

Snake stories are growing more numerous. It is no doubt because it is too dull and hot for people to transact much business and they lie up in the shade and drink beer and whisky.

HON. J. P. BUCHANAN, president of the farmers' alliance of Tennessee, gets the democratic nomination for governor of that state. He will be triumphantly elected and will make a good governor.

There is a big time in store for the denizens of Paris. There are to be five persons hanged at that place on October 10 unless executive clemency or providential hindrance of some sort is interposed.

The farmers of Illinois refuse to make reports of the condition of their crops to the state authorities, on the ground that they are used for the benefit of speculators and dealers in options and futures.

FRANK HATTON, a staunch republican, who occupied the portfolio of postmaster-general while Arthur was president, says that the force bill comes fifteen years too late and that neither democrats nor republicans will submit to negro rule.

S. B. PACKARD, who figured in an odious and infamous light in Louisiana politics during reconstruction, turns up after these many days in Iowa, where he is farming in Marshall county, and is an applicant for a republican nomination for congress.

The state democratic convention at San Antonio will be an immense affair. The Alamo City has never had the honor of entertaining the convention before, and those who have been honored by being elected by their county conventions as delegates may feel fortunate. They will be royally entertained.

JUDGE COOK is represented as bidding his friends to be of good cheer, that the campaign is not yet over, and that he proposes to keep "a stiff upper lip" until the convention selects the gubernatorial candidate. The judge has played the role of Don Quixote long enough to satisfy the most exacting of his friends.

The Nashville Banner is an optimist. It says: "The South is not a bit scared by the republican threat of a force election bill. The time has passed for reconstruction, and the passage of the federal election bill would harm the party which forced it upon the country more than it would harm the South."

BOSTON GLOBE: Down South they are talking of an educational qualification as a means of practically disfranchising the negro. Wonder what our Massachusetts republican friends will say to that. They can't call it a "Southern outrage," exactly, because we have just that kind of an outrage right here in Massachusetts.

JUDGE COOK addressed the natives of San Antonio last Saturday night on Main plaza. The Galveston News correspondent says a crowd of 3000 turned out to hear him, while the Gazette correspondent puts the number at 300 or 400. The Gazette's political news has generally been found to be the most reliable.

MRS. PENDLETON, of Fort Worth, has instituted divorce proceedings against her recalcitrant husband. She ought not to have done it. Of course it is humiliating now to be yoked to such a man. But she alone stands between him and Addie Cullen as an impediment to their lust. He could not procure a divorce and she ought not to give him a chance to legalize his adulterous intercourse with the Cullen woman.

One of the heaviest real estate transactions reported in several weeks in Texas was the purchase of sixty-five thousand acres the other day at Aransas Pass by Capt. J. E. Elgin, formerly of Waco. The land is five bay front and agricultural land and the purchase price was \$250,000. It is understood that Capt. Elgin purchased the land as the representative of a syndicate of wealthy horticulturists, and will devote it to grapes and other fruits. The body of land is known as Black Jack Peninsula.

CHICAGO HERALD: We elect a congress in November which does not enter upon its duties until thirteen months after it has been elected. Meanwhile an old congress continues to sit, enacting legislation along lines which the people may have distinctly declared abhorrent. This anomalous and absurd feature of our machinery ought to be abolished. The congress elected next November should forthwith become the actual legislature. The president should be inaugurated immediately after the opening of congress.

WILL IT PASS?

