

THE BANNER.
It seems to be understood that the present comptroller of public accounts, Hon. S. I. Darden, will not be a candidate for re-election.

JOHN BROUGHAM, the popular actor and author, died in New York on Monday, aged 70. He was one of the most universally known men on the American stage.

ABOUT fifteen years ago the reliable gentleman, the intelligent contraband, and the grape vine telegraph were favorite sources of gathering news. They have all departed.

A CENSUS enumerator in Galveston found a lady who was the mother of three pairs of twins aged respectively, eight, ten and twelve years. Immigration societies are useless.

WE shall soon look for a notice of the dissolution of the firm of Cameron, Conkling, Logan & Company. Will some of the Grant men herabouts come to this office and tell the public about the firm.

"YARD TEN" is the attractive title of an editorial in the Galveston News, the leading paper of Texas and the model newspaper of the state. Those who object to the use of "slang" had as well stick a pin in the News. When pots call kettles black it is a good season of the year for coal banks to turn white.

NEWSPAPERS, by the outside world, are supposed to be guilty of lying. A friend of the BANNER's who is in no way connected with the "art preservative of all arts," explains the reason why it is an utter impossibility for a newspaper to be guilty of telling an untruth. The writers are universally truthful, but if accidentally anything appears that is not so, the men who set the type are the prevaricators.

ON the first day of March last there were 577 blast furnaces in the United States, having a capacity to produce 6,500,000 tons of iron in a year. Some of the younger readers of the BANNER may amuse themselves by figuring how many railroad cars all these tons would load; ten tons being an average. Then get the cars together and see what a train there would be provided it was all in motion. The average length of a car is about thirty feet.

THE University of Pennsylvania has been presented with a monstrosity in the shape of two perfectly developed children joined together from the shoulders to the hips, and known in medical literature as "omphalo agastus thoraco didymus," all of which means in English a combination of the anatomical parts connected. Is it any wonder that doctors demand high fees for their professional services when they are compelled to put the alphabet to such torture as it is made to undergo in the above letters.

AT Arcola plantation the other day another convict was shot and killed. The killing of convicts was some time ago an every day occurrence; during the past year or two it has not been so frequent. Convicts should be kept in the penitentiary, but while they are as numerous as in this state the penitentiary is entirely too small to accommodate the many gentlemen who are anxious to be educated at the state's expense. When the Rusk penitentiary is fully completed, all convicts should be kept within the walls.

THE appropriation for the payment of pensions for the next fiscal year amounts to the sum of \$32,400,000 and more claims for pensions are daily being presented. A recent statement shows the names of 2,700,000 persons on the army rolls of the United States. There is now on file in the treasury department of the United States 248,000 claims for pensions; with the force now employed in the department only about 30,000 claims can be disposed of in one year. At that rate of settlement it would take eight years to dispose of the cases now on file.

FOR COMPTROLLER.
It seems to be understood that the present comptroller of public accounts, Hon. S. I. Darden, will not be a candidate for re-election.

For the succession, we suggest the name of Capt. James M. Williams, of Washington county, as a gentleman well qualified to fill the office in a manner acceptable to the people. Capt. Williams is a native of Louisiana, but has resided in this country for years at a fine old county place near Independence, where he pursues the occupation of farming and dispenses a bounteous hospitality that reminds one of the olden time.

He is not an office-seeker, but has always been a consistent, zealous democrat, ever doing his whole duty in the arduous contests with radicalism waged in this county since the war.

In 1878 Capt. Williams was nominated, by the democracy, for county representative in the legislature. As a democratic nominee, he canvassed the county thoroughly, making a vigorous campaign and using every effort to elect the white ticket of the party. He sustained a defeat common to all the nominees of the party; but had democrats generally displayed his zeal and energy the result might have been different. Capt. Williams is a practical man of business and noted for the good management of his farm and business generally.

