladies smile sweetly upon the Prince and the Wilsons, but neither of the latter are proud of the part they took in the trial. The Queen is displeased and if the truth were known it would be found the good old lady had a great deal of sympathy for Sir William, a little for the Prince and not any for the Wilsons.

SENATOR LELAND STANFORD of California seems to have the inside track as the candidate for the people's party for president, Peffer, who has been talked about being ineligible on account of having been born in Canada. Stanford, who made a bid for the nomination by introducing a bill in the senate providing for the government loaning farmers money at 2 per cent interest, will doubtless capture the honor.

WHILE EX-SENATOR INGALLS is confident that unless the republican party adjust itself to the changed conditions of American life it will go to pieces, Senator Stewart is equally confident it will go to pieces unless it give the farmers free silver coinage. With Harrison and Wall street on the one side and Stewart, Ingalls, et al, on the other the republican party seems to be between the devil and the deep sea.

In the death of the Hon. W. J. Penrose the Montana Press association has lost one of its most fearless, most genial, and most open-handed members. Warm in his friendships he secured the admiration, respect, and esteem of his brethren of the craft, who will long keep his memory green in their hearts. His life-work is ended, but the lessons which his fidelity to his convictions and his fearlessness in expressing them taught his contemporaries of the press will bear fruit while liberty of speech prevails.

See our Fancy Screen Doors and Window Screens. Holter Lumber Co.

GREAT FALLS A WOOL CENTER.

Let one draw a circle around Great Falls, a right line from which to the periphery would measure one hundred miles in length, and he would include about all of the wool-growing area of Montana worth speaking about. In other words the sheep-growing industry of the state is principally confined within a radius of one hundred miles from this city. While this fact would seem to point to Great Falls as the wool-growing center of Montana, it is supplemented by others which positively make it such. In the first place Great Falls is the railroad center of the wool-growing district of the state. In the second place it is the financial center. In the third place it is the supply point or distributing center for sheep husbandry outfits and in the fourth place it is the headquarters in Montana for the representatives of all the leading wool purchasing and wool commission firms of the east. These five facts combined naturally make Great Falls the objective point of wool sellers, and hence the center of wool transactions in the state.

It is not the purpose of this article to enter into a history of sheep husbandry in Montana. It is enough to know that while a few bands found scant pastures, many years ago, on the mountain sides and foot hills and in the narrow vales and valleys of the mining counties, proper of the state, their climatic conditions and the occupancy of all lands available for meadows and farming forced the industry within the area described by the circle referred to. Here it is today, and here it will always remain. It is the home of the sheep. Its extensive ranges; its altitude, its pure, dry bracing atmosphere, its nutritious and abundant grasses, its wholesome waters and its remarkable healthfulness unite in making this portion of Montana the finest country in the world for profitable sheep husbandry. This proposition cannot be successfully questioned.

In view of the premises stated certain conclusions logically follow. First, that wool-growing will become, if it has not already become, the prominent stock industry of this section of Montana; and second, that Great Falls, by reason of its location and transportation facilities, is the natural center of the industry. These two facts being undisputed it remains for wool-growers and wool-buyers to adjust themselves to the situation. Let it be understood that sellers can obtain the full value of their wool products in this city, and that buyers stand ready to purchase such products at their highest market value, and the thing is done. The Tribune is pleased to state that one of these conditions will be fully met in this city. The buyers and agents of eastern commission firms will be here in numbers throughout the wool season. They will be prepared to make the most advantageous terms with sellers. This matter being understood one of the most important branches of the wool growing industry is greatly simplified. Sellers will not be compelled to touch a half dozen markets to find the best one. He will know it can be found at Great Falls and govern himself accordingly. Time, labor and expense will be saved all parties concerned.

There is no other place in northern or eastern Montana which combines all the requirements of a great wool center to the marked degree they are combined at Great Falls. It is pre-eminently a railroad, financial, supply and distributing center. Its location is central; its railroad facilities extend in every direction; its banks are among the first in the state; its mercantile establishments are the largest and their prices the lowest in Montana, and its wool warehouse one of the most commodious in the west. Add to these the important fact that buyers and commission agents make the city their headquarters and you have the center par excellence of the wool-growing district of Montana.

It is sometime since Baron Fava, Italian minister to this country, was called home by the petulant Rudina, soon after the New Orleans slaughter of diagos. The government having waited a reasonable length of time for the Italian premier to explain the continued absence of Baron Fava, and as none has been offered, it is stated Harrison has recalled Minister Porter from Rome, thus severing all diplomatic relations with Italy. If this be true, the president has done what should have been done when Fava left Washington in a huff. The United States cannot preserve its dignity as a great nation and at the same time endure uncalled for slights at the hands of a garlic-eating, macaroni-sucking people.