That the political news telegraphed from Washington by the newspaper correspondents seldom represents more than the political bias, or, at most, the individual and private opinion of the correspondent, is abundantly illustrated in the conflicting dispatches sent out from the national capital with reference to the pending federal election bill. The Galveston News announced in flaming headlines on Sunday that the last vestige of hope of the democratic opponents of the infamous measure had about sunken deep down in their hearts and that its passage might as well be considered as a foregone conclusion. On the other hand, the Fort Worth Gazette of the same date published a dispatch from its special correspondent to the effect that the democrats were taking fresh courage and that the prospects for the failure of passage of the iniquitous bill were growing brighter. The indications are that the Gazette's correspondent came nearer sizing up the situation correctly than the News. The New Orleans Times-Democrat in a lucid editorial presents some strong and hopeful reasons for believing that the bill will not become a law. It quotes from the Philadelphia Record to show that the proposed measure is much more obnoxious than the celebrated Force Bill which was attempted to be foisted on the Southern people fifteen years ago and which was defeated by the votes of republicans, of whom there are three—Messrs. Hoar and Dawes, of Massachusetts, and General Hawley, of Connecticut—who are members of the senate. Even supposing that Hoar does not possess the virtue of consistency, it is thought he will oppose the bill because he is jealous of Lodge, its author, who hails from the same state and who anticipated Hoar, the latter having prepared an election bill himself. It is thought he will vote against the bill in order to introduce his own. Senator Hawley in his paper, the Hartford Courant, pronounces the bill in strong language "a contemplated violation of the rights of states to hold their elections as they please," and he may be safely counted on to vote against the measure. The Times-Democrat says that there are eight other republican senators who have in express terms declared that they will not under any circumstance support the measure. It is further claimed that Secretary Blaine and Secretary Windom are using whatever influence they possess with individual senators to induce them to join the opposition in seeking to defeat the bill. The T-D concludes: "But the healthiest sign of all is that the caucus which has been caucusing two or three times every week for a month has been completely unable to either agree as to the proper method of handling the bill in the senate, or to obtain a majority who will pledge themselves to stand by it as a bodyguard on its passage through that branch of congress. That inability of the caucus indicates pretty clearly, we think, that the bill is doomed—for this session at least."

SUFFRAGE IN MISSISSIPPI.

A constitutional convention has been called in the state of Mississippi, and the most vexing question that will come before it will be to devise some plan of suffrage not obnoxious to the federal constitution that will so restrain the negro vote as to preserve white rule in the state. Judge Campbell, of the supreme court, has suggested a plan that each person 21 years of age and having other usual qualifications of a voter should have one vote and also other votes in proportion to the amount of land owned by him. Senator George advocates a return to municipal representation in the legislature, by which the cities and towns should have a representation, which might be so adjusted as to preserve a white democratic majority in the state legislature. It would seem to be a difficult matter to devise a practical plan to deprive a large majority of voters of a majority of representation; but this is being constantly done by the republicans of the North. The legislative districts in New York and other northern states have been so gerrymandered that it would require a very large democratic majority to gain control of the legislature. The art of gerrymandering has come to be looked on by practical politicians as a fair exercise of party power justly demanded by the exigencies of party supremacy. A gerrymander is never looked on as revolutionary or subversive of our general plan of government. If Mississippi or any other Southern state can preserve white rule by gerrymandering the legislative districts, or by restrictions on the right of suffrage that, although they should bear hardly on the black voter, would still be within the constitutional limits, there is no ground for objection by the republicans, who have by every method that ingenuity could devise suppressed the democratic vote of the North. No longer able to hold their supremacy by the usual political methods of the gerrymander and

property qualification for voters, the republicans as a dernier resort have concocted the federal election bill, a Force Bill that cannot be equalled in devilish ingenuity and utter disregard for the principles of our government. With its supervisors and returning boards who hold office by a life tenure and are appointed by a republican administration, it is equivalent to placing the appointment of the members of the federal house of representatives in the hands of the republican party. This bill is infamous; it ought never to become a law; but that it will become a law who doubts, that has witnessed the fraudulent seizure of the presidency, or the stealing of the Montana senatorships? If the people of Mississippi could be induced to become so far forgetful of correct principles of government and countermeasures against federal encroachments, they might well adopt the general features of the election bill now pending before the senate of the United States, and provide by law for a Central Board of Elections to sit at the capital, whose duty it should be to canvass the returns of every election in the state where fifty voters should demand it, and determine who were elected. The action of this board should be final in all cases except in the election of members of the legislature, but their certificates should be prima facie evidence of election, and the legislature might determine the election and qualification of its own members. A state election law might be passed that would make it so unnecessary for the negro to vote that he would soon cease to care to exercise the right, or if he did it would be in the interest of some white democratic friend. All state elections should be held separate from elections for congressmen and presidential electors. The necessity of such action is to be deplored, but the other alternative seems to be African domination, brought about by republican partisanship and hate.

THE PENSION LOOTERS.

