WEEKLY FAIR PLAY.

THURSDAY, - - SEPT. 19, 1872.

Registration a Necessity.

There being much uncertainty in the public mind as to whether the necessity of registration, as a prerequisite to the right to vote, still exists, we republish the following clear statement of the case from the Missouri *Republican* of Tuesday:

There is an impression prevailing in this state that the registration law has been repealed, and that persons can vote at elections in this state without being registered. This is a mistake. The registry law was modified so as to rid it of the obnoxious features; but as the constitution of the state explicity requires the legislature to enact and maintain a registry law, the legislature of 1870-'71 had no liberty to abrogate the existing law. All that it could do was to extirpate its harsh provisions. This was done, but the law still requires—not only that every voter must be registered before being allowed to vote, but that he must be registered anew at every general election. Some imagine that to be once registered is to be always registered, but the law requires that a qualified voter must be registered afresh every two years. A person registered at the registration that precedes the general election once in two years, does not need to be registered for special elections; but new registry books are made up every two years, and a voter's name must be listed on them before he can be allowed to vote. Citizens will do well to bear this in mind.

A Western Mystery.

Memphis, Aug. 17—Early this morning a fisherman discovered the Helen Brooks floating down stream near Head Cheeks Chute, ten miles above here, and apparently abandoned. He rowed out to the steamer, made a line fast and pulled her toward the bank; but before reaching it, saw a negro, with a shot gun on his knee, in a sitting position, asleep on the lower deck. As soon as the boat struck the bank, the negro started up, leaped ashore and run into the woods. The fisherman boarded the steamer and found traces of a desperate struggle, the decks being wet with blood. He then came to this city and reported what he had done and seen.

Subsequently the Grand Tower, from St. Louis, arrived here, bringing a message from the Magistrate at Bradley's landing, 18 miles above here, stating that the crew of the Helen Brooks, and the proprietors and families at the trading boat which the Brooks had towed up there, had been murdered and the boats plundered. Assistance was at once dispatched on the steamer John Overton. The report is that Capt. William Pott, and his brother, the proprietors of the trading boat, together with their wives and two daughters, were all murdered and their bodies thrown into the river.

Memphis, Aug. 18.—Later advices from Bradley's Landing are that soon after the tug Helen Brooks arrived there with the trading boat, James Trumbull went on board, and being drunk began trifling with the machinery. Capt. Pott ordered him to desist, to which Trumbull replied with opprobrious epithets and threatened to throw Pott overboard. Pott then took up a shot gun; an ordered Trumbull off the boat. Trumbell went before Justice Walt and swore out a warrent accusing Pott of retailing liquor without license, upon which the latter was arrested by a colored constable, and then taken before the magistrate. His wife, leaving her infant with two women on the boat, accompanied him. After waiting until nearly dark, Pott's brother fearing trouble, took the boat over to Island No. 40, and made fast to the shore.—That night Downing the colored constable, Trumbull, and a man called Hans, took a skiff, pressed two negroes into their service, and ordered them to row across and land above the steamer, which was done.

"Chess," one of the negroes, says that on landing, Downing and his party ordered them to remain quite under the penalty of death. Downing and his companions then crept cautiously toward the boat, which they boarded; and soon after a loud cry was heard, and then several shots in quick succession. "Chess" then saw them pursuing Capt. Pott's brother, who had jumped ashore, and firing on him. Whether he was killed or not he does not know. Pott was the only one seen by "Chess," and he thinks two other men, one of whom was named Roberson, two women, and three children, were killed and thrown overboard. When "Chess" and his partner were called to the boat, they saw no one but Downing, Trumbull, and Hans, who broke into the bar, and the entire party got drunk, "Chess" remembers nothing more until the boat was landed by the fisherman, as was stated last night, when he jumped ashore and made his way to Bradley's, where the wildest excitement prevaled, as nothing had been seen of Pott or his party, while Downing and his party had disappeared; and, from the fact that the boat had been plundered, it is feared that the whole party has been murdered.—*Grayson Democrat.*

Communicated.

STE. GENEVIEVE, Co. Aug. 11th 72.

Editor Fair Play.

In answer to an article headed "Can any one tell why" in your issue of August the 8th, as to the whys we do not have a County Fair, to the citizens of the north west corner of the county is very plain. We have not got those thorough going, persevering, energetic kind of farmers, Mechanics, and Merchants, that our neighboring counties have, or if we have they have been perfectly dormant heretofore. I fear our county is very billious, and unless our politicians administer a purgative in the way of a mercurial call, that stimulates the vitals of her citizens, she ever will remain as she is at present far in the rear of her sister counties. We in the North West corner of the county, are so far from the county seat, and so poverty stricken that we are not able to take much stock in such a corporation, with but few exceptions, but however, as the poor widow did "we will cast in our mite," do all we can. If our wealthy farmers mechanics and merchants will put their shoulders to the wheel and oil the axles with their green-backs, and call for help, I will insure that they will get sufficient help to roll the corporation right down to Ste. Genevieve on the commons, or in some convenient place there abouts, and have as grand an exhibition of the kind as has ever been exhibited in South East Missouri. We cannot boast on wheat growing in our end of the County but as to corn, oats, tobaco, grapes and stock, we will risk a show on at least. I can produce the fastest untrained pacer in the state. The owner is not in the habit of training stock himself and has not had the opportunity of having him trained. Judge Doss has some fine blooded stock. J. J. Edwards has some thorough bred animals, also our neighbor A. Doss. These gentlemen and others in the surrounding vicinity would exhibit their stock, had we a Fair no doubt. The stock above mentioned would be a credit to any exhibition of the kind, in the state. We do hope that the moneyed citizens of Ste. Genevieve county will look to their own interest, and go right about the work at once, for it would in my opinion be of more value to the people of this county in genaral than the much talked of railroad, that was to have been built through the county. from the simple fact that it would arouse an energetic spirit of enterprise that long has been latent. Citizens look to your own interest and let us have a Fair as well as other counties. J.

