WEEKLY GRAPHIC.

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NEWS IN BRIEF.

Compiled from Various Sources.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

A. H. LITTLEFIELD has been elected Governor, and H. H. Fay Lieutenant-Governor, of Rhode Island, by the General Assembly.

AN anti-Grant Republican meeting was held at Chicago on the night of the 26th, in pursuance of a call issued by the ninety-two delegates from the Farwell Hall Convention to Springfield. Central Music Hall, where the meeting was called, was crowded at an early hour, and another meeting was organized at Farwell Hall. An address was adopted in the nature of a statement to be presented to the National Republican Convention, setting forth the alleged unjust and arbitrary action of the State Convention at Springfield, and asking that the so-called disfranchised districts be permitted a representation in the National Convention by delegates of their own selection.

THE West Virginia Greenback-Labor State Convention was held at Charleston on the 26th. Delegates to the National Convention were selected and a State ticket nominated, headed by Col. N. B. French, of Mercer County, for Governor.

THE Kansas Democratic State Convention, to select delegates to the National Convention, was held on the 26th. Col. Thomas Moonlight was chosen Chairman. The Convention refused to instruct in favor of any candidate.

THE Missouri Democratic State Convention was held at Moberly on the 26th. Ex-Gov. B. Gratz Brown presided. The delegates to Cincinnati are uninstructed, and are divided in their Presidential preferences as between Tilden, Morrison, Seymour and Hancock. The St. Louis *Republican* claims nineteen out of the thirty delegates for Tilden; the St. Louis *Times* figures out twelve for Tilden and eighteen anti-Tilden delegates.

LEON SAY has been elected President of the French Senate.

THE Mississippi Democratic State Convention, held on the 27th, chose an uninstructed delegation to Cincinnati.

THE friends of Hon. William R. Morrison, of Illinois, held an informal meeting at Washington the other evening, and resolved to further his candidacy for the Presidency by holding meetings, organizing clubs, etc. Among those present were Representatives Reagan, of Texas; Chalmers, of Mississippi; Eppa Hunton and Harris, of Virginia; Taylor and Atkins, of Tennessee; Phillips, Clardy, Clark and Waddell, of Missouri; Thompson, Blackburn and Knott, of Kentucky; and Townshend, Springer and Singleton, of Illinois.

THE Delaware Democratic State Convention instructed its delegates to the Cincinnati Convention to present the name of Senator Bayard as a candidate for President.

THE Wisconsin and Minnesota Greenbackers both held State Conventions on the 27th and chose delegates to the National Convention.

THE National Woman Suffrage Association, at its recent session in Indianapolis, appointed a delegation to visit Chicago and present their claims before the National Republican Convention.

DENNIS KEARNEY has been released from the San Francisco House of Correction.

THE Nevada delegates to the Cincinnati Convention are said to stand three for Tilden, two for Thurman and one for Field. The Convention adopted a resolution in favor of Tilden.

THE Senate has rejected the nomination of S. Newton Pettis, of Pennsylvania, to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court for the Territory of New Mexico.

THE San Francisco Workingmen had a grand jubilee on the night of the 28th, at the Sand Lots, in honor of Kearney's release. The latter made a speech, announcing his intention of taking up the agitation where he left it and making it more bitter than ever.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

THE employees of the Philadelphia Rolling-mill, 1,200 in number, have struck for higher wages.

A CONVENTION has been arranged between the United States and Canada by which exchange of postal money-orders has been simplified and the cost reduced.

SOME 2,700 miners have struck work at Leadville, demanding an advance from three dollars to four dollars per day. They have compelled miners who did not voluntarily join in the strike to quit work. Trouble is apprehended.

THE President has signed the Carlisle bill, amending the Internal Revenue law in reference to distilled spirits.

THE Vulcan Iron and Nail Works of Chattanooga, Tenn., have been thrown into bankruptcy. There will be no immediate stoppage of the works.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

THE village of Savoy, Fannin County, Texas, on the Transcontinental Railroad, was almost literally wiped away by a tornado on the night of the 28th. Nine persons were almost instantly killed and over sixty were injured, some ten or twelve of the latter having died within a few hours afterward. The village contained a population of about 400. The only buildings of any account left standing are the Houston Methodist Church and the Academy, the latter of which was transformed into a hospital for the wounded. Some nineteen business buildings, including the Railroad Depot, were almost totally demolished. The list of the killed is as follows: Dr. Joseph Kearns, Wm. Sudduth, E. L. Andrews and child, Sam Gill, Ellie Gallagher, T. J. Cox, Miss Mattie Best, Miss Pantha Johnson. The more seriously wounded are Mrs. McKee, Edna, Robert and Sam McKee, Effie John, Ollord Horn, Mrs. Dr. Kerns, F. W. Foster, Prof. Holland's daughter, Hattie Johnson, Robert Johnson, Robert Gallagher and wife, Mrs. Sudduth, Mrs. Dennis Horn, Mrs. M. L. Taylor. A number of these have since died.

AT Rochester, N. Y., on the 25th, Mary O'Connor, a servant, aged forty-five, attempted to kindle the kitchen fire with kerosene. An explosion occurred, covering her with the burning oil, and she ran wildly into the street, fanning it into flames. The flesh was literally roasted upon her lower limbs and dropped off in shreds.

AN extensive oil fire occurred in Brooklyn, N. Y., on the morning of the 26th. Several men were badly injured by the explosion of an oil tank.

JOEL FERGUSON, Town Marshal of Murray, Calloway County, Ky., was shot and killed on the 24th by Dan F. Jones, a saloon-keeper.

ROBERT T. GRAY, a commercial traveler from St. Joseph, Mo., committed suicide in Kansas City on the 26th. His parents reside at Normal, Ill.

