

# Southwest Sentinel.

ALLAN H. MACDONALD,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

We regret to see the Enterprise advocating even in a modified form, the suspension of annual assessment work on Mining claims. Such a course could only be injurious to the miner and the population of the mining country generally. To show how detrimental to Grant County such a law would be we need only take one small part of the County and see what the effect would be there. At Santa Rita the copper and iron company owns twenty seven unpatented claims, on which it is required to employ enough mining labor to do \$2,700 worth of work each year. Near there the Mineral Point Zinc Company has to do \$700 worth of mining development annually. The iron company owns twenty unpatented claims not far from there on which it must yearly pay out \$2,000 for mining work. Here are three foreign corporations who have to send in over \$5,000 in money annually to one small part of Grant County and pay it out to miners. What applies to these three companies in one section of this County applies similarly to the whole County, and not only to Grant County but to New Mexico and the whole of the west. The amount of outside money that is sent into Grant County annually to pay for assessment work is very large and helps out many a miner and prospector, giving him much needed work and money to keep going on in hard times and giving him the means to go ahead and develop his own claims. This is without taking account of the great development of our mineral resources which is continually going on by reason of the assessment law, and which would not take place without it; nor does it take into account the fact that this law prevents one man from holding great numbers of mining claims all over the country without spending a cent in wages or development and at the same time preventing other men from locating and improving them. In fact taking it all together the present law requiring the annual expenditure of \$100, in development on each unpatented mining claim has proved more beneficial to the mining regions of the United States and the people living there than any other law passed, and for our own sakes it is greatly to be hoped that no effort will be made to repeal or even suspend.

The late action of the Territorial board of equalization in so greatly cutting down the assessment on the railroads is causing wide spread and unfavorable comment and serious grumbling. The different counties and the Territory itself, are finding it hard to keep running at all, and many of them ran behind last year. This year there is not only no hope of their improving but there is every assurance of their running still farther behind. Now on top of this comes this heavy blow from the board of equalization from whom the people had a right to look for a protection of their interests. The exact amounts of the reductions made are not yet known but for Grant County it is believed to be somewhere about as follows: last year the Santa Fe railroad paid this County for taxes \$10,167.48 this year, under the reduction made by the Territorial board of equalization it is expected to be not more than about \$6,500; the Arizona and New Mexico road paid into the County treasury \$2,333 this year this road will pay somewhere about \$1,400; the Southern Pacific paid our collector \$14,733.68 in 1893, this year it is thought that it will not pay over \$9,000 under this unjust reduction. The railroads in New Mexico have always paid proportionately lighter taxes than other classes of ratepayers, and now when the counties are hardest pressed for money the railroads, instead of having their assessments increased, have apparently had interest enough with the board of equalization to have them greatly reduced. The general opinion seems to be that there are two or three members of the board who have engineered this scheme through, owing to the lack of necessary information by others. The matter is making a good deal of stir throughout the Territory, and we should not be surprised to see it brought before the board again.

## Cattle Notes.

Keep your cattle off the markets for the next thirty days, or until there is an improved condition. The open winter coupled with hard times, has paralyzed it.

The snow storm of last week has been just what the stockmen need to insure water in the holes for the coming summer, and as spring is so near it is not possible for cattle to be injured to any great extent.

People having improved New Mexico cattle to sell can find purchasers for them by making their wants known through the advertising columns of the Stock Grower. That office is in receipt of inquiries for this class of stock.

A year ago persons traveling over the Santa Fe between Albuquerque and El Paso, looking over the country beheld barren wastes and dead cattle strewn along the line. Now the scene has changed. Fat cattle are seen on every hand and plenty of grass.

Cattle feeding on alfalfa in New Mexico and Arizona is on the increase, and as fast as new irrigation schemes are inaugurated the quantity and quality of our cattle so handled will continue to increase. It will not be many years before cattle feeding in the southwest will be the rule and not the exception by the way our ranchman handle their stock.

