FREE PRESS.

ISAAC H. JULIAN, - - - Editor

SAN MARCOS, TEXAS.

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POSITIVELY no communication published unless the writer's real name accompanies it, not for publication unless desired; but for our own benefit and protection.

We invite special attention to the various clubbing terms we offer to new or renewing advance-paying subscribers to the FREE PRESS. We feel persuaded that no other paper in Texas offers so attractive a list.

Gov. Joel Parker of, New Jersey, died on the 2nd inst.

Gov. Marmaduke, of Missouri, died suddenly a short time since of pneumonia.

Powderly's illness has been long protracted, but he is now slowly improving.

Rev. J. S. Johnson, succeeds Bishop Elliott as missionary bishop to Western Texas.

Rev. Dr. Winfield, whose visit to our Chautauqua last summer will be recollected by many of our people, died a short time since.

Maj. John F. Elliott, of Dallas, has been appointed State immigration commissioner, with headquarters at Austin, where he has opened an office. He is a good man for the place.

The venerable banker W. W. Corcoran, of Washington, we presume, leads in the line of benevolent expenditures. Frank Leslie's Magazine, estimates them at $7,000,000.

James Hendricks, brother of Thos. A. Hendricks, died at Shelbyville, Indiana, on January first. He was the last member of the Hendrick's family and was the third to die within the last year.

A not unwelcome pressure of job work and the unfavorable weather have conspired to cut short our editorials this week; but by the aid of correspondents we present nevertheless a very readable paper.

By our local columns, this week, it will be seen that the Farmers' Alliance is coming to the front with respect to various important concerns, including their political rights and duties. Well, we believe that good and not harm must result from their making their influence felt in this direction.

We notice that the publisher of the Seguin Record is making a strong fight for the adoption of the cash in advance system. As there is but one paper published in that town, he may be able to enforce this desirable rule, but we "guess" will find it a good deal harder to do than he perhaps has anticipated.

Mr. I. H. Julian, editor and proprietor of the San Marcos FREE PRESS has witnessed the demise of three opposition papers in San Marcos, and now finds himself confronted with a fourth in the shape of a joint stock concern, and in his usual straightforway, makes them a proposition to take his plant and build up one good paper, instead of dividing a patronage barely sufficient for one. His suggestions are wise ones, and if every embryo journalist could fairly estimate the losses, trials and many disappointments that hover around every venture in this field, papers would be much less numerous than now.—Houston Labor Echo.

Our only apprehension is that we shall not be "confronted" to any serious extent on the fair and square proposition we have made.

A Tribute to Manning.

"Bless your soul, my boy, I knew Dan Manning when he was a sixteen-year-old lad, working in the composing room of the Albany Atlas," said ex president of the Erie Railroad, Robert H. Berdell, who is a mine of reminiscence when he is willing to talk. "A good boy, he was too, always at his port, careful and conscientious and working hard to support his mother and educate himself. Dan Manning's history should be told to every boy in this country.

Here was a lad uneducated, poor and without friends, who, by his unaided exertions, raised himself to an eminence only less than that of the President of the United States.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2, 1888.

At the close of the year it is probably the proper thing to briefly review the Government's financial condition. During the month of December, the receipts from all sources were $29,325,258, and the disbursements were $10,400,682, a net gain of nearly nineteen millions, out of which amount about three and a half millions of interest upon the public debt must be paid, leaving the total surplus for December nearly fifteen millions and a half; during that month the national debt was reduced fifteen and a quarter millions, and for the whole year it was decreased a little more than one hundred and and seventeen million dollars, —the largest reduction being made in June and November.

Many of the Congressmen who visited their homes during the recess have returned, and others are daily arriving—all looking with impatience to the reassembling of Congress, when the committees will be announced and the work of the session will begin in earnest. It is understood that Speaker Carlisle has finished his most tedious and troublesome undertaking—that of making out his committee lists, and with his great experience, it is confidently believed that his work will be acceptable, although many members will be disapointed at their assignments. Those not familar with the workings of Congressional ambition, cannot conceive of the jealousies and bickerings of aspiring statesmen in such matters. If a member's name does not appear first on a committee, he would like to be a second or third; every Congressman has a settled aversion to appearing last on a committee.

The Democratic Senators are very pronounced in favor of tariff reform, and they have appointed a committee of which Mr. Kenna, is chairman, to confer with the party leaders in the House on the issue of tax reduction, as such a bill must necessarily originate in that body. Mr. Kenna's selection is significant, as his views on the question of tariff legislation are known to be conservative, and it is therefore thought that he is inclined to favor a compromise measure.