THOMAS O. THURSTON, who shot and killed his partner, W. W. Embry, at Leavenworth, Kas., on last New Year's Day, and who was acquitted on the ground of self-defense, on the 20th attempted to shoot Mr. D. R. Anthony, editor of the *Times*, as the latter was passing along the crowded street at noonday. Thurston fired twice, both shots missing his intended victim, but both taking effect upon other parties. Lucien Baker, a young attorney, was pierced through the body by one of the bullets, and very dangerously, if not fatally, wounded, and John P. Douglas, advertising solicitor of the *Times*, was slightly wounded in the head. Thurston was arrested, and for fear that he would be lynched was taken to Fort Leavenworth and thence to Atchison, where he is now imprisoned. Baker was attorney for Thurston in his recent trial and secured his discharge.

GEORGE W. PICKENS, an old settler of Butler County, Kas., on the 23d was suffocated in a well which he had been blasting on his farm in Benton Township. Frank Waite, a neighbor's son, went down in the well to the assistance of Pickens, and he too was overcome by the deadly gas and fell from the bucket to the bottom, fracturing his skull.

JOHN EICHBERG, a prominent citizen of Memphis, either jumped or fell overboard from the steamer Hard Cash and was drowned on the 25th.

AT Buena Vista, Colo., on the 28th, James Reed and James Edwards had a shooting bout in which both were killed.

MR. H. PLEMS, an ex-Alderman of Dubuque, Iowa, committed suicide on the 26th by shooting himself through the head. Family troubles.

TWO executions took place in Arkansas on the 28th. Thomas B. Edwards was hanged at Ozark, Franklin County, for the murder of Julia Alsobrooks, his paramour, in Johnson County, in July, 1878, and L. L. Ford was hanged at Marion, Crittenden County, for complicity in the murder of John Broadway, in October last. On the same day Peter King was hanged at Woodsfield, O., for the murder of David Trembly in September last; Charles Balling, a colored youth of sixteen, was hanged at Hanover C. H., Va., for an assault upon a white woman; and Henry Hamlin was hanged at Hartford, Conn., for shooting Watchman Shipman while the latter was trying to prevent his escape from the State-prison in September, 1877.

BILL DELANCY, a noted desperado of Farley, Dubuque County, Iowa, was shot and killed on the 26th by Byron Reynolds, with whom he had provoked a quarrel. Delancy had been arrested for horse-stealing, arson, incendiarism and murder, but always escaped any severe punishment.

A SEVERE tornado passed over the country a few miles north of Evansville, Ind., on the 29th. Frank Wasson was killed and several persons injured by falling buildings, a number of which were demolished.

FRANK JONES, Sidney McQuinn and S. Williams, employees on the Keogh Mail route, were recently killed by the Indians on the Little Missouri, and there are reports of other massacres. The Indians are thought to have been from the Standing Rock Agency, on their way to join Sitting-Bull.

AT Texarkana, Ark., on the night of the 29th, a party of white men surrounded the jail for the purpose of lynching a negro prisoner, named Cromwell, who had committed an assault upon a white woman. A number of negroes collected about the jail and attempted to thwart the movement. Both parties were well armed and a fusillade occurred between them, lasting for some time. A number were wounded on each side, three negroes fatally. It was subsequently ascertained that the negro Cromwell was not in the Jail at the time of the melee, having been previously removed in anticipation of mob violence.

THE Apaches recently massacred a party of whites in Cook's Canyon, N. Mexico. Five bodies were recovered and brought into Fort Cummings on the 30th. The only ones recognized were those of Samuel J. Lyons and a young man, his companion.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A DUEL has been fought at Pesth, Hungary, between Count Zichy and Count Stephen Karolyi, in which the former was wounded, it was thought fatally.

A PORTION of Gen. Hatch's command had another fight with Victorio's band on the 24th, at the headwaters of the Polomos River, New Mexico, about thirty miles south of Ojo Caliente. The Indian loss is variously stated at from thirty to fifty. Several Navajoes and Comanches were found in the camp, showing that the hostiles had received reinforcements from those tribes. There is no mention of any casualties among the troops engaged.

THE boat-race between Hanlan and Riley, which was rowed on the Potomac at Washington on the 26th, was easily won by the former.

BRACKETTSVILLE, in Southwestern Texas, was inundated by a rain storm on the 28th. The water in the main street was from five to eight feet in depth, and rushed through the town with the velocity of a torrent. A number of houses were swept away and their inmates in some cases drowned.

THE Cincinnati Convention of the Methodist Episcopal Church was formally closed on the 28th. Episcopal residences were fixed at New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Syracuse, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, Atlanta or Chattanooga, St. Paul, Minn.; Austin, Texas; Des Moines and San Francisco. An Italian Mission Conference was authorized. Western Missions were authorized in Nebraska, Utah, Black Hills, Dakota, Indian Territory, and Montana outside of the Montana Conference and the Black Hills Mission.

THE spring meeting of the St. Louis Jockey Club will open on Tuesday, June 8, continuing until the following Monday, the 14th. On each of the six days there will be a number of spirited races, commencing promptly at 2 p. m. All railroad and steamboat lines give reduced rates of fare to St. Louis during the races.

THE Whittaker trial at West Point terminated on the 28th. In summing up Recorder Sears argued that all the testimony went to show that Whittaker was the author of his own assault; that he was of a morbid temperament, which was aggravated by the fear that he would not graduate, by an unrequited love affair, and by other causes. Whittaker's counsel maintained, on the other hand, that the Cadet was of a cheerful temperament, that he had no reasonable cause for anxiety as to his passing examination, and no conceivable motive for the perpetration of the fraud with which he was charged.

