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THE STOCKING-JOKE season is over. The swearing-off jokes are yet to be endured.

BEGOLLE seems, by his conversation with Mr. Innes, to be surprised that he has so many applications for pardons.

REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES B. LORE, of Wilmington, the one member of the House from Delaware, is said to be the coming United States Senator from his State in case an appointment should be necessary to fill a vacancy, caused by the selection of Senator Bayard for a Cabinet position.

THE decadence of the State of Nevada, is attracting attention. That State cast 16,420 votes for its first Presidential electors, and at the recent election only 12,727 were cast.

SUPPOSE the President makes a contract with a foreign power—called a treaty—which is concurred in by a two-thirds vote in the Senate, and suppose that the foreign party to the contract becomes, in complying with its terms, a creditor of the United States; suppose again that the United States enters into a contract with a man for service as a seaman and the seaman performs the service according to the contract, and thus becomes a creditor of the Government, and, finally, suppose no appropriation is made by Congress to meet the credit in either case, does that of the one more than that of the other constitute what Secretary Chandler calls "a lawful debt of the Government?"

PRESIDENT ARTHUR may have been studying history. If he has observed the fate of that other New York fisherman chosen to the Vice-Presidency for the last term preceding his own, it is but natural that he should be looking after a Senatorship, or some other means of saving himself from oblivion. It is doubtful whether, to-day, one-half the voters in this country could tell positively whether William A. Wheeler is living or dead.

THE degree of disgust which the Detroit Free Press feels toward Pardoner Begole is indicated when that journal goes to the extent of making such comment on its own party's Governor as appeared in a leading editorial yesterday on "The Governor and the Van Wagener Case." The following extract will illustrate:

Governor Begole's excuse for the pardon of the murderer, Van Wagener, in no way makes his performance a sensible or rational act. It seems that in the prison the Governor was attracted to him by his quiet demeanor and general good behavior, and became much interested in him. Perhaps he was surprised that a cold-blooded, calculating, crafty murderer could so far restrain himself in the presence of the Governor as not to direct his Excellency's attention to some distant object and then stick a sharp weapon into him as he did into his victim.

CLEVELAND'S PROMISES. It is always better to be hopeful than to be apprehensive. Hope makes life happy, but fear makes it a burden. Half the evils of "hard times" are produced by needless anxiety.

With and without evasion." This will be discouraging to those very thirsty and very hungry Democrats who have been furnishing these many years, but it will be as encouraging to those who desire efficient and honest public service.

A. K. McClure, of the Philadelphia Times, seems to have been most favorably impressed by Governor Cleveland at his interview with him the other day. In referring to Cleveland's care for business interests, Mr. McClure says: "The one subject on which there is the most public concern touching Cleveland's coming administration is the one that he discusses with equal freedom and emphasis. I refer to the great business interests of the whole country. He is a natural business Executive. He loves business fidelity, he believes in business methods and he will faithfully fulfill his publicly repeated pledge to conduct the administration of the Government on thorough business principles. He does not merely look to business administration as the limit of his duty in enforcing honest government. He carries his business statesmanship to the extent of business legislation to promote healthy and enduring business prosperity." This is at least another hopeful indication. That the coming administration will be mostly, if not entirely Democratic; there need be no doubt, but if Cleveland shall abide by the convictions he has expressed, and gather about him as his assistants only the best men in his party, his administration may be honest and able, and command the confidence of the people. At any rate it is better to give the future the benefit of all the encouragement it presents.

CHICAGO INTER OCEAN: Cleveland's Christmas letter to George William Curtis was not a comforting thing to put into any old-fashioned Democrat's stocking. A. K. McClure: I know as much about the new Cabinet as any outside the few who are in the closest confidence with the new President, and that is just nothing at all.

BUFFALO TELEGRAPH: The pastor of Plymouth will probably be given some place at home, where he can continue to fill the office he held during the campaign—that of Minister Extraordinary to Grover Cleveland.

PHILADELPHIA RECORD: If Congress is to intervene for the regulation of railroad companies under the clause of the Constitution empowering that body to regulate commerce among the States, the Reagan bill is a fair and moderate measure for the purpose.

BOSTON TRANSCRIPT: The truth is that Randall is inserting the wedge that is to split not only the Democratic party, but also the solid South. But it must at the same time leave the Republican party floundering in the bog of uncertainty, for what becomes of the Republican party without a "solid South?"

DETROIT TIMES: The trouble with Gen. Logan is too much fight-flight. He is never happy unless he is in a row. And some time he will be thrown in the ditch. It looks now as if his fight against the confirmation of Curtis will do the business for him. And it is a pity. There is a good deal of genuine manhood back of his fighting tongue.

HOW TO FEED CHEAP. If the lawyers, doctors, clerks and business men who walk or drive a mile home to dinner every day, or the mechanics and laborers who eat a cold dinner on the bench in the shops and factories, knew they could get Hot Griddle Cakes and Maple Syrup for 10 cents, Tea or Coffee for 5 cents, Pork and Beans for 10 cents, Pie and Cake for 5 cents, in fact a first class lunch for a little money, they would discontinue their long walks and drives or cold dinners, and call at the Novelty Lunch Room, 28 Pearl street, about noon, or in fact any time in the day, and satisfy their appetites. C. W. JOCOY, Prop.

1885. The Philadelphia Times. Aims to cover the whole field of progressive journalism. No subject is too great for it to discuss intelligently and without bias, and none so insignificant as to escape its notice. It lays the whole tributary to its wants, and everywhere its agents may be found, alert to gather the particulars of all passing events and send them by telegraph up to the last moment of going to press. It is a brief and abstract chronicle of the times and contains all that is worth knowing in the history of the world for the past twenty-four hours.

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REMOVAL. R. B. Philbrick has removed from 32 Canal street and invites his friends to call on the new firm of PHILBRICK & BLANK, 112 South Street, 41 Monroe street.

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