

Our Washington Letter.

THE PRESIDENTS CIVIL SERVICE ORDER PARTIALLY REVOKED—OFFICE HOLDERS HAVE THE RIGHT TO RENDER AID IN THE COMING CAMPAIGN—WORK FOR STARRING TREASURY CLERKS—PRACTICAL USE OF THE PHONOGRAPH. MONTGOMERY BLAIR ON THE "RAGGED EDGE"—OUR NATIONAL CAPITAL—THE FLORIDA CONFESSIONS.

(From our regular correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 4, 1878.

Prest. Hayes being interviewed by your correspondent to-day in regard to his civil service order admitted the necessity for the Republican party gaining the next House, and said that there would not be the slightest objection to government employes individually making voluntary contributions to the campaign fund, speaking on political subjects, writing in the interest of their politics, or sending of documents to aid in the campaign. He conceded their right to do all this.

The effects of the passage of the act authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to employ temporary clerks, was very visible at the Treasury Department yesterday. The passage leading to it were thronged all day long with an anxious and expectant crowd of office-seekers. Between sixty and seventy were given clerkships, the appointments being determined by the completeness of the quotas of the different States and the capabilities of the applicants. The faces of these applicants for petty clerkships, which will terminate next June at the furthest, were expressive of all the varying phases and transitions from the blackest despair to the most exultant joy. The casual stranger meeting these people as they came out from the appointment office would have been puzzled to determine whether it was a first-class funeral or a variety entertainment that was going on.

It is said that some of our prominent ministers think of arranging for the regular continuance of their pulpit ministrations during their Summer vacations in the mountains or at the seaside. They will talk their sermons into a phonograph, and having thus imprinted them on sheets of tin-foil, will send the latter by mail to be adjusted to another instrument in Washington. This instrument will be placed upon the pulpit desk, and on being set going at the proper hour, will deliver the sermon in the familiar tones of the absent pastor. The opening and closing prayers, the giving out of hymns, and the pronouncing of the benediction can all be arranged for in the same way, and if a full length portrait of the minister were placed on the wall behind the pulpit, an effect would be produced hardly distinguishable from that of his bodily presence.

Montgomery Blair is in a bad state of mind on account of the cold shoulder given by leading Democrats to his scheme for ousting Hayes from the Presidency. He has written a wrathful letter, in which he says:

"To many of those now holding influential positions in the Democratic party have been demoralized politically. They have no longer any respect for the constitution or faith in the people, and have allied themselves and their localities. This is the secret of their compounding the felony by which Hayes obtained office. As the case now stands before the public, the Democratic party is saddled with the odium of a transaction which may be summed thus: Tilden, a northern Union man of the Jackson-Benton stripe, who was elected by the people to put down corruption and monopoly and corporate government, was deposed upon fraudulent election returns under a bargain with Hayes and Tom Scott to establish a southern Credit Mobilier swindle and plunder the Treasury with southern claims, the intriguers refusing to allow a State—one of the old thirteen—to question the fraud in the courts of justice. Let this continue and the inevitable result will be the restoration of Grant in 1880 by the rally of the whole north."

A more beautiful city than this in its spring garb does not exist. All the parks and gardens, of which Washington boasts more than any other city of the Union, are now at the height of their beauty and freshness. The roses and the snow-balls are in bloom and also the peonies in the Treasury gardens, and the dog-wood and many other trees are blooming in the parks. Yesterday was such a May day as the poets have described. An effort is now

being made to reclaim Lafayette square from the tramps and loafers (chiefly colored) who have so long infested it, excluding by their rowdiness and insolence all respectable people who wished to enjoy it. Ladies and gentlemen are now selecting it for their afternoon walks and hope to crowd out the rowdies in time. The Monument grounds, so long a desolate waste, are now being improved in certain portions.

The Democrats are getting suspicious of the Florida business and are proceeding with unusual caution. Blaine predicted the other day that they would blunder so that the "confessions" would finally turn out an advantage to the Republicans, and discreet Democrats like Potter and Wood in the House, and Bayard and Thurman in the Senate, are fearful that Blaine's prediction will be realized. Hence, it has been decided to call a caucus of the members of both Houses, this evening to determine what course it is better to pursue. In case they decide to reopen the case and institute an investigation, it will be controlled by Potter, Wood and others, instead of by Springer, Knott and Blackburn, who have been chief among the "fraud" howlers. The Republicans have decided to adopt Secretary McCrary's suggestion, and insist if the Democrats want to reopen the whole matter of the Electoral vote for the sake of "vindictive history"—as they claim—that New York City, Connecticut, Indiana, Mississippi, Cincinnati and other points where the Democratic frauds are known to have been committed, shall be included also in the investigation.

EDWARD.

An Important Iowa Decision.

Marshalltown Special.