The New York Herald has for many years enjoyed the distinction of being a political weathercock. Its position on any important question is not easily determined beforehand and after it has assumed a position there has been no certainty that it would maintain it. On this account the Herald's opinions usually carry very little weight and very little importance is attached to what it says. The only thing which it has been steadily consistent about is its inconsistency. There are, however, exceptions to all rules, and there is one strong point in the Herald's favor in the steadfast, convincing and telling manner in which it has waged war on the Praetorian bands and their friends and the hungry hordes of leeches and pension attorneys who are after the commission in their assault upon the United States treasury. In denouncing the gigantic schemes to rob the national coffers in order to bribe the bummers and deserters of the army and to keep them in line to vote the republican ticket, the Herald has shown over and over again that pensions are costing the United States a great deal more than the late war, and that the standing army of Germany is far less a burden to that country than the republican grand army of pension bummers and deserters is to this. The Wheeling, West Virginia, Intelligencer gets out of patience with this astounding statement of figures and tries to dismiss the subject with the retort: "Well, Mr. Herald, what of it? Did the German army ever save the union of these states?" To which the Herald replies:

No! But the German army has fought three wars since 1864, has defeated powerful military empires and made Germany a united nation. This was as great an achievement, from a German point of view, as the preservation of the Union from ours. The Germans, when their work was done, went home—good soldiers, becoming good citizens. The Americans did the same thing. Those who deserved pensions received them. Grant estimated the sum necessary at \$27,000,000 annually. A little later Garfield, with apologies and regrets, raised the amount to \$38,000,000. The pension agents and protectionists put their heads together, and as soon as Grant was out of the way rushed the annual sum up to \$100,000,000, the cry being still for more! If the Germans can unify and in a measure create a nation without heroes becoming mendicants may we not expect as much from Americans?

Reckless pension extravagance and the infamous partisan force bill ought eternally to damn any political party.

FAVORING CLASS DISTINCTION.

It is with regret that the BANNER notes the tendency in this country of the legislative enactments to favor classes and to build up and foster a kind of mushroom aristocracy in violation of the express provisions of the constitution, one of which reads that there shall be no privileged classes in America and no patents of nobility conferred. Quite an amusing case in point to show

the tendency of the laws to favor the aristocratic classes is reported from Chicago in a dispatch which announces that Judge Prendergast has, at the request of the millionaires, prepared a novel bill, which will be submitted at the next regular session of the legislature. The proposed measure provides for serious penalties to be visited upon all and every or any person who for any reason shall assume the name of an aristocratic family. The excuse given for this proposed species of class legislation and the reason which suggested it is said to be on account of the humiliation and mortification experienced by the leading families of the Windy City when they occasionally awake some large fine morning from their slumbers to read in the newspapers that the heads of their households have been arrested for bathing in the lake, for drunk and down, drunk and disorderly or for some other plebeian offense. Upon investigation it is discovered that the parties arrested, to conceal their identity, and with a fine sense of humor, have assumed the names distinguished in society and commerce. To use assumed names in case of arrest for such misdemeanors is common practice, and a casual glance over the recorder's docket in every police court in the country will show that the Joneses, the Browns and the Smiths figure more than any others. Although they are very common names they don't always stand on the register to represent the peccadillos of the genuine Smith, Jones and Brown families. These are the names assumed by the high-toned gentry to conceal their identity and to keep from being disgraced before the public when they happen to fall into the clutches of the officers. If the "bloods" assume the names of the plebeian stock to conceal their identity when arrested, why not the plebeians assume the names of the high-toned gentry? It is no wonder that the bill creates a great deal of indignation among the Smiths, the Joneses, the Browns et id omne.