A SEASON of most intense heat, accompanied by long-continued drouth, has prevailed throughout New York, New Jersey and the New England States. On May 27 the thermometer in New York City and vicinity ranged from ninety-two degrees to one hundred degrees in the shade. The police report for twenty-four hours showed thirty-two cases of sunstroke in New York and Brooklyn, six of which were fatal. Vegetation of all kinds was nearly burned up. On the 28th there were twelve deaths from sunstroke in New York and Brooklyn.

THE Court of Inquiry in the case of Cadet Whittaker, at West Point, have rendered a decision in effect that Whittaker's wounds were self-inflicted. Upon the promulgation of the report Gen. Schofield at once ordered the arrest of Whittaker, who will remain under surveillance until his case is disposed of.

A LARGE band of Utes are reported to have left their reservation and gone into North Park, causing a general stampede among the whites, a number of whom have collected at a place called Pinkham's, in the north end of the Park, and fortified themselves as well as possible. Gen. Flint, at Fort Sanders, telegraphed to Fort Steel for additional horses, with the intention of sending immediate help. There are said to be about 700 miners and prospectors in the Park. This report, although apparently well authenticated, is not credited by Gen. Pope and others who ought to be well informed. The only access to North Park is through Middle Park, they say, and no Indians have been seen in the latter locality this spring.

IN the House of Commons the other day Sir Charles Dilke said the Government were well aware of the injury to trade caused by the war between Chili and Peru, and were desirous of offering their friendly services in the matter; that such friendly overtures have hitherto been ineffectual; that the Government have been and are now in communication with other Governments on the subject, and if favorable opportunity for mediation should offer they would avail of it.

A LETTER from Cimarron, New Mexico, says in regard to the reported massacre of the Bradbury party: "A party passed my place some time since, and asked advice about going on the north fork of the Gunnison to prospect. They were advised not to go, as it is very dangerous, as the White River Utes were camped from South Cedar to the mouth of the Uncompahgre. They paid no attention, but went on. The Indians got after them, and Ouray and Chepeta interfered in person and prevented a massacre." Another letter says the location of the rumored Bradbury massacre is at least one hundred and forty miles from the town of Gunnison, and nearly if not quite as far from the mining camps of the Gunnison country, and states, further, that it is not positively known that Bradbury was murdered, and that the Gunnison mining country is not on the reservation, and is open to settlement.

THE *North German Gazette* says of late the confidence previously felt in the satisfactory result of the negotiations between Prussia and the Vatican has been shaken, and the Prussian Government has consequently resolved to make to its Catholic subjects spontaneously, and without regard to any return on the part of the Vatican, such concessions as are possible without prejudice to the interests of the State, and also to obtain from the Diet discretionary powers relative to application of May laws. The same journal confirms the statement that it will depend upon the attitude of the Church to what extent the Government avails itself of those powers.

CONGRESSIONAL.

MAY 26.—*Senate*—Joseph E. Brown presented his credentials and was sworn in as Senator from Georgia, in place of Senator Gordon, resigned. The Pension Deficiency bill passed. The amount appropriated for pensions is $9,240,000. The House bill for the relief of homestead settlers in Kansas and Nebraska who lost their crops by the drouth, extending for one year the time in which to complete their payments passed. The morning hour having expired the Senate resumed consideration of the bill defining the terms of the Chief Supervisors of Election. Mr. Windom moved to lay the bill aside informally to consider the Agricultural Appropriation bill. Mr. Bayard objected. A long political discussion followed, at the close of which the bill passed by a party vote......*House*—The Speaker pro tem. presented a message from the President, urging upon Congress the necessity of action upon the Ute agreement. The Sundry Civil Appropriation bill was further considered in Committee of the Whole.

MAY 27.—*Senate*—Mr. Eaton's bill to provide for the appointment by the President of a commission of citizens to investigate the question of the tariff was taken up and amendments were reported by the Finance Committee. The bill was temporarily laid aside and the Agricultural Appropriation bill taken up. A number of amendments were agreed to and the bill passed......*House*—The Sundry Civil Appropriation bill was further considered in Committee of the Whole. Considerable discussion arose over the clause authorizing the Secretary of War to negotiate with the legal representatives of the Confederate Generals Bragg and Polk for the purchase of their private papers relating to the late war. An amendment to strike out this provision was rejected. The General Deficiency Appropriation bill was reported just prior to adjournment.

MAY 28.—*Senate*—The bill granting pensions to certain soldiers of the Mexican and other wars was placed on the calendar. The committee report was not unanimous. The River and Harbor Appropriation bill and amendments were reported, and Senator Ransom announced that he would call the bill up Monday......*House*—The Sundry Civil Appropriation bill was further considered in Committee of the Whole. Saturday being Decoration Day, both houses adjourned over till Monday.

CONDENSED TELEGRAMS.

IN the Senate, on the 31st, the bill for the relief the Ponca tribe of Indians was reported favorably and placed on the calendar. Senator Kirkwood will submit a minority report. The bill granting pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Mexican and other wars was taken up, to allow Mr. Williams, of Kentucky, to speak thereon. In the House, the Senate amendments to the bill for the relief of certain homestead and pre-emption settlers in Kansas and Nebraska were concurred in. The General Deficiency Appropriation bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole and consideration was then resumed of the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill. Several amendments were adopted.

THE steamer Golden Eagle, the finest boat of the St. Louis and Keokuk Northern Packet Line, was burned to the water's edge at an early hour on the morning of the 31st, at Barrack Island, about fifty miles above St. Louis, while on her downward trip to that city. The fire originated in some bales of hay in the engine room, and had gained such headway when first discovered that the Captain did not attempt to extinguish it, but at once ordered the boat to be run aground. There were some fifty passengers on board, all of whom were saved except Mr. J. N. Grierly, a stockman from Bowel's Landing, and a crippled storekeeper who lived above Keokuk, Iowa, name unknown. Charley Pinn, a newsboy on the boat, was also missing, and these three are supposed to have lost their lives in the burning boat. Many of the passengers barely escaped, leaving their clothing and baggage behind them. The officers and crew of the boat stuck to it to the last, and their coolness is highly complimented by the survivors. The steamer Josie, bound upward, turned back, and brought the passengers and crew to St. Louis. The boat was valued at $49,000; insured for $33,000.