The supreme court of Iowa has just decided a very important case, taken up from this county, which involves a large amount of money in this city and is of great importance, to not only many portions of Iowa, but the country at large. The question involved is one that has been differently decided in different States. The case was one against the Hawkeye Benefit and Loan Association, the loaner pleading usury against a procedure for foreclosure. The association is upon the same plan as all these mutual benefit, aid, building and loan associations. The court has held the loans over ten per cent. to be usurious, and requires an account to be taken; and if he has paid in on dues, or in any manner, more than the money received and ten per cent. interest, it is usurious, and the association cannot recover.

Our Costly University.

From the Winona Republican.

The Minnesota State University has twenty professors—all drawing salaries—including the well paid President, whose duties it appears are confined to moral philosophy, and the chaplaincy. There is also a professor of mental and natural philosophy, rather an odd mixture; also a professor of Greek. Then comes the Professor of "mathematics and astronomy," of "geology and mineralogy," of "civil and mechanical engineering," of "chemistry and physics," also a Professor of "North European languages," and finally a "non-resident Professor of public health." Inasmuch as this great institution of learning, which is carried on at a heavy expense of the State, graduates on an average from three to six young men and women annually, and it would seem that a half a dozen or so of these exclusive professors who confine their intellectual labors to a single branch of literature or science, might be dismissed with advantage and the rest of the Professors be compelled to work enough to earn their salaries.

Prevalence of Myopia.

Some interesting facts concerning the cause and prevalence of myopia were lately given in a paper read by Dr. Edward G. Loring before the county medical society of New York schools. 13 per cent were found at 6 and 7 years of age to have defective vision, while the proportion at 20 and 21 years had increased to nearly 40 per cent. The Germans are particularly noted as a nation of spectacle-wearers, and in less than 62 per cent of the German children who pass through the public schools have their eyes effected by the process.

A professor was expostulating with a student for his idleness, when the latter said, "It's no use: I was cut out for a loafer." "Well," declared the professor, surveying the student critically, "whoever cut you out understood his business."

THE LUMBER MONOPOLY.

The Minneapolis end of the Pioneer Press is doing the public a valuable service in exposing the great lumber monopoly. The heavy advance on prices of all kinds of lumber by the manufactures, is nothing more or less than a tax levied upon the people for no other cause than to fill the pockets of speculators. It appears that the manufactures of Minneapolis, Stillwater, St. Paul, most of the leading lumber dealers of Wisconsin, have combined to put up prices. One of the first results of this unreasonable advance in prices is the suspension of contemplated building enterprises all through Minnesota and Northern Iowa. The second, is the transfer of a very considerable portion of the lumber trade from Minneapolis to Chicago, there being a difference of some \$2 on a thousand in favor of the Chicago market. The third result will be the permanent loss to Minneapolis of a valuable portion of her lumber trade, unless this grand mistake is soon corrected by a return to reasonable rates.—*Glencoe Register.*

St. Paul Dispatch—That land of marvels, the Yellowstone country, has had an earthquake and a coal mine added to its attractions. They came together—that is the earthquake opened to view a five foot vein of coal. It is said the little garrison of Glendive, where this coal discovery happened, were almost suffocated at the time by sulphuric fumes. These fumes probably came from the coal and not from the place Beecher would like to disbelieve in.

DODGE COUNTY.

Suicide of an Old Resident of Mantorville -- A Bad Grainger Speculation.

Special to the Pioneer Press.

MANTORVILLE, Minn., May 1. Chas. Ginsberg an old resident of this city, committed suicide last Monday, by drowning himself in the Zumbro river near what is known as the Lower mill-dam, about one half mile below town. Mr. Ginsberg was the owner of the large brewery here and was well known throughout the southern part of the State. It seems from what has now been learned that he was making arrangements to go to Waseca the day of his death, and that a few hours before train time he left home and took a direct route through the woods to the river, and deliberately jumped in and drowned himself, as his body was found only a few feet from the shore, and where he evidently must have thrown himself in. Tuesday morning a thorough search was instituted, as he had been seen soon after he left home walking through the woods in the direction of the river, by a man coming to town, and fears were entertained that he had drowned himself or become deranged and wandered off into the timber. After the mill pond had been dragged, search was made in the river below the dam, where his body was found Tuesday afternoon. An inquest was held this morning, and the coroner's jury found the facts substantially as they have been stated. Mr. Ginsberg leaves a family and a large number of friends to regret his untimely end.

Those "honest grangers" who were unfortunate enough to hold stock in the Kason grange elevator are now seeking some honest way to evade paying an assessment of about \$200 each, required (after selling the elevator) to settle a judgment of \$9,000 or \$10,000 against them in favor of Foss & Co., of Chicago. One long-headed Scotchman was wise enough not to take any stock certificate for what he gave toward building the elevator, and now laughs in his sleeves over the discomfiture of his neighbors.

THE IOWA TORNADO.

Its Terrible in Sac County—Destruction of Life and Property.

