

THE COMMERCIAL OUTLOOK.

If business figures can be relied upon and count for anything, the outlook for 1880 is more encouraging than a certain class of people are willing to admit. For a long time America imported millions of dollars' worth of manufactured goods from the old world, and our neighbors across the sea bought very little of us. The balance of trade has now begun to turn in our favor. During the last year the exportations of the United States have exceeded its importations by many millions, and our trade is constantly increasing. This has had a cheering effect upon commercial affairs, and a sort of business wave has lifted itself in the East, whose crust sparkles and flashes in the golden sunlight of good times. It is coming this way and will surge along this coast in due course of time. All the business reports from banks, railroads, clearing houses, produce markets and manufactories from the Atlantic sea board and Middle States show a vitality in commercial arteries which is a sure indication of business health. Of course the chronic growlers will still maintain that times are hard and money is close. With such people money is always close and always will be. They hoard up their earnings, spend only what is absolutely necessary and bemoan the state of the times. People are more frightened than hurt. Times are not hard except when compared with the seasons of unhealthy inflation which are past, let us hope, forever. The country is full of money which can be had at low rates of interest. Here in Nevada prospects are brighter than ever. The Comstock lode is getting ready for another period of bullion yielding. There are several mining districts in Nevada in a prosperous condition while dozens are opening up with fine promise. The Enterprise contains the following views of Senator Jones on the present prospects of the Comstock lode: "Senator J. P. Jones has great faith in the Comstock bonanzas yet to come. In saying that along the lode we are now passing into a new and fertile formation, he is correct, and shows that he has kept himself well informed in regard to our mining operations. We are just now passing out of the barren belt lying below the second range of bonanzas. Below the first bonanzas occurred a barren zone which was so uniform in its course that it can easily be traced almost from end to end of the Comstock. On the surface this barren belt is pretty well represented by the line of C street, though of course it is not perfectly straight. Standing on the Divide and looking northward along C street toward Cedar Hill, we have before us on the left the old line of works of the first bonanzas and on the right the second line of works on the late bonanzas, with still further to the right the third line of works which are to tap our next range of bonanzas. We already know that the barren space between the second and third range of bonanzas is greater than that between the first and second, but just how much wider it is to be, we do not know. In time we shall probably learn the ratio of increase in these barren zones. It now appears to be in proportion to the increased width of the fertile zone. As the second line of bonanzas was much more valuable than the first, so we may expect the third to be broader and richer than the second. As the vein itself in most places remains of the same width and general appearance, it is probable that the silver having formed a nucleus of ore along a certain belt attracted to that point the silver in solution, in vapor, or in whatever form it was, from parts of a vein to a certain distance above and below. In this way there would be alternating barren and fertile zones of corresponding width. The change of formation seen at the depth of a little over 2,700 feet in the Yellow Jacket shaft, in the Belcher at about the same depth, at the bottom of the Combination shaft at a similar depth, at the bottom of the Ophir incline, some 2,500 feet below the surface, and at other points on the lead, indicates that another zone of bonanzas is about to be reached. And this is also the conclusion we naturally arrive at from what we have thus far seen of these alternating belts of barren and fertile ground.

A ROW IN THE WHITE HOUSE.—On New Year's day the White House was invaded by Col. De Ahna, the deposed custom-house collector of Sitka. He approached President Hayes and openly accused him of refusing to do him justice in the matter of restoring him to his position. He charged Hayes with having been instrumental in reducing himself and family to beggary. The man's language became so exciting that he was removed by the police. The friends of De Ahna claim that he was deposed for practicing the very same policy which Hayes and Sherman both endorse in the President's message and Sherman's report. If an aggrieved American citizen has been wronged by the President of the United States he has a perfect right to call on him and make a row about it.

A prospectus circular announces that a journal, to be called the Nevada Monthly, is shortly to make its appearance in Virginia City. It will be in book or magazine form, and furnish the public with reliable information relative to the mining, agricultural, industrial and literary interests of the State of Nevada.

THE MISSION OF JOURNALISM.

Now that the new year has begun, it might be a good idea for the journals of Nevada to stop their petty squabbles and try and elevate their profession to a plane which will enable the outside world to recognize it as something decent and respectable. There are a class of sheets run by men bearing the same relation to journalism as hod-carriers do to architects, who consider that a paper can not be bright without being abusive, or readable without being grossly personal. These notions of the profession have no higher aim than to sell themselves for a pittance, slobber over their friends, lick the boots of their superiors with pliant and ready tongues and blackguard those whom they personally dislike. The following from the Bodie Free Press is a well-expressed article on the subject:

The profession of journalism ought to be an honorable profession. A man who is fit to put on record the history of the times, and assume the part of a censor upon the acts of his fellowmen, should himself be a just man and a gentleman. He should treat all subjects coming within the scope of his journalistic comments fairly, and with the consideration which their importance demands. The discussions between newspapers on all points of difference should be conducted in as courteous a manner as a verbal discussion between two gentlemen. We have never seen any force imparted to an argument by vituperation and the use of bad language. We have seen the effect of many a good argument destroyed by an exhibition of ill temper.