Old time cattlemen say that they never knew beef cattle so low in January and February as they are right now, says an exchange. Fat cattle are selling for but little more than good grassers brought a year ago, and the worst of it is there is no prospect of an immediate improvement.

During January, 1894, western feeders shipped 521 carloads of cattle from Chicago against 496 a year ago, an increase of 135 cars. During the month exporters forwarded 1,230 loads of cattle to seaboard ports for export a live.

Last month's receipt of sheep at Chicago were the second largest on record. The January arrivals were 297,700 head and last October they were 325,000 head.

Competitive buying is not as brisk as it ought to be, and the trade in that respect is unsatisfactory. It requires an especially fine bunch of muttons to sell as high as \$3.75 per cwt.

It is claimed that some Wyoming stockmen have discovered a sure and deadly bait for wolves. Blood from slaughtered animals impregnated with strychnine while it is warm, and then allowed to congeal, will attack wolves from a distance. They will eat the poisoned blood with avidity, while avoiding a poisoned carcass.

Editor Hale of the St. Louis National Live Stock Reporter says: "Many people appear to believe that the live stock production of the United States has reached its maximum, but there are plenty of men now living who will see 100,000 cattle per week as a regular thing on the Chicago market, and at St. Louis, Kansas City and Omaha will increase in equal or larger proportion."

Kansas City Packer: Receipts at the stock yards during the first month of the new year strengthen the conviction that the live stock business of Kansas City in 1894 will as far exceed that of 1893 as the latter surpassed any previous year. Although the receipts in cattle this month continue to show an increase over those of last January, there is a shortage of export steers. A great many more would be promptly taken at the yards at good prices.

We hear complaints, says the Sierra Valley Leader, among stockmen about the beef cattle not doing as well as usual this winter in this valley, still there are nice beef cattle feeding here this winter.

Colonel Hardin, who has extensive cattle interests in Nevada, says that the present holding of cattle which are being fed will average only about one-half in weight and three fifths in number as compared with those fed in former years. He looks to see beef cattle bring eight cents in the market before April 1st, owing to the poor prospects.

Col. R. C. Head says that we have not more than half the cattle that we had four years ago, and that the prospects are better than for many years. Col. Head watches these things closer than any other man in the West, and his opinion ought to be worth something.—Field and Farm.

## PSYCHICAL RESEARCH.

Mr. Balfour Declares the Time Has Come For Science to Recognize Spiritualism. A regular London correspondent says that Mr. Balfour, the leader of the opposition, has recently distinguished himself not only by the delivery of a series of strong political speeches, but by openly advocating a thorough scientific investigation of psychic or spiritualistic phenomena. As president of the Society of Psychical Research he said in an address that he thought the time had come when the leaders of scientific thought should recognize that there were well attested facts which do not naturally fall into the framework of the sciences or of organized experiences.

The proposed investigation was different from a scientific cross examination of nature, for they would have to deal with abnormal or incomplete faculties, with exceptional conditions in exceptional individuals. He saw no inherent impossibility in such half formed sciences being sporadically developed in the human race. They seemed to come across human facts which could not be made by any manipulation to fit into the interstices of the accepted view of the psychical world. If that were so, they were engaged in a work of prodigious difficulty. They had a refractory class of problems to deal with, but it seemed to him that at least they would be able to prove the existence of an outside world.

There was a region not open indeed to experimental observation in the same way that the more familiar regions of the material world are, but from which some information could be gleaned, and if they could not as the result of their exertions discover what laws these strange phenomena obeyed, it would at all events be something to have shown as a matter of ascertained fact that there were things in heaven and on earth which were beyond the philosophy of even the most scientific.

## INVOLVED WITH BALFOUR.

Dark Hints as to What Will Come Out of the Embassies' Trial. The government has shown remarkable courage in obtaining the arrest of James Balfour, and the Tories are not a little astonished thereat. It has long been a part of their political creed that the ministers would do everything decently possible to prevent extradition and the consequent raising up of old scandals wherein those most involved are all Gladstonian Liberals. It is an open secret that Harcourt and several other members of the cabinet were of this opinion, but the majority yielded to the views of Rosebery and Asquith, who contended that the credit of bringing the arch swindler to justice would amply compensate for the disadvantages. There is little doubt that more than one honorable reputation will be sacrificed in the course of Balfour's trial.

