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BURLINGTON, THURSDAY, DEC 14.

WANTED.

When you want anything, advertise in the new special column of this paper. Some bargains are offered there this week which it will pay you to read about. See page seven. This paper has more than 25,000 readers every week, and one cent a word will reach them all.

The British officers who a few months ago were busy telling us how to run our war in the Philippines, are now having an opportunity to put their theories in practice in South Africa.

The company of the Seventh Infantry now at Plattsburgh Barracks is ordered to Fort Wayne, near Detroit, Michigan. This will be the headquarters of that regiment, and it is the intention to concentrate there the various detachments of the Seventh now scattered over the United States.

The Lucania, which sails from New York this week will carry the heaviest list of postal money orders payable in foreign countries ever sent out of the United States. They will aggregate about $2,500,000, and represent only one week's orders of money sent by the servants and laboring class of foreign birth as Christmas gifts to their families and relatives abroad.

An autograph letter from Gen. Ethan Allen to Major Philip Skene, dated at Castleton, Vt., October 27, 1772, is priced at fifty dollars, in Dodd & Mead's catalogue. One of Lafayette's letters is offered at thirty dollars in the same collection, and one of Lord Byron's at $150. Washington's manuscript orderly book for two months in 1776, is priced at $400, and a collection of Gen. Grant's military letters and orders, in 1864-5, at $2000.

The outcome of the recent case of Perkins against the Houston & Texas Central Railway company is worthy of note. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Perkins were passengers in a Pullman sleeper. At night drunken men were allowed to enter the sleeper and to use profane and improper language, which caused Mrs. Perkins great mental suffering and caused her to lose her night's sleep. Mr. Perkins sued the railroad company and the jury gave him a verdict of $300. This verdict has been sustained by the court of criminal appeals of Texas.

In view of the cases now being contested before the Supreme Court of the United States involving the question of the constitutionality of the clause of the war revenue act imposing a tax on inheritances it is interesting to note that last year the commissioner of internal revenue collected $1,235,425 as taxes on legacies. The commissioner has now instructed collectors throughout the country not to force the payment of the inheritance tax, but to await the decision of the Supreme Court in the matter. In this connection it may be noted that among the cases pending is that involving the will of the late Cornelius Vanderbilt, on which it is estimated the tax will be at least $5,000,000.

The good souls who were predicting the disruption of the republican party in the Empire State are now forced to witness the spectacle of Platt and Roosevelt agreeing upon a programme for the republicans during the coming session of the Legislature, by means of mutual concessions. Their programme is said to be to drop "Lou" Payn from the office of insurance commissioner when his term expires; to cut the term of the mayor of New York to two years and to let police legislation alone. In this connection it will be of interest to learn that the coming session of the New York legislators at Albany is likely not to be prolific in important measures, and there is a general tendency to cut down legislation to the smallest possible compass. In time our neighbors of New York may come to the point of adopting biennial sessions of their Legislature.

Judge Powers on Polygamy.

The position of the representatives of Vermont in Congress has never been equivocal on the subject of the suppression of Mormon polygamy; nor has their opposition been confined to sentimental disapproval or simple denunciation. In fact the history of the warfare on that "relic of barbarism" shows that the State which gave birth to Brigham Young, has been in the very forefront in the enactment of the measures for the suppression of the national disgrace of polygamy. It was Justin S. Morrill of Vermont who, when he was a congressman introduced and carried through the first bill against polygamy. The Edmunds law, as everybody knows, is the existing statute. It may not be as well known that when the bill for the admission of Utah as a State was under consideration, the representative from our First district, Congressman Powers, offered and secured the passage of an amendment providing that the State constitution which the people were about to adopt, must contain a clause forever prohibiting polygamy; and further providing that such prohibitory clause must not be repealed or changed without the consent of Congress. Other States may change their constitution as they will; but the State of Utah can never change her constitution so as to permit polygamy, for nothing is more certain than that Congress will never consent to any letting down of the bars, on that subject.

New Phase of the Sampson-Schley Dispute.