In the prime of life, sound in politics, honest and capable our choice possesses all the points of an available candidate, and the convention can do no better than to select him for its nominee.

HOW THEY LIKE IT.

The following special to the Galveston News from Washington under date of June 8th tells exactly how the nomination of Garfield and Arthur is received. The disgust of the republicans seems to be about equal to the joy of the democrats: "The nomination of Garfield fell like a wet blanket on all parties here. After a forced enthusiasm among the republicans of the house for a few moments, the excitement relaxed and no enthusiasm or interest scarcely is manifested as to further action of the convention. The Grant, Blaine and Sherman men all feel sorely disappointed, and now concede a solid south to the democracy. Already the star route steal, credit mobler, DeGolyer pavement swindle, wood pulp, high tariff, Chinese, marshals bill, and back salary grab record of Garfield is sounding throughout the country. The democrats here are jubilant, and are showing more joy than the republicans. They now claim a solid south, with the prospects of New York, California, Oregon, Indiana, New Jersey, Connecticut, and probably Maine.

The nomination of Arthur for vice president is received here with no enthusiasm. The Grant, Blaine and Sherman men here were so strongly arrayed that they are disgusted at the result.

Who He Is.
Any doubt as to who the republican nominee for vice president is, can be removed by reading the following, from the Houston Post, but we would remark that his record is hardly as unblemished as one contemporary would make believe. Arthur has been accused of "crookedness" in the days when the republican party was in its glory: "Chester A. Arthur is a lawyer of some eminence, and is at present engaged in the practice of his profession in New York. At one time he held the office of collector of customs at the port of New York, but was removed by president Hayes for the alleged cause of failure to carry out the provisions of the civil service act. At the same time A. B. Cornell, the naval officer, lost his position. Both Arthur and Cornell were great friends of Conkling, who strove assiduously but unsuccessfully to prevent their dismissal, and it was their account that he (Conkling) severed his friendly relation with the present administration. During the war, Arthur held the position of quartermaster-general of the state of New York."

The passion play is the latest production of the European dramatists. The following quotation from the London Daily News is only a sample of an article sufficient to make two columns in the BANNER: "Our Saviour, riding on an ass sideways, followed by his disciples and people and children, with flowers." The above is one of the most objectionable of the many features of the play which begins with the first appearance of Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. In America such a play or performance would probably be hooted from the stage. Performances of this character are calculated to bring religion into disrepute and should be discouraged.

THE SO-CALLED WAR ON THE PRESS.
Many of the newspapers in the state are now making war upon the last legislature for taking away the last vestige of patronage that was left to county papers. In the ordinary new state like Texas, where the population is sparse but little real newspaper patronage except from subscriptions can be expected. Subscriptions alone hardly supports any newspaper, even though it be the largest metropolitan daily. It is said by parties outside of the office, of New York Herald, a newspaper which has no superior on the western continent, that without its advertising patronage it would be wholly unable to pay for the newspaper, which is daily consumed in its production without taking into consideration the amount of money which must necessarily be paid to the highly educated and much abused men who set the type. The average country newspaper needs patronage, a country town as ordinarily constituted has but a limited patronage; a cross-road store is wholly unknown outside of its immediate neighborhood, consequently it is useless for it to advertise. An advertisement of that kind would do it no good; for the reason that no trade could be attracted. In the larger towns it is altogether different, new people are constantly moving in and usually being of limited means have to put their money where it will "do the most good." The man who advertises always has his name before the people; he is well and universally known in the vicinity of his town; the readers of the local paper see and read his name every week; it becomes with them a household word. If a man or set of men cannot publish a newspaper without daily begging for state or county patronage they had about as well shut up shop and take a hoe instead of a pencil into their hands. The modern newspaperist has really as much objection to a pen and ink as has the devil to holy-water. Let our next legislature wipe out the bell punch law; restore the Sunday law to its former proportions upon the statute books and require all legal sales of real estate to be advertised, and newspaper men as well as the public at large will not only be contented, but will be happy.