Only the select few, mainly lawyers and bankruptcy officers, are concerned in the elaborate investigation of the affairs of the Liberator Building society. The other members of the government were really aware of the vast ramifications of Balfour's sinister influence and of the stupendous audacity of his methods. These people more than hint that several Liberal members of parliament ought to be placed in the dock alongside Balfour, and that the law and the facts would not be unduly strained if the last one minor member of the government should be included in the indictment.

There is reason to believe that the charges against Balfour include forgery, in which case a sentence of penal servitude for life is assured. There will not be the slightest difficulty in securing a conviction on any charge the prosecution may prefer.—New York Sun's London Letter.

Congressman White Fines Himself. Mr. William Wayne, chairman of the Fifth district redemptive committee, received a welcome letter from Congressman W. J. White Monday morning. Mr. White had promised Mr. Wayne that in addition to his other donations to the poor he would give the Fifth district committee \$100. Some time passed, and nothing was heard from the congressman until Monday, when the letter arrived from Mr. White. The matter had slipped his mind, the congressman said, but he had come to the conclusion that a slip of that kind ought to be met with a fine, and he had fined himself \$100, and would therefore issue a check for \$250 instead of \$100. The money will be applied to relief work at once.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Septennate Regime. The presidential term of M. Carnot will expire next December. That will complete 20 years of the "septennate" regime in France, where presidents remain seven years in power. Marshal MacMahon resigned in 1879, 11 months before the regular end of his term. M. Grevy filled a full period of "septennate," seven years. But he resigned his second presidency two years before its constitutional end. Before the establishment of the septennate M. Thiers had also resigned his presidential functions.—New York Tribune.

Dr. Everett's Epigram of Congress. When Dr. Everett was in town the other day, he called on Colonel Wheelwright and Mr. Winslow Warren. "How do you like congress?" he was asked by Colonel Wheelwright. "Oh!" said the Seventh district congressman. "It's the funniest place I ever saw. In the house they have got the rules so fixed that you can't get any business in, and in the senate they have them so arranged that you can't get any business out."—Boston Globe.

Following a Prophet. A false prophet has arisen on the island of Jamaica. He teaches that God has given him power to make a new Bethesda of a small river on the island. Every Wednesday he stands on a rock in the stream and blesses the waters, which are then supposed to have the power of healing any disease. The natives are crazy in the fanatic belief in the new prophet, and 20,000 pilgrims a day bathe in the waters.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

During the cold weather the Horseshock slough at Peasopole was frozen so thick a depth as to freeze the fish fast in the ice. Now that the ice has thawed some thousands of fish can be seen protruding from the ice. Several fish that were near the bottom have been chopped out and found to be quite lively after being left a little while in cold water.—Rockford (Ill.) Dispatch.

A Gravel Road. A little gravel strung along a great distance is little benefit. Make a small place at a time, but make a good job. First the grading and draining, then not less than eight inches of gravel. Next year do another piece.

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## BRIDGE OF SIGNS AT VENICE.

The Famous Archway Around Which Romance Thickly Clusters. In the heart of Venice, between the magnificent palace of the doges and the grim walls of the old prison, flow the dark waters of the Rio del Palazzo and across the canal stretches the Bridge of Signs—connecting link between the splendors of a palace and the terrors of the dungeon, the torture chamber and the heading block. One of the most noticeable points about this bridge is the fact that it is closed in, thus proving all stories of suicides committed from it to be fabulous.

This fact robs the Bridge of Signs of one of its most romantic associations—of its pretty legends of grief laden mortals heaving their last sigh upon its parapet and ending their sorrowing lives in the black waters beneath it. From without the bridge, with its arch-like form, its ornamental stonework, its grotesquely carved heads and its small white windows, it is with iron tracery, presents a rather fine appearance, but the interior is strictly devoid of ornament and has not the slightest pretensions to beauty.