WAR IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

While up in this portion of the western hemisphere we are sweltering in the heat, suffering from ennui and sighing for a return of the pleasant autumn days, the little republics of Central America to the south of us are enjoying a little bit of excitement in the way of war. The excitement cannot be said, however, to afford more than a passing diversion to them, as the people of that country, like Mexico, are in a chronic state of revolution and are always engaged in a kind of guerrilla warfare with one another. The cause of the war seems to be due to the ambition of Barrios, president of Guatemala, and the rapid fate which overtook President Barrios, a former president of Guatemala, whose name is very similar in sound, promises to be meted out to this dictator. Some time ago an alliance was formed between Guatemala and Honduras for the purpose of forming a confederacy between themselves and the other three Central American states—San Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. A meeting of the representatives of the first two states and San Salvador was to be held on the 20th of next month at the capital of San Salvador according to previous arrangements to prepare for the Central American Union, which was to have gone in effect September 15 next. The meeting to have been held August 20 is said to have been in furtherance of a scheme to give the supremacy of the contemplated five states' federation to Guatemala and Honduras—Salvador (by the treachery of its dead president, Menendez, who was poisoned at a recent banquet) and Nicaragua and Costa Rica to be mere makeweights in the new union. The overbearing conduct of General Ezeta, who assumed control of the Guatemalan government as military dictator on the death of Menendez, is said to have been very distasteful to Barrios, and, coupled with the declaration of Nicaragua and Costa Rica that nothing on earth will ever whip them into the union, has precipitated matters somewhat. Dispatches come from the City of Mexico to the effect that war between Guatemala and Salvador has actually begun. The first battle was fought on Salvadorean soil and resulted in the vanquishment of the Guatemalan forces, which were thought to have been invincible. No detailed accounts have been received, and dispatches from Europe discredit and deny in toto the reports of hostilities which were sent out from the City of Mexico.

The king of Belgium is said to be very anxious that his youngest daughter, Princess Clementine, should marry one of the sons of the prince of Wales, and negotiations are now going on to arrange this alliance. The princess is nineteen years old, will have an immense fortune, and it is said she is ready to become a protestant if a change of religion should be deemed expedient for her temporal interests.

A special dispatch from Fort Worth to the San Antonio Times reads as follows:

A staff correspondent of the Mail sent to Tyler to investigate the charge that the Galveston and Dallas News were paid for their influence by the Texas railroads, writes to that paper that he finds evidence that supports the charge. He quotes from a letter from Receiver Bonner to Auditor Maury, in which Bonner says a bill rendered by the News against the International Railway, is the International's pro rata of the sum to be paid the News for its political services, the agreement being that the payment should be upon bills rendered monthly for advertising.

Now let the Newses proceed to institute that libel suit.

IN RE LONEY, decided by the Supreme court of the United States March 24, 1890, is authority that the state courts have no jurisdiction to punish a witness for perjury in a contested election case before congress. Loney was arrested on the warrant of a Virginia justice of the peace, issued on a complaint charging him with willful perjury committed in giving his deposition before a notary public in the case of a contested election of a member of the House of Representatives of the United States. He was granted a writ of habeas corpus by the federal circuit judge for the Eastern District of Virginia and was discharged. On appeal by the state of Virginia the decision of the circuit judge was affirmed by the supreme court of the United States.

A New York dispatch announces that the Rome correspondent of the Catholic News writes that the pope has approved the decision of the sacred congregation of the propaganda, which divides the present diocese of Galveston, erecting therefrom a new Episcopal see (that of Dallas) which will embrace the entire northern portion of the former bishopric of Galveston; embracing 108,000 square miles with twenty cities and about 15,000 Catholics, served by seventeen priests of different nationalities. The erection of this see makes of Texas an ecclesiastical province with an archbishop whose seat will probably be at Galveston.

SEVERAL sunstrokes have occurred at Dallas.—Galveston Tribune.

Come off your perch. Not a single case has been reported this year. People sleep with the windows closed down and coverings are not a luxury. The fan dealers are disgusted with slow sales and Dallas ice dealers are shipping their product to Fort Worth, San Antonio, Hades and Galveston. As a summer resort Dallas acknowledges no rival.—Dallas Times-Herald.

Please note an exception in favor of Brenham.

It is announced that the August number of the Forum will contain an essay on "The Decolette in Modern Life," by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, which is a text from which the writer argues an alarming decay in delicacy in American society; and she traces the effects of this decay in our art, literature, politics and throughout the whole range of American activity. If she would not take such a wide range she could probably accomplish more good by denouncing the shameless, half-dressed, immodest low-neck and short-sleeve dress.