Admiral Dewey must thank his four stars that he is no longer obliged to struggle for recognition of his rank, when he contemplates the ignoble controversy between the friends of Sampson and Schley—a strife whose end no prophetic eye has yet been able to foresee. It was quite generally assumed that the semi-official statement regarding Schley's status, recently made by Secretary Long of the navy department would give the dispute an effective quietus, but that utterance seems merely to have changed the trend of the controversy, which has broken out in a new direction, the latest phase of the dispute involving the project to create Sampson and Schley vice-admirals.

Word comes from Washington that the administration has been urged to settle this unfortunate and unseemly wrangle by making Sampson and Schley vice admirals in the order named. The friends of Schley oppose this proposition owing to the fact that this would reverse the comparative rank of the two commanders. At the present time Schley stands two numbers ahead of Sampson, having reached that position in the usual order of promotion for services and the retirement of officers above him. If he were to be promoted from the position of rear admiral to vice admiral, it would be with the condition that Sampson should pass him and stand next to Admiral Dewey. Schley's friends are understood to hold that if he is worthy of promotion at all, it should be in the present order.

In view of the fact that the services of both Sampson and Schley have been recognized through their promotion to the grade of rear admiral, the chances are that the continuation of this controversy will result in both men remaining where they are, while their friends will continue to fight over again the naval battle of Santiago.

Vermont's Mineral Resources.

The Springfield Republican is impressed by the fact that Barre, which a few years ago comparatively was a small country hamlet of a thousand population or so is now a city of nearly 12,000 people, the product of whose granite quarries go all over the United States and into many foreign countries. It concludes that inasmuch as the supply of stone seems to be inexhaustible and can be mined at comparatively low cost the city and its principal industry can not have reached their full growth, and hints that the town may push Rutland and Burlington in the race for leadership in the State.

The people of this State are proud of the gratifying growth which the city of Barre has experienced as a result of the progress of the granite industries, but it is to be borne in mind that this is only one instance of the profitable development of the mineral resources of which our State boasts. Our marble and granite and slate industries are now being supplemented by the opening up of mines and the institution of various industrial projects which will bring wealth and progress to the communities in which they are located. Vermont capital is now being invested at home more than ever before and the first decade of the new century will unquestionably witness the full fruition of the general adoption of this policy in rapidly growing towns as well as in greatly increased prosperity throughout the State.

The Drinking Habits of Two Hundred Years Ago

That our ancestors, in the olden time, all drank strong drinks, "as 'twere their mothers' milk," is known to every one; but how large a portion of the expenses of every public function and occasion, as well as of the average household, used to go for distilled liquors, in those days, is not often understood till it is disclosed by some old record.

The State historian of New York, in his annual report for 1897, prints a court record of the trial and execution of one Angle, or Engel, Hendrickson, in the year 1689, for infanticide, copied from the old Manuscript Colonial Records. From this it appears that the body of a baby, in a basket weighted with stones, was found in the bottom of a well, in the city of New York. A coroner's jury was summoned which found that it was the body of the infant child of Angle Hendricks or Hendrickson, and that it was put alive into the well, and so drowned. The woman was arrested May 2d of that year charged with the murder of her child, and put in prison in the State House, from which she escaped. Several weeks after she was re-arrested and on the 2d day of July was arraigned before a special court of Oyer and Terminer (meaning of hearing and determining) upon the charge of child murder, "against the plea of our soveraigne Lord, the King, and against the laws of this government." The woman pleaded guilty and was sentenced upon the spot to be hung upon the following Monday—execution following more closely upon the heels of sentence, in those days, than is now customary. Sheriff John Manning's bill of expenses incurred in the arrest, keeping, recapture, trial and execution of the woman, is appended to the record, and is as follows:

"Charges about Angle Hendrickson;