GARFIELD.
For eight days the entire country has been in a high state of excitement awaiting the result of the republican national convention.

On the 9th ballot James A. Garfield, of Ohio, received the nomination. Garfield during the war was a federal general, and for some years since has been a prominent member of congress. He has been an aggressive republican of the radical school and a man after Blaine's own heart. That Grant and Blaine were both beaten is a source of great gratification in this part of the country. It shows that the "machines" did not work. Don Cameron's old and "Stout's Conkling" operation is entirely gone. Grant had been a prominent aspirant for the republican nomination ever since Hayes took possession of the White House. Blaine has also been prominently before the party and has been a member of the "bloody shirt." Garfield also has been and is now a great admirer of the emancipated negro, but for all that is much less objectionable than either of the two prominent candidates, Grant and Blaine. Grant's defeat raises an incubus from the country and gives us a pure and free atmosphere.

If the republican convention will nominate any man except Tilden there is a good showing for victory to again perch upon her banners.

The Waco Examiner says the initials, a few months ago formed the acrostic and called the "Liberal League." A hall was hired and since then, the League has held regular Sunday services, which consist in readings, essays, and lectures interspersed with music, secular songs being used instead of hymns. The conduct of the League is liberal enough, anyone who is granted the privilege of speaking on any subject, with the unexpressed understanding that the speeches shall be in opposition to Christianity. The League has now begun the publication of a weekly paper called "The Liberal League Advocate," and in the 2nd number, which is now before us, a call is made upon all liberals to subscribe for stock in the new paper, to build it up as a permanent institution.

The League at Dallas has but a few professed members, but is evidently carried on by some who mean to make it a prominent institution.

And still the rain falls, and the sun shines and the great ears burst from the corn, and broad leaves of the cotton spread out to the sun and grow and grow, all nature quivers with emotion, and the shadows are all gone from the face of the farmer, and all over the great and beautiful state, the, the—good hangs bright—Waco Examiner.

In the house the senate bill ratifying the Utah agreement with the house amendments thereto, was passed.

In the senate a bill to reduce the price of public lands within railroad limits, from \$2.50 to \$1.25 per acre was passed.

A duel was recently fought on the Belgian frontier between Prince De Salm-Savoy and M. DeFronsoe. The prince was wounded.

THE LEGISLATURE.
At this particular time a vast amount of interest is centered upon the two national conventions. Everybody, in a figurative sense, is topsy turvey. Matters that are of paramount importance at home are apparently forgotten. The entire government of the state is in the hands of the legislature. For a number of years legislatures in Texas as well as in other states have been quite extensively abused by those who put them in power. The BANNER has of late called attention to this state of affairs. Let every man who is a candidate for the legislature be put upon the witness stand and submit to a public examination by the people, let it be known to fore hand what his sentiments are, or far better let the voters express their will by the ballot box. It is to be the buying of land or office in anticipation of a rise in price, as distinguished from the regular buying and selling of goods where only a legitimate profit is expected. In option deals there seems to be a greater difference; the option dealer buys nothing and he sells nothing; he simply bets on the price of a given article on a given day without buying or paying for it; in commercial parlance he puts up a margin of so many dollars, much the same as the card gambler puts down his money on a card, dice, or keno table. The one is sanctioned by law, the other is legislated against. Gambling, looked upon from a moral standpoint is unquestionably wrong, and if wrong in one case why not wrong in the other. Two or more wrongs do not make a right and while human nature exists wrongs will be committed, many of which are beyond the reach of the law. If option gambling was prohibited by state laws the producers of grain, cotton and provisions would soon be able to realize the full intrinsic value of their products, the value of which would be determined by the quantity produced and not by the whims of option dealers.