THE larger number of the delegates to the National Republican Convention had arrived at Chicago on the 31st. A meeting of the National Republican Committee was held, all the members except one being present. Senator Cameron presided. Mr. Chandler, of New Hampshire, a Blaine delegate, offered a resolution declaring against the unit rule and recognizing the right of any delegate in the Convention to cast his individual vote regardless of any instructions passed by any State Convention. Amid great confusion, the Chair ruled the motion out of order, and the Chair further refused to entertain an appeal from the ruling of the Chair. A new subcommittee was appointed to take charge of the Convention Hall, and Judge George F. Hoar, of Massachusetts (anti-Grant), was selected as temporary Chairman of the Convention.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

—New Orleans has shipped to France and Italy within a year 2,400,000 gallons of cotton-seed oil.

—Mr. Sharb, of California, in 1878 received $8,210 for seven acres of oranges. He says the profit that year was over $1,000 per acre.

—The pear trees of the old Mission gardens of Santa Cruz, Cal., planted by the Spanish priests ninety years ago, yielded an immense crop last year.

—Philadelphia contains 103 distinct iron factories, giving employment to nearly 12,000 hands, without including those employed at the Baldwin Locomotive Works.

—There are in the United States 380 theaters and 120 concert halls, 150 regular traveling companies, fifty variety companies, sixty-eight companies formed to support stars and seven resident stock companies.

—Two years ago not more than 800 head of cattle were owned along the entire valley of the Upper Gila River. To-day there are at least 25,000 head grazing over the same ground, and twenty-six good ranches being farmed.

—The estimated value of the property of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland is $4,300,000,000; that of France and the United States, each $4,000,000,000; that of Germany, $3,625,000,000; that of Austria-Hungary, $3,000,000,000, and that of Russia, $2,500,000,000.

—There are 50,000,000 acres of land in California fit for cultivation, but not over 5,000,000 are in actual use for that purpose, and not over 8,000,000 are inclosed. Over 20,000,000 acres are held by land rings or individual monopolists for speculative purposes, in tracts of 125,000 to 300,000 acres.

—According to an official statement, the effective strength of the Swiss Federal Army on the 1st of January, 1880, amounted to 119,947 men, as against 119,748 in the previous year. The numbers required by the existing law are 105,388 men in the regular army, and 97,012 in the Landwehr; or altogether 212,400. The actual total at present is 215,063.

—According to *Le Technologiste*, the churches in Europe which will contain the largest number of persons are as follows: St. Peter's, at Rome, 54,000; Milan Cathedral, 37,000; St. Paul's, at Rome, 25,000; St. Sophia, at Constantinople, 23,000; Notre Dame, at Paris, 21,000; Cathedral of Pisa, 13,000; St. Marks, at Venice, 7,000. Evidently Italy is the country of the largest churches.

—If all the heart-beats of one person in good health during twenty-four hours could be concentrated and welded into one great impulse, it would be powerful enough to raise a ton of iron 120 feet in the air. A healthy heart keeps steadily at work without wearying; but this it is enabled to do because it takes a rest after each beat; or to express it more clearly, if the contraction (emptying) and expansion (refilling) occupy two-thirds of a second of time, the period of rest takes a third of a second before contraction again occurs.

—It seems that oysters may be artificially propagated by chopping up the male and female oysters together. Dr. W. J. Brace says that the young oysters thereupon immediately begin forming. In a few hours the embryo can swim in the water. Its shells, at first small and apart, soon grow down over the edges and finally form the hinge. In twenty-four hours it is able to take food, and it grows to a size sufficient for food in about three years. An average oyster contains from six to nine million eggs. A large oyster contains fifty million eggs!

WIT AND WISDOM.

—It is a good deal of a bore to have others love us more than we love them. —*Josh Billings.*

—People always sympathize with the under dog in the fight, but they bet their money on the other animal.—*Boston Post.*

—Americans are the most inventive race on the globe, and it seems singular that no plan for making flies stay in bed until the entire household is up has yet been patented.—*Philadelphia Chronicle.*

—The recent cold snaps have had no injurious effect on the apples. Now, if they can only get safely past the boys, there is a splendid prospect for lots of orchard fruit this year.—*Burlington Hawkeye*

When the enterprising truant's not a swimming—not a swimming;
He loves to lie a basking in the sun—in the sun.
Improvising lies to save him from the trimming—from the trimming,
Which he deserves for that which he has done—which he has done.

—Somebody who appears to know how fashionable schools are managed says: "To educate young ladies is to let them know all about the ogies, the omenies, the ifics, the tics and the mistics; but nothing about the ings, such as sewing, darning, washing, baking and making pudding."

—Scene—breakfast table. Mother reads from morning paper—"What is vinegar without a mother?" Little M. inquires: "What does that mean?" Mother—"It means there's what is called mother in vinegar." Child remarks: "There's vinegar in mothers, sometimes."—*Boston Transcript.*

—"Never, when traveling, be overboastful of your Nation, State or country," says a philosopher. We would like to emphasize that word never. A New York man on his way to Oshkosh began to boast of his biceps and a little bit of a greasy chap hanging on the end of a car seat popped up and lent him one on the nose that started a stream as crimson as the Red Sea. And when the New Yorker travels again he will wear a muzzle.—*N. Y. Express.*

—How fresh and innocent the breeze
That skims the morning milk, and meads!
It hovers now among the trees,
And then to other spots proceeds.