	£	s
To 2 cans brandy to Masphage Kills	0	8
To brandy and provisions carried to Neversinks	2	9
To money spent at Neversinks	1	5
To six men in the boat to Neversinks	2	0
To five Indyans employed to find her	0	15
To 2 cans brandy at the time she was taken	1	0
To six men that took her	2	0
To French wine to ye jury	0	12
To brandy to ye carpenters	1	5
To ye negroes in brandy	0	8
To ye executioner in brady and French wine	0	8
To work done by ye executioner	3	0
To Owen briggs and making	1	0
To ye Carmen and porters in brandy	2	9
To French wine to Carmen and porters after ye execution	2	0
To account of H. Newton of moneys spent	1	0
To her Dyett during ye time of imprisonment	0	12
To an Indyan	0	10
To ye jury of life and death in French wine	0	12
To more wine and beere	1	0
Summa totalis	26	11

More than half of these items, it will be seen, was for brandy and wine, and nearly half—viz.: £12, 8s.—of the total expense of the transaction, including money paid to the Indians to capture the woman, making, erection and taking down and carting away of the scaffold; "diet," beard, of the woman, and incidental expenses of the court and juries, was for the stimulants deemed necessary and proper. None of which probably were absorbed by the "Indyans," as there used to be stringent regulations prohibiting the furnishing of liquor to Indians.

The account was allowed by the court as appears from the record, the sheriff taking two hundred guilders in wampum, in part payment thereof.

What would be thought nowadays of a sheriff in New York or elsewhere, who should bring in a bill of over sixty dollars for liquors furnished to jurors and workmen during a short trial and summary execution?

The Strength of Our Armies

That the extension of the sovereignty of the United States over the principal dependencies transferred to us by Spain will justify the material increase made in the size of our standing army can no longer admit of a doubt, when we take into consideration the force which this country has been obliged to send to the Philippines in order to put down Aguinaldo's rebellion. According to President McKinley's message the regular army now numbers 61,999 enlisted men and 2248 officers, this strength of our standing army having been authorized by the act of Congress passed on March 2 last. A little later in his message President McKinley says that our total force, regular and volunteer, in the Philippines at the present time includes 1499 officers and 45,966 men, and when the troops now under orders shall reach Manila, our aggregate force in the archipelago will comprise 2651 officers and 62,482 men.

But these figures do not include our entire military force at the present time by any means. Stationed at different points in the United States we have 910 officers and 17,317 men while a large army is scattered in our other dependencies. In Cuba there are 334 officers and 10,706 enlisted men. In Porto Rico we have 87 officers and 2855 men, not including a battalion of 400 native Porto Ricans, and in Hawaii there are stationed twelve officers and 453 men. Our entire army at the present time therefore consists of 3394 officers and 94,804 enlisted men, or a grand total of 98,298.

But of our total force under arms at the present time 34,051 are volunteers, and as soon as the war in the Philippines is ended these volunteers will undoubtedly be discharged, leaving the service to be done in Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines dependent wholly upon our regular army. Judging from present indications it will be impossible to make any reduction in our forces in Cuba for a considerable time to come and the same thing is true of Porto Rico and Hawaii. The number of troops that we shall be compelled to maintain in the Philippines is as yet an unsolved problem, but it is safe to say that for some years at least it will be necessary for the United States to keep a somewhat formidable force in that territory.

The First District Why Judge Powers Should Succeed Himself

The situation in this congressional district is as follows: In view of the fact that Judge H. H. Powers had had five elections to Congress, and of an irresponsible rumor that he might decline a re-election, various gentlemen who were willing to succeed him began, last summer, to make their aspirations known. In Lamoille county, ex-Gov. Carroll S. Page inaugurated an extensive epistolary and literary canvass—the latter conducted chiefly outside of the district—both of which seem to have somewhat subsided. In Chittenden county ex-Mayor Hamilton S. Peck of this city and Railroad Commissioner D. J. Foster next appeared in the field. From Bennington county came the word that Hon. J. K. Batchelder would renew his effort to represent the district. Later Col. Joel C. Baker of Rutland was announced as a candidate with a promise of considerable support from that county. Still later a Franklin county candidate appeared in the person of A. A. Hall, Esq., of St. Albans. Two counties in the district have not thus far formally presented any aspirants for the nomination, though C. M. Wilds, Esq., of Middlebury, has been more or less talked of in Addison county, and ex-Lieut. Gov. Fisk, of Grand Isle county, could possibly be persuaded to accept a nomination to Congress, if it were to be cordially presented to him.