OPTIONS.
At a meeting of the millers' association, held in Cincinnati last week, one of the speakers took strong grounds against grain gambling, as he called dealing in options. He said it was doing ten times the injury to grain interests than was done by high rates by railroads, and he hoped some action would be taken to prevent it. Option dealing has been so often explained that the average newspaper reader should know exactly what it means by an option trade. Political economists have contended that the value of all commodities was regulated by the supply and the demand. Experience has long since shown that the political economists are right. Men of foresight have from a "memorial" speculated. The option dealer is defined by Webster as "one who speculates in the buying of land or office in anticipation of a rise in price, as distinguished from the regular buying and selling of goods where only a legitimate profit is expected. In option deals there seems to be a greater difference; the option dealer buys nothing and he sells nothing; he simply bets on the price of a given article on a given day without buying or paying for it; in commercial parlance he puts up a margin of so many dollars, much the same as the card gambler puts down his money on a card, dice, or keno table. The one is sanctioned by law, the other is legislated against. Gambling, looked upon from a moral standpoint is unquestionably wrong, and if wrong in one case why not wrong in the other. Two or more wrongs do not make a right and while human nature exists wrongs will be committed, many of which are beyond the reach of the law. If option gambling was prohibited by state laws the producers of grain, cotton and provisions would soon be able to realize the full intrinsic value of their products, the value of which would be determined by the quantity produced and not by the whims of option dealers.

EDITORIAL NOTES.
The census of Russia is dead. The Spoon-Kellogg case is still before the senate. Crop prospects in Ireland this season are splendid.

ANOTHER Indian fight has occurred in New Mexico. Three Indians were finished. The senate and house have both adopted resolutions to adjourn on the 16th inst.

DURING the past ten years the production of cotton in the southern states has increased 130 per cent. A few days ago 200,000 young fish were distributed throughout the streams of the state of Missouri.

A WELL known Texas newspaper man has "done and gone" and converted himself into a lightning rod man. FRANK FRAYNE, one of the actors who played an engagement in Breunham last season, has lately lost his wife.

ON Tuesday last a terrible hurricane swept over southern Minnesota causing damage to the amount of \$100,000. The greenback national convention meets in Chicago this week, but their proceedings will be state flat and unprofitable.

The International railway proposes extending the Georgetown tap road to San Saba. Will the extension help Austin. MONTH after month complaint is made of the failure of the bell punch as a source of revenue. It is the same in every county in the state.

TWENTY thousand persons visit the window of the New York postoffice where stamps are sold. Over 800,000 letters are received daily. The annual reunion of Hood's brigade takes place at Seguin on the 14th of July. A full attendance is desired the interests of Hood's children are at stake.

The mayor of Houston decided that a man may sell ice and goober peas on Sunday without violating the Sunday law; ice and goobers are classed as necessities.

PRINCE FRED is the name now given Fred Grant, or rather was before U. S. G. was defeated. The result of the convention has settled the royalty business in this country.

THE merchants exchange at St. Louis, as soon as the news of the destruction of Savoy, in this state, was received, took up a collection. In a few minutes \$200 was raised.

AT Dallas the white and colored republicans are utterly disgusted at the Chicago nominees. Some of the stalwarts avow the purpose of not to yield their support to the Chicago ticket.

The city congress has been decided upon as the place of holding the democratic convention in Dallas. It will be arranged for seating 3000 people. All political parties are contributing.

The dissensions engendered in the Chicago convention may possibly result in the dissolution of the republican party. The contending factions have all gone home discontented with the result.

AT Albany, Saratoga and other prominent interior cities in New York salutes were fired in honor of Garfield. The sound was probably anything but pleasant to Conkling and company.

THE Dallas Herald has an editorial on the pardoning power, but fails to convict itself or express any opinion as to question of a board of pardons. No one would claim that such a power should not exist.

EAST ST. LOUIS does not want to be a city any longer, but wants to surrender its charter and be run by a board of commissioners. East St. Louis is in debt and has been in the hands of rings for many years.