I love the air, so calm, so cool,
That breathes upon my fevered brow.
It wakes my appetite—poor fool!
I'd break my fast, but don't know how.

For, ah! the wind I love so well,
Unfeeling, mocks me while I praise it,
Because I can not—can not tell
What means I can adopt to raise it!
—*Unknown Impecunious Poet.*

—An agent of an accident insurance company entered a smoking car on a Western railroad train a few days ago, and approaching an exceedingly gruff old man, asked him if he did not want to take out a policy. He was told to get out with his policy and passed on. A few minutes afterward an accident occurred to the train, causing a fearful shaking to the cars. The old man jumped up and, seizing a hook at the side of the car to steady himself, called out, "Where is that insurance man?"

—Colonel Tom Scott, who retires from the Presidency of the Pennsylvania Railroad a man of immense wealth, went to housekeeping in 1847 on fifty dollars a month.

Thomas Jefferson's Desk.

It is a curious circumstance that the author of the Declaration of Independence should not have known how to spell the word independence. He was a highly-educated gentleman, a graduate of the College of William and Mary, and all his life long a thoughtful and diligent student. Nevertheless, in a carefully-written note—a note intended to be preserved—he spells the word wrong twice, "independance" instead of independence.

When Thomas Jefferson was in Philadelphia in 1775, as a member of the Continental Congress, he needed a portable writing-desk for use at his lodgings. His landlord was Benjamin Randolph, a cabinet-maker. Mr. Jefferson, who was himself a pretty good mechanic, and very ingenious in inventions (it was he who invented the revolving chair and the portable seat), drew the plan of a new kind of writing-desk, which Benjamin Randolph made for him.

In the following year, the ever-memorable 1776, he wrote upon this desk the Declaration of Independence. He wrote it in a small, clear hand, upon a small, neat desk; the article last named being fourteen inches long, ten wide and three high. When he returned to Monticello he took his little desk with him, and he continued to use it for many years. In 1825, when it was just fifty years old, one of his grand-daughters, Miss Ellen Randolph, was married to Mr. Joseph Coolidge, of Boston, and soon took up her residence in that city. The married pair traveled to Boston by land, but sent most of their effects by sea in a vessel that was wrecked. Of all her lost treasures, the young bride lamented most a writing-desk containing the letters she had received from her grandfather, as well as some of the presents he had made her when she was a child. To console her for her loss, Mr. Jefferson, who was then past eighty-two years of age, sent to her husband the desk made by Benjamin Randolph in 1775, upon which he had written the Declaration.

This brings us to the bad spelling. Mr. Jefferson accompanied the gift with the following note, of which we have now before us a photographed copy. It is written in the smallest, neatest, most legible hand. There is no mistaking the *a* for an *e*. He evidently wrote *independance* with the utmost deliberation, and he wrote it *twice*:

"Thomas Jefferson gives this writing-desk to Joseph Coolidge, Jr., as a memorial of affection. It was made from a drawing of his own, by Ben. Randolph, cabinet-maker at Philadelphia, with whom he first lodged on his arrival in that city, in May, 1776, and is the indentical one on which he wrote the Declaration of Independance. Politics, as well as religion, has its superstitions. These gaining strength with time, may one day give imaginary value to this relic, for its associations with the birth of the Great Charter of our Independance.
"*Monticello, Nov. 18, 1825.*"

How are we to account for this incorrectness in so exact a scholar? His mode of spelling the word has no justification in the Latin verb *dependeo*, from which our word is derived; since that verb, being of the second conjugation, loves the letter e, and bestows it on as many of its children as it can.

The probable explanation is that Mr. Jefferson being extremely familiar with French, reading it daily, and speaking it frequently to his French visitors, had fallen into the habit of spelling the word in the French manner, which is, independance. Lafayette had been with him recently, and he had been busy in getting professors from Europe for the new University of Virginia.

This interesting desk has now become the property of the United States, the heirs of Mr. Coolidge having presented it to Congress a few weeks ago as a gift to the Nation. It will remain among the National relics in the State Department, where also the original Declaration with the signatures is preserved. The document, it is said, is fast becoming illegible; but the desk made by the faithful hands of Benjamin Randolph, one hundred and five years ago, will last for many centuries.—*Youth's Companion.*

RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL.

—Princeton College gets a new chapel this summer through the generosity of Henry G. Marquand, of New York.

—An effort is being made to raise $50,000 for a new building for the Episcopal Divinity School of Philadelphia.

—The resources of the American Tract Society last year were $302,383; expenditures, $378,883.

—The total number of schools in New Hampshire is found by the Assessors to be 1,156, an increase of seventy-four over last year.

—The Baptist State Convention of Georgia, at its recent session, resolved to establish a Baptist missionary magazine in that State.

—The Methodist Bishops tell the General Conference that the 16,000 Methodist churches under their supervision owe debts aggregating $7,000,000. They severely censure the conduct of those trustees who mortgage the church property in order to defray the current church expenses.

—The annual report of the American Home Missionary Society shows that 1,015 ministers were employed by the society in different States and Territories, and the number of congregations and missionary stations supplied was 2,038; number of pupils in Sunday-schools, 96,724; eighty-six churches organized, and forty-four became self-supporting; receipts $266,720; expenditures, $259,702.

—The Boston Young Men's Christian Union has been caring for children in a thoroughly practical and Christian way. It has a special "Country Committee" for the purpose of sending into the country for a week or ten days hundreds of children, "whose vacations otherwise would be the door-step life of alleys or straying round the streets." Its report for 1879 shows that the number of children thus cared for the past season was 1,259—their visits in the country averaging about nine and a half days to each. No expenditure of money is more wisely or kindly made than that used for a purpose like this.