The one fact which stands out most prominently from this view of the situation is that there is no concentration of opinion throughout the district as a whole in favor of any man in opposition to Congressman Powers.

Judge Powers has in the meantime maintained a dignified and honorable position. He said at the outset, that he would cheerfully accede to any prevailing desire in the district for a change of representative, if such a desire should become manifest. He, however, did not feel inclined to step down upon the invitation of any rival or competitor, preferring, naturally, to receive any possible notice of the kind directly from his constituents who have given him such large confidence and support in the past, rather than from any aspirant or the organ of any aspirant. He has organized no literary bureau. He has not asked this paper, and we presume has asked no paper in the State, for its support. He has employed no retainers or henchmen. But he has, as we believe, taken some pains to ascertain the actual and unbiased wish of the republican masses of his district, as gained through responsible sources with the result that outside of a few interested circles he finds no general demand for a change of representative to which he should bow. He is therefore a candidate to succeed himself, in compliance with the desire of many voters in all parts of the district whose wishes are entitled to respect, and upon his own merits, and without combination with any competitor for the nomination. It is a square, open, and creditable candidacy.

Denying to no man the right to enter upon an honorable competition for any elective office, and recognizing in some of the aspirants named qualities which may well entitle them to favorable consideration, when the time for a change of representative comes, our own clear conviction is that no change is now desirable. Our information, also, is to the effect that the feeling that it is better to make no change, during the coming campaign, is becoming increasingly manifest all over the district. To this conclusion, one consideration, doubtless, is powerfully contributing. It is that as Congressman Grout has declined a re-election in the Second district, if Judge Powers is not returned Vermont will be represented in the House by two new men. The new man, in Congress, however able, is an apprentice. He gets no recognition from the speaker. If he is placed on any committee it is at the tail of some unimportant one. It takes him one term to get acquainted with his brother members, and at the departments; and beyond the routine of business as a member, he can accomplish little for his constituents, or to sustain the standing of his State on the floor of the House. With two new and untried men, Vermont would be nowhere. Now, the representative of this district, in any classification of Congress, is placed among the leaders of his party. He is a strong debater, and is listened to, whenever he speaks, with attention and respect. He knows the ropes and can accomplish vastly more for the people of Vermont, than any new man. He is, as our readers know, watchful for any opportunity to serve his State. He is a working member. To supersede him at the present juncture would be deemed a piece of surprising folly, by his associates in Congress, and by Vermonters all over the country. It cannot be wise to change our entire representation in the House in the same year.

Judge Powers received in 1896 the largest vote ever cast for a member of Congress in this State. His majority of over eighteen thousand, that year, was more than double the majority he received at his first election in 1890. The vote for him at his last election was as large in proportion to the total vote cast as in 1896, and the unanimity in his support was surprising for but eight scattering votes were cast for congressman in the district! It is a phenomenal record. Judge Powers has done nothing since, to forfeit the respect and confidence of the voters; and we see no reason to suppose that they will go back on him, either as they are represented in the nominating convention or at the polls.

Vermont's Savings Institutions

Gratifying as well as conclusive evidence of the constantly increasing prosperity of Vermont is to be found in the report of the Inspector of Finance Piatt dealing with the savings institutions of the State. An unerring index of the material progress of a people is afforded by the aggregate savings effected each year, and one of the tables in the inspector's report shows the growth of our savings institutions since 1850.

According to this authority the number of savings banks in 1850 was six and the total amount of deposits $130,376. In 1860 the number of savings institutions had doubled and the aggregate deposits had advanced to $1,111,532. In 1870 there were only eleven savings institutions in the State, but the total amount of deposits had more than doubled, the aggregate being $2,745,779. In 1880 the number of banks had increased to sixteen and the deposits had again more than doubled during the preceding decade, the total being $7,349,469. From 1880 to 1890 the number of savings institutions increased to thirty-one and the total deposits to $19,339,504.92.