Why is it that the proper course of conduct in this regard is so rare among editors and newspaper men? Why is it that, in their public utterances respecting each other, they are as a rule the most petty of cavillers, and the most uncourteous and uncouth of critics? Do the public require that journalists shall enter a gladiatorial arena, in which the weapons, instead of the swords and spears of the earlier ages, are chiefly of the Chinese stink-pot order? We think not. We believe that the public are more cleanly in their tastes than are their literary caterers. The San Francisco journals have set their rural contemporaries over the coast a very bad example, in their manner of treating each other, and in their treatment of public matters from a purely personal standpoint, which example has been too closely followed.

Perhaps the reason that the journalistic profession is not esteemed as it naturally deserves to be, is because its followers do not esteem themselves. It is too frequently resorted to as a hospital by men who have failed at everything else. Its ranks contain too many scandal-mongers, frauds, sneaks and blackmailers, whose only stock in trade is an ability to say something which will hurt somebody. Such journalists, having no reputation themselves, are devoid of self-respect, and are always free to attack the reputation of others, directly or by innuendo, as may best serve their purpose, or be the least tax upon their courage.

So far as the Free Press is concerned, if we could not maintain a decent amount of self-respect while engaged in its publication, which is to be shown as much in the terms we apply to others as in the tone we adopt respecting ourselves, we would stop at once. However, our contemporaries may think and act to the contrary, we can assure them that there is nothing incompatible between being a journalist and a gentleman.

LEONDERMAIN EXTRAORDINARY.—M. Hermann, the Viennese conjuror, unlike the "mediums" who perform tricks and call them miracles, does miracles and calls them tricks. M. Jules Claretie is responsible for the following tale. Hermann was engaged in the difficult task of amusing that monarch "who lives the life of a wounded rabbit in a hole,"—the Sultan. The scene was a boat moored in the Bosphorus. "Will you oblige me by throwing your watch overboard?" said Hermann to the Grand Vizier. The Vizier looked doubtful, but the Sultan nodded, and the watch sank glittering through the sea. "Now," said Hermann, "will someone kindly give me a fishing rod?" A rod was brought, a line and hook, which the conjuror baited before the eyes of the Sultan. He soon had a nibble, and after an exciting interval, had a fine fish in the landing net. Hermann opened the fish, and took out the Vizier's watch.—Daily News.

BRITISH BOSS.—The improved condition of the people of Ireland is a theme the English papers are never weary of discussing. They tell us that whereas, previous to the famine of 1847, there were more than 400,000 mud huts in that country. There are now but few over 150,000. They discreetly hide the fact that the population of Ireland has decreased since 1848 more than two millions, and that consequently there are fewer people to inhabit such hovels, or quote that fearful diminution as a sign of Ireland's prosperity.—New York Star.

Mr. Sala, the English journalist, says there are only two processions to be compared to that of Philadelphia in honor of General Grant. One is the glittering pageant when the remains of the first Napoleon were borne through Paris, in 1840, to their resting place on the banks of the Seine, and the other is the demonstration in London in 1838 in honor of the coronation of Queen Victoria.

The Jacksonville, Oregon Times says that it is estimated Jackson County lost \$10,000 this season by the war among millers, whereby flour has been put down to the extravagantly low figure of \$16.50 per thousand pounds, and farmers were unable to receive even 60 cents per bushel for their wheat.

Miss Stevens, a young American lady, has taken the first prize for porcelain painting in London, and has orders from the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of Connaught. It is said that her sketches of American Autumn foliage are especially beautiful and effective.

Up to the present writing nothing has been heard from the electric light, although New Year's eve was the time fixed for a public exhibition of the great invention. It begins to look as if the light had been a failure, otherwise we should have heard more of it.

R. P. Payne, a Boston astronomer, is coming to the Pacific Coast to witness a total eclipse of the sun on January 11th. The eclipse will last thirty-five seconds. A long way to come to see so short a show.

The prize of \$50 offered by the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art for the best set of twelve tiles, has been awarded to Miss Mary Longfellow, of Portland, Me.

The widow of the late Professor Louis Agassiz, of Harvard College, was the first woman to cast her vote at the recent municipal election in Boston.

The stock of Edison's Electric Light Co. has recently advanced from \$2,000 a share to \$5,000. Edison has a thousand shares, worth \$5,000,000.

The January term of the District Court begins at Reno on the 5th, Judge King presiding.

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