Gathering Wild Flowers.

Yonder on the wooded slope the feathery shad-tree blooms, like a suspended cloud of drifting snow lingering among the gray twigs and branches; and chasing across the matted leaves beneath, a lively troop of youngsters, girls and boys, make the woods resound with their boisterous jubilee. A jolly band of fugitives fresh from the stormy week's captivity—spring buds bursting with life, with a pent up store of spirits that finds escape in an effervescence of ringing laughs and in a din of incessant jabber. How well I know the buoyant exhilaration that impels them on in their reckless frolic, as they skip from stone to stone across the rippling stream, or "stump" each other on the treacherous crossing pole which spans the deep still current! Now I see them huddle around the trickling grotto among the mossy boulders in the steep gully yonder, where the mountain spring bubbles into a crystal pool. Alas! how quickly its faint blue border of hepaticas is rifled by the ruthless mob! Now they clamber up the great gray rocks beneath the drooping hemlocks, stopping in their headlong zeal to snatch some trembling cluster of anemone, nodding from its velvety bed of moss. Now plunging down on hands and knees, shedding innocent blood among an unsuspecting colony of fragile bloom—those glowing blossoms so welcome in the early spring! Who does not know the bloodroot—that shy recluse hiding away among the mountain nooks, that emblem of chaste purity with its bridal ring of purest gold? How often have I seen its tender leaf-wrapped buds lifting the matted leaves, and spreading their galaxy of snowy stars along the woodland path!

Then there was the shy arbutus, too. Where in all the world's bouquet is there another such a darling of a flower? And where in all New England does that darling show so full and sweet a face as in its home upon that sunny slope I have in mind, and know so well? Was ever such a fragrant tufted carpet spread beneath a hesitating foot? Even now, along the lichen-dappled wall upon the summit, I see the lingering strip of snow, gritty and speckled, and at its very edge, hiding beneath the covering leaves, those modest little faces looking out at me—faces which seemed to blush a deeper pink at their rude discovery.—*W. H. Gibson, in Harper's for June.*

Gaelic and Misery in Ireland.

I dined with five parish priests the other night. From a strictly secular point of view I have found those Irish priests to be right good fellows. Large numbers of them have been educated in France, and they speak French, Latin and Gaelic as well as they speak English.

Talking of Gaelic reminds me that I have forgotten to say that it is quite common in the west of Ireland for the priest to deliver a sermon both in English and in Irish. There are still old folks in the mountains and on the isles who can talk no language but Gaelic. Even the old people who do talk English like to hear the Gospel preached to them in the ancient tongue of their forefathers. There was quite a revival of interest in the old Irish literature a few years ago, and many of the ancient manuscripts of the earliest period of Irish history were translated. They are quite remarkable literary relics, and some of them are of rare beauty. But, after all, Goldsmith is worth a cart-load of them. It is not by looking backward, but by going ahead, that the glory of Ireland can be established. Canon Bourke, of this town, has published a grammar of the Irish tongue, and has written several learned books about the Aryan origin of the Celtic race and language, and kindred topics. What a singular life these Catholic priests do live in this our nineteenth century! Up before the sun every morning to say mass, listening to the confessions of uncultivated peasants, and directing their devotions; guiding them both in social and religious ways, and now standing between them and famine. Their daily life here in Ireland explains the vast and beneficent power of the Church in times of which not even the traditions linger in our America. One reason why the Roman Church is so powerful in Ireland is that it meets its people at every point of their lives and everywhere provides for the illiterate masses an education in times of peril and of sorrow. Priests of all creeds have often tried to arrest the march of human progress, but it would be a grave disaster to Ireland if her priests were to be removed to-day. The people would be crushed out, or driven into rebellion by the worse than Bourbon despotism of the landed proprietors.

Clare Morris has a population of 1,200 families. What I say of it I learned from the lips of the curate, Rev. James Corbett. Out of the 1,200 families in the parish of Clare Morris, 800 families (not persons), two-thirds of the entire population, are on the relief list to-day! There are at least 4,000 persons receiving their daily food from the relief committees! The parish is about ten miles long and about five miles wide. The average size of the holdings—that is farms—is five or six acres. The rent charged for them is at least fifty per cent. over the Government valuation—made at a time when the population was dense and the land more valuable than it is now. Sometimes the rental is twice and even three times higher than the Government estimate. The average annual rental is £1 10s ($7) an acre. None of the land in the parish could fetch that price for the fee simple in a similar district in the United States, for one-half of the parish is swamp, thin, spare land—wet and undrained. The other half is fair arable land. In most cases the tenants there have to pay extra for the bog—from which they cut their peat. All of them (again in addition to the rental) pay the whole of the road-tax and half of the poor law rates.—*James Redpath, in N. Y. Tribune.*

The Suffering Conductor.

There is no greater display of imbecility in any insane asylum than on most railroad trains. What wonder, then, that the conductor occasionally loses all patience and answers rather curtly. Only the other day an old lady on her way to Montreal, with a dozen bandboxes and bundles, would frantically gather them up every time the train stopped at a side station, and rush for the conductor and ask if that was Montreal, or if she had to change cars, and every time was told: "No, no, no; you've got two hundred miles to go yet; keep your seat." The conductor was growing livid over this continual vexation, and would probably have jumped the train and fled in terror, but that a junction was reached where that coach was set off and another conductor took his turn at the rack of torture.

A conductor, who leaves the city in the morning and returns in the evening, got off at a small station not far out the other evening on his return trip. He was approached by a grim-visaged individual, who addressed him in a tone that showed he was very much provoked. "Say, did you know you left me this morning?" The conductor responded pleasantly: "No; I did not; and where were you?" "I was in the depot here." "Well, my dear sir, you must recollect that the depot never goes out. I never load my passengers on with a stretcher. If you want to ride with me you must climb on the train." The angry man was completely nonplussed, and remarking: "Well, that's so," he turned and walked away, apparently satisfied.—*Albany Argus.*

Shall the United States Courts be Closed?