During the decade now approaching its close the growth of our savings banks and trust companies has been rapid as well as uninterrupted. In 1891 the total deposits were $21,650,393.49; in 1892, $24,674,741.76; in 1893, $27,262,929.09; in 1894, $27,969,835.46; in 1895, $30,403,264.43; in 1896, $32,170,742.88; in 1897, $32,609,627.49; in 1898, $34,071,721.77; and in 1899, $36,526,749.73.

It thus appears that even in 1894, the year in which the financial depression made itself felt in this section most severely, there was a material increase in the total deposits in our savings institutions, and the enormous increase in the aggregate is particularly worthy of note. Up to the present year the deposits have almost doubled since 1890, the increase being $18,725,721.68, and by 1900 the total will unquestionably be more than twice that of 1890, an enviable record.

That this aggregate of deposits does not represent the savings of residents of our State exclusively is true, but the proportion of deposits in our savings institutions standing to the credit of our own people is so large as to make the total an unerring index of our material advancement. The report of the inspector shows that on June 30, 1899, the total number of depositors in our different savings institutions was 113,369, of whom 99,534 were residents, and 13,835 non-residents. The deposits of residents of the State aggregated $30,534,-119.74, while the total deposits of non-residents were only $6,142,629.95, so that excluding the representation of the wealth of other States in our savings institutions the showing would still be a very handsome one for our own commonwealth.

The dividends paid to stockholders during the last fiscal year aggregated $53,979, while the dividends paid to depositors during the same period reached a total of $1,231,313.76. The taxes paid to the State treasury during the past year by the savings institutions aggregated $222,153.59, an increase over the previous year of $6,329.63.

The table included in the inspector's report giving the resources of our savings institutions also includes a number of items that will have special interest for our readers. The mortgages on Vermont real estate represented by our savings institutions aggregated $7,425,477.15, a gain over the previous year of $329,329.65, while the mortgages on real estate outside of Vermont aggregated $12,293,871.40, an increase since June 30, 1898, of $1,406,502.79. The total loans on personal security were $2,645,700.25, a decrease from the aggregate of the year previous of $30,511.34. The total of United States bonds held by our savings institutions with premiums was $1,757,454.19 and the aggregate of municipal bonds was $8,560,833.13. Of our forty savings institutions twenty-three are savings banks and seventeen are trust companies.

In this connection it will be a source of gratification to residents of this city and vicinity to note that the Burlington Savings bank leads all other institutions of this character in the State both as regards number of depositors and total deposits as well as resources, having had in June last 16,329 depositors and deposits aggregating the immense sum of $6,576,879.71. The Rutland Savings bank stands second in the list with 10,078 depositors and $3,311,-565.16 deposits, the Vermont Savings bank of Brattleboro third with 7,329 depositors and $3,178,706.52 in deposits, and the Montpelier Savings bank fourth with 6,156 depositors and $2,397,940.31 in deposits. The The Burlington Trust company has 2,487 depositors and $1,289,340.65 in deposits; the Winooski Savings bank 2,072 depositors and $1,720,695.18 in deposits; the Bellows Falls Savings institution, 3,522 depositors and $1,107,075.24 in deposits; the Brattleboro Savings bank, 4,579 depositors and $1,628,020.66 in deposits; the Passumpsic Savings bank of St. Johnsbury, 6,503 depositors and $1,750,952.47 in deposits; the Citizens' Savings Band and Trust company of St. Johnsbury, 4,201 depositors and $1,313,556.30 in deposits; and the Ottauquechee Savings bank of Woodstock, 3,324 depositors and $1,020,211.21 in deposits. The Home Savings bank of Burlington has 339 depositors and deposits aggregating $57,-692.64.

This partial survey of the conditions of the savings institutions of Vermont is creditable alike to the managers of those institutions and to our people as a whole; for it shows that we are building on a rock financially and establishing a basis for still greater prosperity in the future.

VERMONT POLITICS.

The "Attempt to Kill Off Mr. Prouty.