THE St. Louis and Iron Mountain railway company is about to take charge of its own express business. Should it do so, it proposes to extend its line through Texas and will relieve the people of the exorbitant charges exacted by the Southern Express company.

THE Dallas Herald, now that Dallas has been selected as the place of holding the state democratic convention, has gone to work with a vim for the purpose of inducing the citizens of that town to give a proper reception to the delegation. Dallas has the reputation of being a live and enterprising town.

A CURIOUS collection of portraits is that which adorns the convention hall at Chicago, with Washington placed between Morton and Zach Chandler. The queerest thing of all however, is the portrait of Greeley, which ornaments the center of the hall, evidently placed there by some one unfriendly to Grant.

THE Austin Statesman regards Bayard as the hope of the country. Bayard certainly would prove eminently satisfactory in this section of the state, though Hancock has a vast number of admirers.

SINCE May 1, 1847, there have been landed at the port of New York 5,857,025 immigrants; of whom 3,195,398 were Germans and 2,042,046 Irish. The total arrivals at Castle Garden last month were 55,083 the largest number in any one month.

GEN. GRANT now says that he has never been a candidate, though he allowed his friends to use his name, and was satisfied, as the friends who started with him all stood firm. We have a vivid recollection of reading the story of the fox and the grapes.

A CHICAGO special to the News says the republicans are generally sore over, and disappointed at Garfield's nomination. The Texas republican delegates failed even to name their member of the national committee, and are virtually left out of the republican party.

THE Sunday law squabble has been settled by a compromise all around. Prior to 9 A. M., and after 4 P. M., there are to be no restrictions on business of any kind. So the matter stands at Dallas, San Antonio, Galveston, Austin and Houston; also at Fort Worth, Sherman, Denison and other places.

THE Dallas Herald is doing noble work for its section of the state and at the same time it is a steadfast friend of Galveston, contending that Texas should have a seaport and that the Island city is the exact place where that seaport should be located. In this respect the BANNER agrees with the Herald.

THE Waco Examiner editorially endorses Rev. Briggs and enters into a lengthy argument to show Ingersoll's weak points, but finally concludes the article with an advertisement. If it had simply expressed its opinion on the matter in controversy and inserted the advertisement elsewhere no one could complain.

THE Houston Post after giving a short and complimentary sketch of Garfield concludes as follows: "The democrats will receive the tidings of General Garfield's nomination seriously and will feel that they will be required to place a good man against him and strain every nerve in the support of their candidate."

THE San Augustine Saxon has been shown a letter from Hon. John H. Reagan, in which that gentleman states that under no circumstances will he permit his name to go before the convention for governor. He desires to remain in congress until his inter-state commerce bill is passed. The Saxon pays a high compliment to Mr. Reagan's ability.

THE New York World says, it is true, George Washington never told a lie, but then he hadn't the strongly organized opposition to his candidature for the presidency that troubles his successors. In these degenerate and ununanimous days the candidate has to lie like a pirate to straighten up his record, and then he has to lie like smoke to keep it straight.

THE San Antonio Express says, a story is now being told that at a Chicago spiritual seance an editor was told that a departed friend desired to speak to him. The connection was made, and the friend proved to be a former editor who wished to say a few words. He desired to inform his delinquent subscribers who had promised to bring wood for their subscription, that they didn't need it, as the manager where he was furnished the fuel. He said they might send ice, however.

THE drought still continues in New York, New Jersey and Virginia. There has been some rain in the neighborhood of New York city, and the crops in that vicinity have been saved; but elsewhere in the section they are failures. Grain, grass and vegetables have fared the worst and will yield barely one-fourth of a crop, while hay will yield but a half crop. Throughout the rest of the Union rains have been more frequent than usual and crops, as a consequence, are in a most promising condition.