Two Mexican ladies of rank, at a ball, lately, at Santa Cruz, quarreled about a gentleman who loved each, we assume, about equally. A challenge followed, and there was a fight with swords, the end of which was the disabling of the swordarm of one of the combatants. The wounded lady, nothing daunted drew a pistol and dared the other to come on. The parties were placed, and the word given, and the unfortunate one of the previous affray received a ball in her left arm, and was carried from the field. Two hours afterward the victor was married to the object of her affections.

Why is Salt Lake City like an orphan asylum? Because there is so many *Young* children there.

(Communicated.

Political Machinery.

We boast a free government! we are proud of the advantages of our political institutions! but we never consider one moment, how far we have wandered away from the path of freedom, which our fore-fathers had in view when they framed the constitution. We have even less control over our own public affairs, than is allowed the people of an European monarchy. The fact is, there is too much machinery about our government. In commerce and industry we are ruled by rings that suck the sap and marrow out of our prosperity. Who has not heard of the enormous swindles af a Tammany or Erie ring? Whereever now-a-days money can be made out of the people, there are rings to make it. There is a great variety of rings: railroad rings, whisky-rings, tobacco rings &c. And if their leaders do not all gain the reputation of a James Fisk jr, or Boss Tweed, they do damage enough to the communities in which they exist, to make the people loathe and condemn them. In politics we are principally governed by King Caucus, primary meetings, county and district coventions with their innumerable and indispensable attendants, the wire pullers. King Caucus flourishes his party-whip with unrelenting vigor and woe to those who dare question his right to dictate. They are promptly and mercilessly cast out and fall into everlasting disgrace, unless they come back repentant. And while we cannot muster courage to remove these obstacles from the path of political freedom, we will be lead like infants by the leading-strings of political trickeries. In the election of candidates to office the question should simply be one of capability, propriety and fitness. If the right man is put in the right place it will make no difference of what religious profession or party organization or nationality he is a member. The better part of the people will only consider how far a man can be expected to do his duty.

LEPIDUS.

The Cincinnati *Lancet and Observer* is responcible for the following.

On the 21st of August Mrs. Timothy Bradlee, of Trumbull County, Ohio, gave birth to eight children—three boys and five girls. They are all living, and are healthy, but quite small. Mr. Bradlee was married six years ago to Eunice Mowery, who weighed two hundred and seventy-three pounds on the day of her marriage. She has given birth to two pair of twins, and now eight more, making twelve children in six years. Mrs. Bradlee was a triplet, and her mother and father both being twins, and her grandmother the mother of five pairs of twins.

Prof. Tyndal, has perfected a new respirator for firemen, in which the solid particles of the densest smoke are arrested by filme of cotton wool wetted with glycerine, and the most pungent gas by layers of charcoal.

By this simple means firemen can remain within burning buildings for upward of an hour at a time with safety and comfort, so far as their respiration is concerned.

The following is published at regular advertising rates, and the parties whose signature appears below are responsible for the same:—*Ed.*

A Card.

On last Saturday night, Jesse B. Robbins, a candidate for the Legislature, in one of his peculiar harangues, delivered at the Court House to the people, full of venom, and malice, made some remarks in regard to us (although not mentioning our names, but still pointing to our place of business, and thereby designating us, so that *none* could misunderstand:) in which he actually *accused* us of *making false returns* as merchants, and thereby defrauding the State and County of their just dues. He did so for the purpose of *injuring us* in our business and thereby satisfying a long pent up malice, which he has nursed up in his bosom. He insinuated that we had only paid *eleven hundred dollars ($11.50) tax* as merchants the *last year*. This he knows to be false, for he has had every opportunity to know better, and in this case, his ignorance is a clear case of crime; to prove this fact we will state that we paid taxes as follows, viz:—

1869—$31.25, to State and County.
1870—$34.50, do do
1871—$56.50, do do
1871—$112.50, City Tax.

Now we will conclude by telling Jesse B. Robbins, that a man who paid no taxes, State or County, in the year 1870 and 1871 had better settle up his own dues before he undertakes to preach morality and honesty to us.

JOKERST & BOVERIE.

Final Settlement.

NOTICE is hereby given to all creditors and others interested in the estate of Temperance Gusley, deceased, that I, Joseph Bauman, late Public Administrator of Ste. Genevieve county, State of Missouri, having in charge the said estate, intend to make final settlement thereof, at the next term of the county court of said county, to be held at the City of Ste. Genevieve, on Monday (being the seventh day) of October A. D. 1872 *JOSEPH BAUMAN,*
Late Pub. Adm'r. of Ste. Gen. Co. Mo.

Final Settlement.

NOTICE is hereby given to all creditors and others interested in the estates of Sarah Simms, Christian Fahrenbach, Thomas McKee, Samuel Kennedy, Napoleon N. Beaque and Allen Gentry, deceased, that I, Joseph Bauman, late Public Administrator of Ste. Genevieve county, State of Missouri, having in charge the said estates, intend to make final settlements thereof, at the next term of the county court of said county, to be held at the City of Ste. Genevieve, on Monday (being the seventh day) of October A. D. 1872 *JOSEPH BAUMAN,*
Late Pub. Adm'r. of Ste. Gen. Co. Mo. 12-4