Referring to a statement by the Newport Express to the effect that before Mr. Prouty's name was considered by the President for the position of interstate commerce commissioner, he signified his willingness to appoint Gen. Grout to the position; and that Gen. Grout declined, and suggested Prouty in his stead. C. F. Ranney, esq., of Newport says:

"I am informed by a gentleman who is in a position to know the facts that the President never signified his willingness to appoint Gen. Grout. That no other name than Mr. Prouty's was presented to the President.

It is true that a powerful political friend of Gen. Grout suggested that he try to secure the commissionership, and promised him support to that end, and that Gen. Grout declined it, saying his ambition was for the senatorship, and that he had no desire for the position of commissioner.

The attempt to kill off Mr. Prouty by means of the commissionership having failed, an attempt seems to be made now to kill him off by misrepresentation.

We trust the papers which have copied your item as a 'piece of inside history' will give as much space to this second chapter of it as they have to the first. There is a vast difference between being offered a position by the President, and being offered the support of a friend, to secure the President's approval."

A SURE CURE FOR CROUP.

Twenty-five Years' Constant Use Without a Failure.

The first indication of croup is hoarseness, and in a child subject to that disease it may be taken as a sure sign of the approach of an attack. Following this hoarseness is a peculiar rough cough. If Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is given as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croupy cough appears, it will prevent the attack. It is used in many thousands of homes in this broad land and never disappoints the anxious mothers. We have yet to learn of a single instance in which it has not proved effectual. No other preparation can show such a record—twenty-five years' constant use without a failure. For sale by W. J. Henderson, druggist.

THE LIGHT FROM HEAVEN.

Long ago, near David's city,
On a shepherd band,
Fell a glory such as never
Shone on sea or land.

In the fields, the shepherds watching,
Guarding flocks by night,
Hear a song of wondrous beauty,
See a heavenly light.

From the East the Wise Men journey,
Seeking for a King;
To the Monarch costly incense,
Gold and myrrh they bring.

Light that shone on humble shepherds,
Guarding flocks at rest;
Star that guided Eastern sages
In their kingly quest;

Both, alike, from heaven shining,
To the Christ child lead;
Prince and peasant, wise and simple
Come to Him in need.

Lordly king and humble servant,
By the self-same way,
Come as did the sage and shepherd
That first Christmas day.

And the glory which from heaven
Fell o'er shepherds then,
Shines to-day, and lights forever
All the ways of men.

—Walter H. Crockett in the December Vermonter.

PERSONAL.

The statement recently printed, that Robert Taber, the actor, and husband for the time being of Julia Marlowe, is an Englishman, appears to be a mistake. We are informed by persons who ought to know that he was born in Stowe, Vt.

New York papers announce the death at Tientsin, China, October 28, of scarlet fever, of Maud Lockwood Aiken, wife of Rev. Edwin Edgerton Aiken, formerly of Rutland, now a missionary in China.

Col. C. S. Forbes has gone to Washington to attend a meeting of the executive committee of the National Republican League, of which he is the Vermont member. The committee will select a time and place for holding the National League convention in 1900, and organize for efficient republican club work in every State presidential year. Thirty-five States will be represented at this meeting.

Dr. Selim H. Peabody of Chicago, formerly president of the University of Illinois, has been appointed editor and statistician for the American commission of the Paris exposition. Dr. Peabody has accepted the appointment, and will sail for Paris with the commission in February. He is a graduate of the University of Vermont, in the class of '52, and has exceptional qualifications for the responsible position to which he has been appointed.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local applications as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Grain-O! Grain-O!

Remember that name when you want a delicious, appetizing, nourishing food drink to take the place of coffee. Sold by all grocers and liked by all who have used it. Grain-O is made of pure grain, it aids digestion and strengthens the nerves. It is not a stimulant but a health builder, and the children as well as the adults can drink it with great benefit. Costs about ¼ as much as coffee. 15c. and 25c. per package. Ask your grocer for Grain-O.

Try Grain-O!

Insist that your grocer gives you Grain-O Accept no imitation.

Burlington Savings Bank

INCORPORATED 1847.