Ever since the Democratic party has been in complete possession of both Houses of Congress its leaders have proceeded upon the theory that Government in this country is a mere piece of party machinery, with no other aim or purpose than to subserve a class of men who are seeking to control the distribution of taxes as spoils among their retainers.

The present Congress has been in session altogether about ten months, and during that time it has not matured a single measure for the promotion of public interests. Worse than this, it has actually failed to provide for the proper support of such working departments of the Government as lie outside the scope of political machinery, and this in spite of the enormous surplus revenue which is accumulating by reason of the reduction in the interest-charge, etc.

The Democratic party leaders set out to repeal the Election laws, or to so cripple them as to render them inoperative, in order that the bull-dozers at the South and the roughs of the Northern cities might have full swing at the approaching Presidential election. This unworthy and dishonest party purpose has been kept steadfastly in view ever since it was adopted as a policy. The Democrats of the last Congress refused to pass the requisite appropriations for the judicial service of the Government because they could not carry out their nullification project. The President called an extra session of the present Congress in order to perform the work which the old Congress had deliberately neglected. At the extra session there was a persistent but futile effort to coerce the President into an approval of the proposed nullification, and, when that attempt failed, an adjournment was taken without appropriating the pay for the Executive branch of the United States judicial system. The perversity of the Democratic policy was emphatically condemned by the people in the elections of 1879, when the work of the extra session was in issue. The Democrats were defeated everywhere. Notwithstanding this pointed rebuke, the Democrats renewed their efforts at nullification at the regular session. They delayed for months to vote the accumulated deficiency in the pay of the United States Marshals, and then passed the bill with a political rider which was sure to call out an Executive veto, as it did. And there the case stands to-day.

During the year in which no supplies have been furnished the United States Marshals have shown a patriotism which would not have been expected from them if they had been Democratic office-holders. They have performed the services required of them without any compensation, and without any assurance that they would ever receive pay which depended on the vote of a Democratic Congress. They have also made personal advances for the necessary expenses of holding court. But the limit of patience, and in many cases of the individual resources of the Marshals, has been reached. Mr. J. W. Chapman, the United States Marshal for Iowa, has notified the Attorney-General that, after serving several months without pay and advancing something like $10,000 for the pay of other Court officers and necessary expenses, his resources are exhausted. The Attorney-General is helpless. He can only thank Marshal Chapman for his past devotion to the public service, and repeat that he himself has over and over again directed the attention of Congress to the injustice of withholding the necessary supplies, and the injury that would unquestionably be done to public interests. The United States Court in Iowa must be closed with a full and important docket of litigation that demands settlement.

What has occurred in Iowa will soon occur in other sections of the country. The United States Courts will of necessity close unless Congress directs the pay of their officers, and the public who pay so dearly for the support of Government will suffer losses amounting to millions of dollars by the inexcusable delay in litigation. This would be bad enough if it were the unavoidable result of an insufficient revenue, but it is infamous when the United States Treasury is overrunning with money, and when it is brought about to assist in the perpetration of a partisan wrong. It may be that the nullifiers will be brought to their senses by the actual imminence of the necessity for adjourning the United States Courts, and will now seek to make a tardy atonement for the wrong and injury they have put upon the public. Even if they shall do this now, because they dare not longer fly in the face of public indignation, the people will not forget that justice in the Courts, which is certainly the first claim the citizen has upon Government, has been retarded and in part denied in order that the Democratic majority might urge the nullification of laws for the protection of honest elections. That was from the first, and is now, the only pretext for withholding the necessary authority to pay the United States Marshals and keep open the United States Courts. Never before was so outrageous a scheme attempted through such inexcusable methods by any political party. —*Chicago Tribune.*

Eyes and Ears.

Senator Ben Hill made one of his Southern hifaluten speeches on the Kellogg-Spofford case—one of the sort which delights the Southern bucolic auditory, wherein the orator rips with Euripedes, and soars and spreads the Southern eagle till the joints of that unfortunate fowl fairly crack. "Have the people ears, and hear not the groans of dying liberty?" he yelled. Have they eyes, and see not despotism stalking with brazen front toward the highest place in the Nation?" This is eloquent eloquence; this is oratorical oratory; in short this was a speaking speech. When we calmly reflect upon these conundrums we are forced to confess that a great many of the people have ears—conspicuously as it were—of which the presence of Ben Hill and his sort in the Senate and House is an auricular testimony, so to speak. Those are the sort of ears, also, which "hear the dying groans of liberty," and many other distressing noises, which people less gifted in the matter of ears wholly fail to hear. The same sort of people have eyes also—eyes that bulge out fearfully—eyes like those of a scared jackass rabbit—eyes that we doubt not "see despotism stalking with brazen front toward the highest place in the Nation," not to speak of many other remarkable and uncomfortable visions and wonders, which ordinary folk are wholly unable to discern. But Mr. Hill has been politely informed by Wade Hampton (a gentleman who has in his time seen many fearful sights, and has experienced personally the dangers which sometimes accompany long ears) that he hasn't the sort of ears or eyes to which Benjamin so eloquently appealed.