During our visit to Venice of course we included the doges' palace and the dungeons in our programme. After wandering for some time through the maze of narrow alleys and the old Venetian palace we passed over the Bridge of Signs on our way to the gloomy cells. The bridge seemed to be little more than a narrow passage between two thick walls of stone, and unless you stepped up onto the slightly raised stone which runs along beneath the tiny windows on either side and caught a glimpse of the canal with you might easily take it for an ordinary passage within the palace. At the far end of the bridge our progress was barred by a grim looking oaken door—nail studded, age blackened and of immense thickness—guarding the entrance to the dungeons. Our guides came to a halt. There was a jingling of keys, a lighting of torches, then the great door swung slowly back, and we passed into the darkness beyond. When next we passed the ancient door and crossed the Bridge of Signs, it was with the memory of those terrible cells, those fearful dungeons where the hapless prisoners endured the most horrible tortures that tyranny could devise or brutality inflict.

I remember strolling, on the last evening of our holiday in Venice, along the Piazza San Marco and making my way to the Ponte della Paglia to take a farewell look at the Bridge of Signs. It was a summer evening, hot and sultry, and the fast gathering clouds, dense and heavy, foreboded an approaching storm. I had just reached the Ponte della Paglia and was gazing at the Bridge of Signs when a tremendous peal of thunder rent the heavens, seeming to shake the city to its very foundations with its violence.

Suddenly a blinding flash of lightning lit up the palace, bridge and dungeons with its lurid flare. For an instant the bridge stood out with dazzling distinctness, while the lightning played on its tracery windows; then all seemed dark. And this was the last I saw of the Bridge of Signs.—Newcastle Chronicle.

## A Postman's First Attempt.

A route is given to you, and just about this time it begins to dawn upon you that perhaps you could not cover the route in half the time the regular man did, and before you get half a block away you get a slip up because you couldn't work your papers in with your letters, to say nothing of several small packages in your bag. You found yourself champing up and down the street, and in order to make up the time you were losing you began to plunge, and the more you plunged the more you got mixed up and the hotter you got, and once when you stood still looking for a number, a little boy asked you whom you were looking for. Dreadful, wasn't it?

And when you got back an hour or so behind the regular man's time you were sure it was the heaviest route in the office, and you felt like fainting when you were told that it was the easiest. And owing to your inability to make time you had to double up with your partner, so that you worked all day long, from before sunrise until long after sunset. You got no lunch except a few mouthfuls you grabbed in passing from a free lunch counter, and when you got home you were so tired, so hungry and so disgusted with your first day at the business that you would have resigned forthwith, but, ayel there was the rub.—Postal Record.

## Chinese Visiting Cards 1,000 Years Ago.

The Chinese, who seem to have known most of our new ideas, used visiting cards 1,000 years ago, but their cards were very large, and not really the prototype of our visiting cards, as they were on soft paper and tied with ribbon. Venice seems to have been the first city in Europe to use cards. Some dating from the latter part of the sixteenth century are preserved in a museum there. The German cities followed the Venetian custom in 100 years or so, then London followed suit—actually followed out, for the first visiting cards in Great Britain were playing cards, or parts of such cards, bearing the name of the bestower on the back. They were first used in England about 1700. We do not know when they were first used in this country, probably not long after their first introduction into British society.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Mexico, the land of Montezuma, prickly pears, sand, volcanoes, etc., has many subtropical wonders, both in vegetable and animal life. Among these latter is a species of spider so minute that its legs cannot be seen without a glass. This little arachnid was seen in a web so wonderfully minute that it was 400 of them to equal a common spider in magnitude.—St. Louis Republic.

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## THE ANTWERP EXPOSITION.