Deposits June 30, 1899,	$6,576,879.71
Surplus . .	325,886.73
Total Assets . .	$6,902,766.44

TRUSTEES.

C. F. WARD, CHARLES P. SMITH, J. L. BARSTOW, WILLARD CRANE, HENRY GREENE, A. G. PEIRCE, HENRY WELLS.

Receives and pays deposits daily. Deposits made during the first four business days of the month draw interest from the first. If made afterwards interest will commence the first of the following month.

Interest will be credited to depositors January 1 and July 1, compounding twice a year. There are no stockholders in this bank. All the earnings, less expense, belong to depositors. The rate of interest depends upon the earnings, and for twelve years was 4½ per cent. but under a law passed by the Legislature of 1896 no savings bank can pay more than 4 per cent. until its surplus reaches 10 per cent. of its deposits, when a special dividend is to be made.

All taxes in this State are paid by the bank on deposits of $1500 or less. Deposits are received in sums from $1 to $2,000, and no interest will be paid on any sum in excess of this amount, except on deposits by widows, orphans, administrators, executors, guardians, charitable or religious institutions or on trust funds deposited by order of the court.

No money loaned to any officer or trustee of the bank.

CHARLES P. SMITH, President.
FREDERICK W. WARD, Treas.
E. S. ISHAM, Assistant Treasurer.

A Private Lighting Plant.

Acetylene Gas.

You can produce your own gas cheaper than you can buy oil or electricity. We make two types of machines for generating ACETYLENE GAS, known as the wet and the dry process. This gas is made only as it is used. Machine does not have to be cared for oftener than one in 15 days. Our machines are approved by the Fire Insurance Boards all over the United States. We light residences, stores, churches, public buildings, factories and towns with double the illuminating power 40 per cent. cheaper than any other system of lighting. Write us for full information. We want good agents. National Acetylene Gas Co., 422 Ellicott Square, Buffalo, N. Y.

CURRENT COMMENT.

The Congressional Situation as it Appears in the Second District.

This district is not up yet with that over the mountain in its crop of congressional candidates, but it has made a good start. The fourth appears in the announcement that Col Porter H. Dale of Island Pond is in the field and the papers up that way say he starts "with his own county, at least, enthusiastically united in his support and that is more than can be said of Col. Kittredge Haskins of Brattleboro." Haskins evidently is a man they fear most, and rightly also, for he is not only pretty sure of his own county but he is the only aspirant likely to develop much more than local strength, and therefore the one who can best stand a multiplicity of local candidacies. Stafford of St. Johnsbury comes nearer to him than any of the others in strength throughout the district, but he is hampered by formidable opposition at home on the ground that he is an ex-mugwump and by the complication of Grout's, Bates' and Prouty's candidacies as well as that of Dale in that section of the state, while Haskins, since Judge Read's withdrawal, has the whole field clear down this way, except for a little stake at Bellows Falls—that will be recognized before the end as too boyish to count.

The latest indications are that the talk of a Windsor county candidate will not materialize, and if that be so, it will be another important factor for Haskins.

Nothing of course is certain in politics and especially in a situation like the present that offers such a field for the exercise of the proclivities of Vermont republican politicians to trade and dicker. But the chances of Haskins are unmistakably by far the best of all.—Brattleboro Reformer.

MOUNTAIN RULE THREATENED.

The "mountain line" rule is threatened! If the proposed plan for re-apportionment of representation in the republican national convention should prevail, Vermont would be entitled to nine delegates instead of eight as at present. It is easy enough to select eight men without offense, by adhering to the rule and choosing four from each side of the mountains. But where shall this odd man come from? That's the question. And, by the way, is there a common-sense reason for following the mountain line rule, anyway? Isn't it more of a subterfuge than a necessity? Doesn't it simply spare men the embarrassment of making a choice sometimes when they don't want to?—St. Albans Messenger.

A REFERENDUM DEMANDED.