Mr. Hill also declared that whoever votes against unseating Kellogg will vote to "give up the whole question of fraud." Well, that is one of the best questions to give up ever discovered by the Democratic party. "You decide," he said, "that the eight members of the Electoral Commission were right, and the seven were wrong." That would be a very proper decision, and a wise one. "You make the Returning Board respectable, and you bring yourselves into shame." These awful consequences did not seem to impress Wade Hampton; and Thurman, and Bayard, and several other Democratic leaders in the Senate are said to be also prepared to face the consequences, and speak and vote against unseating Kellogg. In fact, it is becoming apparent that enough Democrats will vote with the Republicans on this question to defeat Hill's attempt to unseat Kellogg by a pretty decisive vote. They will thereby prove that their ears are of an intelligent length, and that their eyes do not see strange and portentous visions like Ben Hill's.—*Detroit Post and Tribune.*

The Government Service Suffering.

The people are so deeply absorbed in the Presidential question that they are failing to take due notice of the fact that several important branches of the Government service are suffering severely from the mismanagement and partisan pig-headedness of the Democrats in Congress. Perhaps the Judiciary Department is suffering more than any other, the United States Courts in several States having been obliged to close on account of the failure of Congress to provide for their running expenses. This has just occurred in Iowa. A few days ago the United States Marshal for that district wrote to the Attorney-General stating that he had already advanced more than ten thousand dollars for the miscellaneous expenses of the Court, and that he felt unable to continue that course any longer, and asking for instructions. In his reply, the Attorney-General says:

"In regard to the fund for miscellaneous purposes, I called the attention of the Appropriation Committee in February to the fact that it would be soon exhausted, and in April to the fact that it was then actually exhausted, and I deeply regret that the appropriation has not yet been made. The expenses Marshals have been compelled to bear themselves, and Deputies during the current year have, however, been much larger than those, and in December I urged with all the force that seemed to me proper in my report that immediate provision should be made for them, stating that I felt under deep obligations to them for the exertions they had made for six months to carry on their office without any appropriations, and further urging that it would be impossible for them much longer to continue to conduct the business of the United States without appropriate means were placed at their command. I repectfully called attention to the fact that the closing of the United States Courts must be attended with the greatest injury to the whole criminal justice of the United States, as well as to its financial interests and private interests of individuals. I can only say to you now that I am under obligations to you for past sacrifices made, and that if you have reached the limit of your capacity in this matter, I shall certainly feel that, if the result must be the closing of the courts of the United States in your district, everything has been done by you to prevent a result so unfortunate and disastrous."

The United States Circuit Court was in session at Des Moines when this letter was received, and on consultation the Judges have decided to close the courts at once, notwithstanding the fact that there is a heavy docket with a large amount of important business. There is absolutely no palliation nor excuse for this disgraceful state of affairs, the responsibility of which belongs solely and exclusively to the Democratic majority in Congress, who have sought to coerce the Executive into submission by starving other departments of the Government. This is but one of many proofs which the Democratic party has given of its utter disregard of public interests and its unfitness to be entrusted with power.—*Indianapolis Journal.*

Brought to a Head at Last.

WASHINGTON, May 29.

The starvation policy has brought things to a head finally, in Iowa at least. United States Marshal J. W. Chapman has been here for some days to find out whether anything was to be done for their relief or not, and, if not, to wind up business. The latter alternative has been the result, as will be seen by the following correspondence:

WASHINGTON, D. C. May 19, 1880.

The Hon. Charles Devens, Attorney-General:

SIR: Being out of funds for miscellaneous purposes, which includes pay of bailiffs, criers, stationery bills, etc., and being informed that the appropriation for that purpose for the present fiscal year is exhausted, I respectfully submit that it will be impossible for me to assume the burden of making further advances to continue the terms of the Circuit and District Courts now in session. Advances already made for the Government amount to more than $10,000, and are quite sufficient to exhaust my credit and patience, if not to measure my patriotism as well. I have, therefore, telegraphed to Judges McCrary and Love, requesting them to relieve me from additional burdens by adjourning court now in session at Des Moines, Iowa.

It would seem to be my duty to inform you of this action, and in doing so I crave indulgence and generous criticism, feeling that the imposition of further burdens upon me would be the requirement of sacrifices far in excess of both the honor and the emolument of my office. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. CHAPMAN,
United States Marshal for the District of Iowa.

To this business-like missive came the following response:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
WASHINGTON, May 24, 1880.

J. W. Chapman, United States Marshal for Iowa, Washington, D. C.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of even date, informing me that it will be impossible for you to continue to carry on courts in your district and to make further advances, in view of the fact that the fund for miscellaneous purposes for the current year is now exhausted, as well as in view of the very large advances you have made heretofore in consequence of the failure of Congress to make any appropriation for the current year for Marshals of the United States and their deputies. In regard to the fund for the miscellaneous purposes, I called the attention of the Appropriation Committee in February to the fact that it would be soon exhausted, and in April to the fact that it was then actually exhausted, and I deeply regret that the appropriation has not yet been made. The expenses the Marshals have been compelled to bear for themselves and their deputies during the current year have, however, been much larger than these, and in December I urged, with all the force that seemed to me proper in my report, that an immediate provision should be made for them, stating that I felt under deep obligations to them for the exertions they had made for six months to carry on their offices without any appropriations; and further urging them that it would be impossible for them much longer to continue in the conduct of the business of the United States without appropriate means were placed at their command. I respectfully called attention, also, to the fact that the closing of the United States Courts must be attended with the greatest injury to the whole criminal justice of the United States, as well as to its financial interests, and private interests of individuals. I can only say to you now that I am under obligations to you for past sacrifices made, and that if you have reached the limit of your capacity in this matter, I shall certainly feel that if the result must be the closing of the courts of the United States in your district, everything has been done by you to prevent a result so unfortunate and disastrous. Very respectfully,

CHARLES DEVENS,
Attorney-General.

☞ A Democratic paper in Connecticut refers to "the son of Frederick Douglass, who is making speeches for Grant in Illinois." The reference is somewhat off color. It is a son of the late Stephen A. Douglas.