The comments of the London press taken as a whole, upon the verdict in the baccarat scandal trial, is not at all complimentary to the Prince of Wales nor to the set in which he moves. The lord chief justice also comes in for a share of the poorly concealed adverse criticisms. It would appear from the tone of the English press that the honor of Sir William Gordon Cumming was not so much involved in the result of the trial as the standing of the heir-apparent to the throne of England. At this distance it looks as though the consideration of the latter was the only thing that colored the verdict. "There's such a divinity doth hedge a king" that the poor common mortals who composed the jury may be pardoned if they were afflicted with mental strabismus when they viewed the evidence in the case before them.

CANADIAN ANNEXATION.

The death of Sir John McDonald revitalized the Canadian annexation sentiment which perforce has lain dormant within the Dominion since that eminent statesman so resolutely set his face against it. But, while the matter is being discussed more or less among northern neighbors, it is not a very peculiar subject for public speech or editorial comment. There is a writer, however, in a Winnipeg paper, who has put as whatever of national pride or sensibleness he may possess and treats the question of annexation from a purely business standpoint and as a business proposition. After reviewing the condition of the country and handling every alternative annexation he arrives at the conclusion that the hope of Canada lies in a peaceable annexation to the United States. Indeed he presents such a picture of that country that how favorably the scheme of annexation may be regarded by the people this side of the line, they will very naturally hesitate to take by the hand and lead into the union of states a British dependency weighted down with so many financial woes.

He says "its people have been living promises of better times which have proved illusory and have been growing poorer every year upon this feast of the barber's sixth brother. Every year finds the debt, the expenditure, and taxation of the country increasing, while its population is stationary or decreasing and its sons and daughters emigrating to the United States in search of the employment and fields of enterprise which they fail to find at home." In prosecuting the subject he pictures Canada as being in a worse condition than it was forty years ago, when many Canadians signed a manifesto which declared that: "Of all the remedies which have been suggested for the acknowledged and insufferable ills with which our country is afflicted there remains but one to be considered. The remedy consists in a friendly and peaceable separation from British connection, and a union upon equitable terms with the great North American confederation of sovereign states."

In commenting upon this matter the Pioneer Press so happily voices the sentiments of the people of this country that the Tribune unhesitatingly subscribes to it. "As a rule," says that paper, "the American people are entirely indifferent to this question. It is regarded as a purely Canadian affair, in which the United States has no interest. But though it is true this great republic has no need of Canada, the question has an American side of large proportions." The Press then sums up the advantages as follows:

Annexation would add to the United States all the vast territory between its present northern boundary and the Arctic ocean, and five millions to its present population. It would make us the greatest and most powerful nation on the globe, dominating the entire continent of North America with the exception of Mexico. It would relieve us of all international contentions about fisheries and seal skins and shore rights. It would abolish all the custom houses on both sides of the line. It would give us control of the St. Lawrence river, the most important commercial outlet of the northwestern states, and rid us of the persistent attempts of rival railroad interests to deprive the northwest of its shortest and cheapest routes to the seaboard through the Canadian railways. Thus the northwestern, lake and New England states have a direct and positive interest of great magnitude in this question of annexation. But the whole country would be benefited by it. It would open new fields to the commercial and industrial activity of our people. The Canadian provinces would soon become great and flourishing states of the union. Thus reinforced in all the sources of its power and prosperity the imperial republic, covering the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the gulf of Mexico to the Arctic ocean, without an enemy or a rival in the western hemisphere; too great in its vast entrenchments of the surrounding oceans to be attacked by external foes, would tower like a Colossus among the nations of the earth and furnish in the grandeur of its peaceful and prosperous destiny the conditions and the home of the highest and most splendid civilization ever known in the history of mankind.

This is indeed a ravishing picture the Pioneer Press draws of the benefits to be derived from the union of the two countries. The picture may be touched up by adding that we are a people having a common parentage, a common language, a common interest and a common bond of sympathy. We are divided only by an intangible line which simply separates two forms of government, but not our interests, our pursuits and our ambitions. It is the easiest and most natural thing in the world for the people of each country to join hands and intermingle in common pursuits and with the one purpose to make the country the richest, the most powerful and the grandest on the earth. It may be done. *Quies saba.*

CONDENSED TELEGRAMS.

Bar silver 97 3/4.
The Pope will issue an encyclical letter for joining the eastern and western churches.
Texas floods continue.
A hurricane did great damage, causing loss of life in eastern Galicia.
English newspaper comments on the Prince of Wales connection with gambling continue severe and the Prince is sulking.
Stanley county, South Dakota, court house burned with all the records, causing \$40,000 loss.
Two thousand five hundred people are at Pittsburg to see Father Mollinger, the famous faith cure priest.
The British Dehring sea bill received royal assent.