Gov. Roberts' enemies, says the Crockett Patriot, find fault with him because he takes a toddy; so long as he can take the toddy and not let the toddy take him, no harm will be done. The best part of the joke comes off when the editor of the Patriot, who is, if we are not mistaken, a Baptist minister, says:

And now, if this good man must be condemned simply for taking Baptist medicine, let us ask for a re-enactment of the blue laws of Connecticut.

—Houston Post: Now that we have got the Volk-fest and press reunion off our hands it's not about time to begin preparations for a big Fourth of July celebration? We have had nothing of the kind worthy of the name since 1877, and we should by all means have a big "blow out" this year. Sherman is making grand preparations to celebrate the Fourth, and Houston should not allow herself to be outshined by north Texas.

—Bastrop Advertiser: "Major Sayers has not attempted to form a combination with any man or set of men. He will enter into no intrigue or make any bargain or effect any sale for the purpose of securing the nomination. By no promise of patronage or appointment, will he seek to secure influence, but single handed and alone he stands before the Democratic party, ready and willing to cheerfully acquiesce in its verdict, whatever that may be, and to support whoever may be chosen as its standard-bearer."

—Paris North Texas: Our people have responded most liberally to the call for aid from Savoy. Five hundred dollars in money have been subscribed, as well as a large lot of clothing bedding, etc., estimated to be worth over \$1000. Paris is never slow in such matters, and we never saw our people more fully aroused to the importance of action than on this occasion. On our first page we publish a list of the killed and wounded in this sad affair. A reporter of this paper gives a description of the different scenes in another place.

—McKinney Advocate: The claims of every candidate seeking a place upon the state ticket should be presented to the people, and then the delegates will know how to reflect the wishes of their constituents. The habit of many candidates for minor positions of waiting until the people have elected their delegates and then sneering with the delegates instead of the people is altogether wrong, and should not again be tolerated. Let each man seeking position go before the people and present his claims to them in some way, and the people's choice will be selected.

—Two prominent citizens of Corsicana engaged in a street fight recently, caused from a dispute about Garfield and Tilden. The greenbackers are holding their convention in Chicago; there is two sets of them. Pomery is at the head of one and De La Matry at the head of the other. Six or seven hundred delegates are in attendance. Hanman, Chambers, Dabney and Fleming are among the Texas delegates. It is thought the two conventions will harmonize. They have a beautiful lot of presidential aspirants, headed by that prince of debauches, "spoon" Butler, the other aspirants are Solon Chase of Maine, and Weaver, of Ohio. They claim that they can carry both Maine and Massachusetts and thus throw the election into the house.

The Zulu chief that travelled with Barnum was accidentally left in Detroit one evening last week. One of the performers was sent back for him from Ypsilanti and found him in a negro colony in a state of happy intoxication. When it was suggested that he return to the "only greatest show on earth" he objected, picked up a chair, and with the Zulu war cry carried terror to the hearts of his would-be captors. He was finally persuaded, however, to go to Ypsilanti, where he was to join the traveling show in which he had been so great an attraction.

The Houston Post says the production of cotton seed oil in this country bids fair to become one of the most important industries, and the large increase in the quantity produced is very remarkable. In 1872 there were two million, three hundred thousand gallons produced, while in 1879 it had risen to seven million, eight hundred gallons.

The attention of capitalists has been called to the South during the past six months as it has never been called before. Opportunities for profitable investments in the South are being constantly revealed, and capital goes wherever it is safe and profitable to go. The production of cotton has exceeded the wildest prophecies, and for the crop of 1879 the South received more than for any other in its history. All over the Southern country a new spirit of life and confidence prevails, and the energies of the people will accomplish great things.

The McKinney Advocate denies, very indignantly, that Ex-Governor Throckmorton has eschewed politics and will go into the banking business. Throckmorton is probably banking on succeeding Maxey in the senate, and that's all the banking there is in the matter.—Waco Examiner.

A young woman named Tobin, from Texarkana, is in Denison in search of her husband, who deserted her not long since.