Both parties realize that the tariff must be revised, and they are accordingly making preparations with the view of accomplishing that object and at the same time preserving partisan alignments. It remains to be seen whether such a difficult feat in political gymnastics can be executed successfully.

The report of the Pacific Railroad Commission will be one of the most important measures brought to the attention of Congress, and it is hoped that this giant corporation will be compelled to fulfil its contract with with the Government whose forbearance it has exhausted. Ex-Governor's Pattison's minority report is a most severe but just arraignment in which Republican and millionaire United States Senator Stanford and his bonanza associates are handled in a manner truly refreshing and convincing, and it is to be hoped that his views will direct the policy of of Congress.

Among the President's Christmas presents were a frozen watermelon and a live golden eagle. It is supposed that the melon was disposed of at the White House, but Mr. Cleveland having no place about the mansion for the proud bird of liberty, presented him to the "Zoo" at the National Museum, to keep company with the bear, deer, prairie dog, wolves, and red foxes recently arrived from the West, and which it is believed will form the nucleus of a large collection of American wild animals and fowls.

A Lost Cause.

The signs of the times do not appear favorable for the cause of monarchy in France. Every year seems to weaken the chances for that form of government. The opinion is gradually being confirmed that the Orleanists [and Bonapartists] are falling off as did the Stuarts of England and like that unfortunate race are doomed to ignominious extinction. At the downfall of M. Grevy their hope rose somewhat, the expectation that Jules Ferry would replace him having some foundation, but the election of Carnot puts a quietus to their aspirations in this direction, the intense dislike toward Mr. Ferry developed during and after a presidential contest seeming to settle his chances in the most decided manner. The leaders of the Orleanist party agree that their campaign has retrograded ten years at least by the check given them in the choice of Carnot. The approaching general elections which cannot be much longer delayed, will test the strength of the monarchists in a manner not to be mistaken, and there is likely to be a serious diminution in the number of seats held by the representatives of their cause.—Houston Post.

The Texas Immigration Movement.

Galveston News.

The immigration movement in in Texas promises to make memorable the year 1888 as that of the greatest in growth and development in the history of the state. In a certain sense the idea of a boom carries with it the suspicion of deceptive artifice. Booms usually mean the rapid unloading of property at inflated values by speculators upon over-credulous immigrants. There is no necessity that Texas people and property holders should adopt deceptive methods. Prosperity thro' stimulated immigration can be attained without misleading those persons who are to become citizens of Texas. All that is required to attract the best classes of settlers and the most desireable investments of capital is to show only the simple truth. Texas, if it were known throughout the other states as it is, would draw rapidly and steadily. The state has suffered in recent years from two causes—the drouth in certain districts and the shrinkage in livestock values. It has happened that these misfortunes have usually come together, the one in a measure the cause of the other. While this is evident it is a singularly short-sighted policy that has directed legislation in hostility to the vast livestock interests at the moment of their greatest depression. During four years of this depression the state admininistration was engaged in continuous opposition to all efforts at the establishment of the livestock interests upon a basis mutually advantageous to the settler and the cattle breeder. But now a wise and firm policy has been adopted, which is enforced in such a manner as to give hope and encouragement to all concerned, It is true that there are nomadic free-graziers and and cross-roads politicians, in no way interested in the establishment of any definite and judicious policy, who are by every means in their power discouraging the settlement of the country. But before the year 1888 has expired, it is confidently anticipated that the long struggle against a just state policy will have ceased, and that all legitimate interests and pursuits will exhibit a rapid and healthy advance. The year 1888 will probably see the foundation of enterprises in in Texas that will liberate the meat producers from the exactions of the great monopolies that have controlled that business. The influx of capital will establish such industries as well as manufactories of the staple products of the fields and mines. There is every reason for hopefulness in this direction. To assure these investments of capital all that is required is to secure a population of hardy producers. Localities are relied upon in the more populous and settled districts to exhibit their attractions in the way of cheap lands, inviting by their fertility diveristy and abundance the better class of farmers, and to exhibit their attractions in the way of schools and churches, peace and order and a generous hospitality and substantial inducements for settlers of all professions and pursuits. But the principal work of those who have undertaken the promotion of immigration is to attract a great a great tide of settlers to the districts that are comparatively unsettled. It is believed that in no country on earth is there offered the immigrant as liberal terms as Texas offers in the sale of the school, university, and asylum lands. By the assistance of the land commissioner who has procured the classification of these lands, the executive committee can publish to the world a description of every section and half-section. This description, with the liberal terms offered by the state, should draw settlers from every state and country where the facts are made known. If the executive committee and the localities work together energetically the years 1888 and 1889 will be the most memorable in Texas history.