The McLennan county democratic convention sat down hard and fast on G. Warwick Clark by indorsing Senator Coke with a whoop, indorsing the railroad commission and instructing the delegates to the state convention to take their summer and winter clothes with them to San Antonio and to stay there until General Hogg was nominated for governor. Over fifty delegates were elected to the state convention and there wasn't an anti-Hogg man in the lot.

The San Antonio Express is an innocent, unsophisticated gusher. After noting the strength of the farmers' alliance in Iowa, it observes that it may yet become necessary for the democratic and republican parties "to unite against the common foe." It may be possible for the lion and lamb to lie down together, but the democracy will never make common cause with republicans or any other party to suppress the farmers.

SAN ANTONIO TIMES: There are hundreds of voters in San Antonio who are warm friends of Judge Cook who wish to know if that gentleman will support General Hogg if he is nominated. Judge Cook can show his democracy in no better way than by answering this question immediately.

The Wills Point Chronicle and Hon. R. B. Hubbard do not appear to be in love with each other. The Chronicle says: "Dick Hubbard calls us a jackal. We would rather be a live jackal than a dead jackass, which he has been since 1878."

A PARAGRAPH is going the rounds that ex-President Cleveland says he doesn't like baseball. Of late the BANNER has almost been inclined to support Gov. Hill for president in 1892 on the ground of availability. But since Grover Cleveland shares our opinion in regard to baseball we are for him first, last and all the time, even if we knew that defeat was certain.

MR. WALTER GRESHAM declines the nomination of floater member of the legislature from Galveston and Brazoria counties. This will give the convention an opportunity to do what it ought to have done in the first place—i. e., nominate Hon. Guy M. Bryan for re-election. He has no private jobs or interests to further and can be depended on to represent the people.

JUDGE GOLDTHWAITE has announced himself as a candidate for state senator from the Houston district independent of nomination by the democratic party. It is needless to remark that the judge doesn't stand a ghost of a chance of being elected.

JEFF DAVIS county has been put down as having instructed for Dick Hall for governor. This is a mistake. It simply instructed for him for re-election as commissioner of the land office.

THE WACO DAY says: "The noted absence recently of fiery Hogg articles in the Fort Worth Mail is accounted for by the announcement that Editor Senter's wife has presented him with a daughter. Rastus has turned his analytic mind temporarily from politics to chemical investigations of baby food and condensed milk."

WHARTON county has followed the example of Frio county by refusing to instruct for Congressman Crain for re-election.

The entertainment of the Young Men's Social club on Tuesday evening was well attended and an interesting program was rendered, although the band failed to put in an appearance. Miss Hattie Cohn was not on the regular program, but she sang in her happiest vein and was encored and received a bouquet of flowers.

In this issue appears the announcement of Mr. Ben S. Rogers for re-election to the office of county Attorney. Ben has discharged the duties of his office with firmness, fairness and impartiality and should be re-elected.

DR. J. M. HONS, of Burton, has purchased property at San Marcos and will move there with his family. There isn't a more popular nor worthy citizen of Washington county than he, and he will be greatly missed.

A CITIZEN of Brenham has found a piece of stone inside the corporal limits containing traces of silver, lead and copper. It has been sent to Austin to be analyzed and may lead to valuable results.

THE Cat Springs saddler who was killed at New Uhm was Henry Hess, a cousin of Mr. C. W. Hess, of this city, who did not know of the tragedy until he read it in the BANNER.

THE Mudecat club is still trying to get up a crowd to go out a fishing. They have not had much success in organizing foreign expeditions this season.

THE new road machine was given another test in the Bassett lane yesterday morning, after which the county purchased it, the price being \$250.

It has not yet been decided whether the baseball match between Brenham and Independence will take place on Sunday or not.

QUITE a number went out from town yesterday afternoon to attend the funeral of the late Mr. Frederick Winkelmann.

THERE were plenty of melons on the market yesterday, but notwithstanding the abundance prices were steep.

THE new compress has completed the erection of an extensive wood yard, which is being filled up.

THE regular monthly term of Justice Curry's court will begin next Monday.

NOTICE.
The copartnership heretofore existing between Irvin & Johnson, in the Saloon business at Burton, has been dissolved by mutual consent, Irvin retiring from the firm, and being succeeded by Mr. Cory, the name of the firm now being Johnson & Cory, who assume all liabilities of the late firm.