CARROLL, Iowa, April 23.—A reporter has just returned, bringing full details of the Tornado in Sac county on Sunday. Four buildings in the town of Wall Lake were blown to pieces, but the worst of the storm passed north of that town. The track of the storm is about thirty rods wide. For twenty miles it is strewn with debris of houses, farming implements, dead geese and ducks, dead horses, hogs and cattle. Fifteen cattle in one herd were killed. The house, barn, and other outbuildings of Dr. Stevens, three miles away from Wall Lake, were entirely swept away, and all his stock killed. His loss is \$7,000. Henry Grandt, in the same neighbor-

hood, lost everything, including some thousand bushels of corn. John Wentzel and the Davis brothers were unfortunate, the latter losing \$1,000 worth of furniture. The house of Daniel Leitz was torn to pieces, and Mr. and Mrs. Leitz and three children were carried out on the prairie, and when found were over a mile apart. All are seriously injured and some, it is feared fatally. The total damage to property in Sac county alone is probably over \$100,000. It was the most terrible tornado known in this section. Reports of new disasters are constantly coming in.—*St. Paul Dispatch.*

Railroading Through the Clouds.

It is one of the pleasantest of brief jaunts imaginable to make a trip from any point on the Denver & Rio Grande road to Garland and return. It can be made from Denver and return in two days, leaving Denver in the morning and returning the next evening. From Colorado Springs it is still more desirable, leaving the Springs one morning at eleven o'clock, and returning the following afternoon at four. The time from Canon City is about the same, while from Pueblo it is made in a half-day either way. On the round trip one has the sunset effects on the ascent of the pass, and the sunrise on the descent. The way down is some more thrilling than the ascent, the train crawling around the cliff faces, clinging to the rocks, and, as it seems, fairly hanging on to the willows; hunting each little hollow to its head, then swinging to the right and balancing gingerly out upon the point until the pilot peeps over the brink, and the engine shakes its cinders into the gorge below. Between two strata of clouds the train moves silently and steadily, and the Spanish Peaks look as if their base rested upon the cloud line. The upper clouds are torn and rifted, and the sun shoots its glowing rays through and down upon the second stratum of clouds a thousand feet below, penetrating to one-third their depth, and giving them the appearance of a snow covered plain.

A DARING ANIMAL TAMER.

For some time the question of giving exhibitions with the animals has been agitated among the Directors of the Zoological Garden, and Mr. T. Stevan, the Superintendent of the Carn vora, volunteered to enter the dens and train the beasts. The only door to the cages is the one among the bars, which is pulled up slowly, and which must be again pulled down by main force. Through this door Mr. Stevan entered the den of young lions, having no weapon except an ordinary raw hide. The lioness Nancy seemed beside herself with rage at the invasion, and sprang at Stevan with a hoarse roar, her small ears laid flat down, and her white, ugly teeth laid bare. Stevan fought her down with blow on blow of the heavy raw hide. The other lions bounded back and forth, with loud roars of rage and alarm. Stevan was perfectly cool, and once after he had cowed Nancy for a moment, turned his back to the enraged beasts.

He next entered the cage of the leopards. These he played with as one would play with pet cats and put them through many graceful evolutions.

Next Mr. Stevan entered the den of a pair of old lions. They are probably the largest lions in the country, and are untrained and untamed. The two great animals seemed about to spring upon the adventurous man who advanced upon them. They crouched upon their bellies. As he struck at them they uttered such horrible roars and looked so wildly fierce and dreadful that the gentlemen outside begged Stevan to come out. They snapped their great jaws at him, and chewed up the whips he carried. It was a terrible scene. It seemed that nothing could prevent the maddened beasts tearing Stevan into pieces. Nothing but his coolness and presence of mind saved him. He never took his eyes from them, he never showed a sign of fear, and he beat them back with a giant's strength.

Lastly Mr. Stevan entered the cage of the hyenas, which animals are popularly supposed to be untamable. There was another wild scene with these hideous beasts but Stevan was again shown to be lord over them. None of the animals had their claws clipped, or were in any way prepared for the exhibition.

Mr. Stevan will continue to enter the dens, and will soon begin to give daily exhibitions of his power over the animals, if he succeeds in taming them. At present the lions and hyenas are too wild to be fooled with much.—*Cincinnati Commercial.*

THE MANKATO WOOLEN FACTORY

has established a branch house in New Ulm, in Kiesling's brick building, opposite Apple's meat market. The undersigned, one of the proprietors, would respectfully announce to the public that he will receive and forward to the factory wool for spinning and carding purposes. Wool will also be received in exchange for goods. An experienced tailor has been employed and orders for suits, of the best quality and at lowest prices, will be filled on short notice. Call and examine the goods and obtain prices.

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C. WAGNER,

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New Davis " " - - \$35.00
Wheeler & Wilson " - - \$35.00

Machines sold on time or monthly payments.

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MRS. I. H. GIBBS.

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Low prices and prompt attention, is my motto. Also Sewing machines kept for sale.

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MILLINERY AND DRESSMAKING

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Opp. Dakota House, New Ulm, Minn.

I have just received a new and splendid assortment of millinery goods, embracing all the latest styles and patterns, which I am prepared to offer at prices to suit the times. I also keep dress patterns for sale.

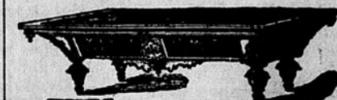
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