Blaine's Formidable Obstacles.

San Jose Herald.

James G. Blaine is evidently to be the republican candidate for president, if the machine politicians can make him so. But he will be opposby many of the most powerful republican newspapers in the country. The Boston Herald does not want him. The Philadelphia Press is against him. The Springfiuld Republican repudiates him. The New York Times will fight him first last last and all the time. Harper's Weekly will caricature him with the rame relentless bitterness as before. The Chicago Tribune will attack him with all Joe Medill's powerful battery. The St. Louis Globe Democrat will oppose him in the Southwest. The St. Poul Pioneer Press will swing the Northwest out of line for him. With these forces against him it seems hardly possible that Mr. Blaine can get the nomination, and if he is nominated with such forces against him, it is impossible to elect him.

To the People of the 25th Senatorial District.

At the meeting of the State Immigration Convention held at Dallas on December 20th, 1887, the undersigned was elected chairman of the 25th senatorial district, composed of the counties of Caldwell, Guadalupe, Hays, Blanco, Llano, Comal and Kendall. It was suggested at said meeting that each district pay into the general fund the sum of $100 to be used in advertising each particular section. At the meeting held at Dallas on the 29th of December it was suggested that $500 more be raised by each district, to be placed in bank subject to the call of the chairman, to be used solely and exclusively for the district contributing it under the direction of the central committee.

As it will be impossible for me to visit the various counties in person, I respectfully suggest that meetings be held and contributions raised so that our district may take her place among the others of the state.

Funds may be forwarded to me or to Johnston and Lipscomb, bankers, Luling, Texas, together with reports of meetings held. If we would secure the benefits to be derived from the movement just inaugurated, we must do our share of the work and and pay our part of the expense.

Respectfully,

J. P. BRIDGES,

Mem. Central Com. 25th dist.

Papers in the district please copy.

Made no Money.

Two gentlemen on the train a few days ago, were talking of the money that is made in Wichita in real estate. I listened awhile and then said, "that money is not made in Wichita." They wanted to know where else, then; a friend of theirs bought lots for $7,000 and sold them for $20,000, so he made $13,000 in Wichita. I said No; the other man made or earned the $13,000 somewhere else, and your friend simply euchered him out of it by giving him a lot of Wichita dirt for it." They looked at me as if I were an escaped lunatic, but finally admitted I was right.

Mr. Tilden's outspoken estimate of Mr. Cleveland, when he had at last made up his mind to cast his mantle on him, may be interesting.

"He is inexperienced," said the sage, but he is honest, strong, and makes an impression on all who meet him. It is said he is a man of destiny, per haps he is: I think he can be elected. If so, he is wise, patriotic, fearless and a great worker. He will run the government and execute the laws faithfully." I consider this a great tribute for a man then so young and comparatively obscure as Mr. Cleveland, to extort from Mr. Tilden.

In considering the responsibility for the Reading strike, it must be remembered that the Schylkill miners had received on Sept. first an advance of 8 per cent, which has since been paid to them, but which the company intends to take off on New Year's day. As there are about thirty thousand employees affected by the order, the grievance of the men is a very substantial one, and in striking against reduction of wages at this season of the year, they have the sympathy of the public.—N. Y. Star.

Robert Louis Stevenson is gaining health and strength with gratifying steadiness. He is also giving up the use of cigarettes.

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N. Y. Weekly World	1 00	2 75
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N. Y. Ledger	3 00	4 60
New Orleans Times Democrat	1 50	3 10
Louisville Courier Journal	1 50	3 10
Texas Siftings	2 50	3 60
Farm and Ranch	1 00	2 50
Detroit Free Press	1 00	3 00
Saturday Evening Post	2 00	3 50
New York Observer	3 15	4 20
Atlanta Constitution	1 50	3 10
American Agriculturist	1 50	3 10
Scientific American	3 20	4 65
Century Magazine	4 00	5 50
St. Nicholas	3 00	4 50
Harper's Young People	1 50	3 25
Youth's Companion (new subs.)	1 75	3 65
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Harper's Monthly	4 00	5 60
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Golden Days	3 00	4 35
Our Little Ones	1 50	3 40
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