

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder ABSOLUTELY PURE

THE ARGUS.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1893.

It is believed that the appointment of a public printer will be made in the next 10 days.

VICE-PRESIDENT ROBINSON, of the Santa Fe system, has been appointed agent for the receivers.

HON. WAYNE MACVEAGH is in Florida and expressed himself highly pleased with his appointment.

THE American Building, Loan and Investment society, of Chicago, has been shut out of Massachusetts.

THE New York World congratulates the Chicago voters upon the fact that they have delivered a rather stinging blow to know-nothingism.

JOHN P. HOPKINS was on Wednesday night duly installed as mayor of Chicago, a fact which should induce the Inter-Ocean to inform its numerous readers as to the result of the special election held on Dec. 19th last.

SENATOR CULLOM announces that he is a candidate for re-election. This is a superfluous statement as no one doubted but what he would be.

Tall Hats at the Theater. Said a bright young lady who attends frequently strictly first class theaters: "I always remove my hat or bonnet in the theater if it is of proportions to interfere at all with the view of those sitting behind me."

New Year Customs in Orkney Islands. In Deerness, in Orkney, a band of young and old of the common people sing and go around in the evening, and sing a song before each well to do person's door, commencing:

The other evening I leaned forward and asked a lady sitting in front of me if she would not remove her headgear, as it interfered seriously with my view of the stage.

Mary Magdalene's Grave. Fifteen thousand pilgrims annually visit St. Baume, in Provence, not far from Marseilles, where Mary Magdalene is said to have spent the last 30 years of her life.

The legend, according to the Nouvelle Revue, runs that Mary Magdalene came from Judaea in a small boat with Lazarus, Martha, the two Marys and Salome, bringing with them the body of St. Anne, the head of St. James the Less and a few few bones of the innocents massacred by King Herod.

Beauty's Varieties. The French say there are several "ages" as well as kinds of beauty—the beauty of mere youthfulness, which they call la beauté du diable; also a beauty of "maturity," of "old age" and of "thinness," called la beauté du singe.

IN FAROFF RUSSIA.

The New Year Season Brings Joy to the Young—Twelve Days' Festival.

In the smaller cities of Russia, New Year's day is in the "Twelve Days' Festival." The Russians in many parts have held to the old ways from time immemorial. The preparations for the season begin early in November.

But the invitation has again to be repeated, this time by the master of the house in the person of his servant or "swat," who, with mace in hand, performs his mission.

On the arrival the host and hostess meet the guests at the gate, bow without speaking and conduct them into the house. The young maidens are then delivered over to the care of the hostess, and after friendly greetings, presents to the domestics and sweetmeats to the girls, the mothers and retinue return home.

Among ourselves the "Happy New Year" greeting and the social gatherings are now the sole recognition of Jan. 1.—Exchange.

What Chinese Children Celebrate. When do you suppose the Chinese children fire off torpedoes, skyrocket and powder crackers?

You know the Chinese have a different religion from ours, and because of that they believe many things which we do not believe at all.

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A PRAIRIE NEW YEAR

HOW THE COWBOYS CELEBRATE ON THE WESTERN PLAINS.

Social Grades Are Unknown, and "Stove Clothes" Confer No Distinction—Wild Turkey, Roast Shute and Pemmican at the Midnight Feast—Dancing the Fandango.

A few days before New Year's preparations are begun for the big dance which inaugurates the season's festivities on the western plains.

Besides, this is the one opportunity of the year to spend money lavishly for the sake of a good time. An extra cook or two are hired, and supplies enough laid in to feed a small army.

In addition to the store bought delicacies for the feast, the ranch cook distinguishes himself in the way of barbecued shute, game, "possum an taters," pies and cakes and the like.

By 6 o'clock in the evening the guests begin to arrive, the boys having gone after the girls, on horseback generally, some of the "tough" couples coming in buggies, the high seated "piano boxed" vehicles of the west, with their double teams and general air of smartness.

The girls have their party dresses tucked up under their black calico riding skirts, some of them bringing waists, gloves and white kid slippers, done up in a bundle, to be put on after they arrive.

Perhaps you never saw a cowboys' fandango. Their style of dancing is peculiar to themselves. Like their horses' build and gait, it is made for hard and long service.

There is almost no distinction of classes or social grades in the west. Years ago, in the formative time of cattle ranching, the cowboy was a sui generis.

The western woman or "gal" is more typical. She may be the "boss" daughter, educated "on east," the "renter's" daughter, with only a smattering education from the free school, or the "hired girl," plucky, independent and "good as her betters."

In the same "set" there may be one man with a "store" suit on; another in his regular suit, consisting of blue flannel overcoat and leather belt, buckskin leggings or cottonade overalls.

These holiday dances last all night, their only breakfast being at 10 o'clock, when eggnog is served, and at 12, when the big supper is eaten.

Then after a breakfast of "cold bits" and strong, hot black coffee the girls go to rooms prepared for them at the ranch, or mounted on feet footed bronchos galloping over the prairie, the fresh, wild wind in their faces and the thrilling memory of sweet words or sweeter promises in their whisperings, simple hearts.—New York Herald.

A MOOD.

Oh, to be alone! To escape from the work, the play, The talking every day;

Could I only stand Between gray moon and gray sky, Where the winds and the plovers cry, And no man is at hand,

For the soft flight And the home of your heart, my dear, They hurt, being always here, I want to stand upright,

I am only you! I am yours, part of you, your wife And I have no other life.

McMahon's Simplicity. The French cynics never knew just what to make of Marshal McMahon's simplicity and candor.

His five opponents exulted in their victory. His five associates looked respectfully astonished, but said nothing.

Mr. Huggins—Is Miss Fostick still president of your society for the Suppression of Slave Slides?

ARGUS BUSINESS DIRECTORY. BOOKS, WALL PAPER, ETC. (Franklin, R. 1725 Second avenue.

RESTAURANT. Alliance, L. 1643 Second avenue. FURNITURE AND CARPETS. Cordes, H. F. 1802 Second avenue.

DRUGGISTS. Buncher, Chas. A. 211 Twentieth street. Hess Bros, 129 Second avenue.

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry and Silverware, Fred Woltman's, 1807 Second Avenue.

Amusements. Burtis Opera House, Davenport. SATURDAY and SUNDAY Dec. 30 and 31

Morrison's Famous Scotch Production of "FAUST" With Its Wonderful Scenic and Electrical Effects.

TOLLEY'S A \$2 SPECTACLE \$1 FAMOUS Every PAIR WARRANTED BY TOLLEY BROS. & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

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DR. MILES' PILLS, 50 Doses 25 Cts

Rasmussen's Holiday Offer. WE PROPOSE to boom our trade from now until Christmas by offering unusual inducements.

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The Battle Above the Clouds. I have a large consignment of Napkin Rings, Ink Wells, Pen Racks, call bills, etc., made of materials taken from Lookout Mountain; they will make presents which the Old Settlers will prize very highly.

THEY ARE BARGAINS. A car load of handsome bed room suits going at the following prices. Suits worth \$15 00 go at \$12 50

Cloaks. As we are going to remodel our store for the spring trade and having left about 200 cloaks and 250 trimmed hats, we have decided to close them out at less than manufacturers cost.