The American Building Will Give an Unusually Prominent Place. The Antwerp international exposition of 1894, "under the high patronage of Leopold II, the king of the Belgians," will be inaugurated May 5, with the fanfare and trappings of royalty. When the visitor to the exposition on the banks of the "May Scheldt" passes into the grand entrance on the Place Public next summer, one of the most striking pictures to greet his eyes will be the facade of the American building. It will be one of the most beautiful and pretentious pieces of architecture on the grounds. Facing the grand entrance from an advantageous position on the right, its site is regarded as the most prominent one ever accorded a foreign country at an exposition.

The building will be a modern Renaissance in style, 340 by 150 feet. It will be constructed of steel, iron and glass, after the fashion of the exhibit buildings at the Columbian exposition, and interiorly it will be arranged to serve as an exhibition hall. There will be elaborate features to the building, but the main feature will be its arrangement for the display of American manufactures that may find a market abroad.

The Antwerp international exposition will continue from May 5 to Nov. 13. It will be general in its scope, and, compared with previous foreign expositions, of commanding proportions. It will occupy about 200 acres of ground in the new quarter of the city beside the river Scheldt.—New York Herald.

## THAT HEADSTRONG BOY.

The English Government Has Withdrawn Its Threat to Spank the Khedive. The boy who is the Khedive of Egypt has taken it back and said he didn't mean it, and so the English government has withdrawn its threat to spank him. The incident has much aggravated the Egyptian situation locally, but has improved the British position before the other powers. The exhibition of headstrong stupidity by the modern pharaoh serves as an abundant excuse for England to continue the protectorate until the lad develops ordinary discretion. The first intimation that the Khedive was prompt by European mischief makers to insult his unbecomingly British guests is no longer held in view of the utter folly of his outbreak.

The matter is regarded merely as another proof of the incompetence of the youngster for serious responsibilities. The government accordingly agrees that his renewed display of hostility toward the English will make the task of British supervision exceedingly difficult and may lead to serious native outbreaks. The Khedive's silly conduct and the sad death of Sir Gerald Portal have upset an admirable diplomatic arrangement. It is not decided that Lord Cromer should go to St. Petersburg, and that Sir Gerald Portal should succeed him at Cairo. The government was only awaiting Sir Gerald's restoration to health to carry the arrangement into effect.—London Letter.

## His Mouth Growing Tip.

A very singular case is that of a young man of this county named Chandler. For years his mouth has shown a tendency to grow up. Four years ago it became so small it was feared he would starve, and a fund was raised by neighbors, and he was sent to Chicago, where the mouth was cut to the natural size and pieces of flesh grafted into the corners, thus helping to prevent the closing. This has been overcome, and his mouth is rapidly growing up again, the opening at present not being larger than an ordinary goose bill, through which he takes all his nourishment. It is thought that he must eventually starve to death, as there seems no way of preventing the complete closing of the mouth. Observe the young man seems healthy and is capable of doing considerable work.—Black River Falls (Wis.) Letter in Minneapolis Journal.

## The Buzz of the Machine Typewriter.

The Press composing room has been equipped with typesetting machines. The operation of these machines will be given to the old compositors of the paper, who will soon be adept therein. The machines are new, and the workmen will not for a time be familiar with their working, and it is possible a great many mistakes, some of them doleful mistakes, will crop into the paper, to the annoyance of our readers, but this trouble will only be temporary, and we hope our condescending readers will be able to set all the wrights up properly. Meanwhile we beg the kind indulgence of our friends.—Cleveland Press.

## As Bad as War.

The Emperor William has again tried his hand at his favorite game of surprises, and although it may have served its purpose the officer who was made the subject of the experiment had to pay pretty dearly for it. The Second regiment of Dragoon guards was called out suddenly on to the temporary command, and an officer, Count von Wedel, was ordered to ride at once to Dresden with a message for the king of Saxony. The count was not allowed to ride on the high road, but had to take roundabout ways, the supposition being that a hostile army had occupied the territory between the two capitals. This circumstance, combined with the slippery state of the roads and the severe cold, made the ride a hard one, and the count took 22 hours to cover the distance. Immediately after delivering his message to the king of Saxony the officer, thoroughly exhausted, fainted away. A sergeant who attended the count stated that much better.—Berlin Correspondent.

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