The law (the prohibitory law) is the work of the "great body of the people of Vermont." It was not true when the law was first adopted when the idea was new and had the advantage of a great moral enthusiasm behind it without the saving effect of experience, and when it was the chief issue of the election of 1853 when the vote stood 20,849 to 18,742. That it is not true now was practically confessed by the last legislature when it refused to submit the question of a vote of the people. Stripped of all subterfuges, the reason for that refusal was a fear that the people would repudiate the law if given a direct chance at it, for it was perfectly obvious that if, after a 45 years trial the verdict should be one of approval, and in favor of the continuance of the law, it would add tremendously to its moral force.—Brattleboro Reformer Dem.

HARDLY THE BLOODIEST BATTLE.

The total of 438 killed at Modder River on the British side may make some people in England understand Methuen's remark that it was the bloodiest battle of the century. The actual comparison with the 7,000 French killed at Austerlitz, 25,-000 French killed at Waterloo, the 9,000 Germans killed at Sedan, the 13,000 Union soldiers killed at Stone's River, the total looks pretty small.—Boston Record.

ESSEX COUNTY'S CANDIDATE.

Among the list of prospective candidates mentioned for congressional honors in the second district is the name of Porter H. Dale of Island Pond. Just how Mr. Dale looks upon the question of his candidacy is only a matter of conjecture, as he has never expressed himself publicly upon this subject, so far as we can discover. That he would balance equally well in the scales with the other candidates for this office there is but little room to doubt. A bitter fight will be waged against Col. Haskins from certain counties in the district, and the same bitter fight will be waged against Wendell P. Stafford from other counties. The counties of Essex and Orleans are liable to oscillate between the two. Should Porter H. Dale, with his numerous friends throughout the district, and against whom no flaw can be found, consent to be a candidate for second district congressional honors, we believe he would not only be heartily endorsed by his own county and that of Orleans, but would receive a strong following in the other counties. The question for Mr. Dale to answer is, "Are you in the swim?"—Newport Express.

A STRICTLY TEMPERANCE HOTEL.

The Van Ness House at Burlington has been conducted for many years as a strictly temperance hotel and is recognized as one of the best in New England. This fact has been a strong answer to the oft-repeated assertions that it is impossible to conduct a first class hotel without a bar. It is, therefore, not surprising that a number of efforts have been made to in some way connect it with illegal traffic. The latest is to have the hotel adjudged a nuisance because liquor was served on the tables at the recent Fish and Game League banquet, although it appears the league management furnished the liquor and that nothing of the kind was intimated to the hotel managers when the arrangements for the banquet was made. It is also apparent that in no possible way could the hotel have profited by it. The case at this writing is in the hands of the court and we have no desire to anticipate the decision. Neither have we any disposition to defend Col. Woodbury, the proprietor of the Van Ness, if he had committed any infraction of the law. However, when a man has allowed principle and a respect for the law to stand between him and the small fortune which he could undoubtedly have accumulated from illegal liquor selling at his hotel during the years of his proprietorship, it seems to us that he is entitled at least to the respect and esteem of all good citizens. It is certainly not an encouraging feature in good government that such a man can be harassed and brought into court with men who have no respect for the liquor laws of the State, on a mere technicality at the most.—Northfield News.

MILK PRESERVATIVES.

Look out for the man with the patent milk preservative.

There are various agents now abroad in the land selling "Freezene," "No-ice-needed Preservative," "Liquid Milk Sweet," and several such nostrums intended incidentally to keep milk from souring, and primarily to gather in the farmer's loose change.

In all those several cases which have been reported to the Vermont experiment station, the chemical basis of the preservative is the same. It is formaldehyde—formalin—a powerful disinfectant and germicide, but not a desirable article of diet for the human species. It is not strictly and seriously poisonous, but it is held by all the best authorities to be a harmful to the digestive system.

It is the same material now largely in use in creameries for preserving samples of milk for testing. It will certainly keep milk from souring; and it thus enables the slovenly dairyman to cover up many of his worst negligencies. It leaves him free to enjoy the filth of an unclean stable, to save himself the trouble of cleaning his cans, to be as loose and lazy and wicked as he pleases.

This is not to say that the man who uses Preservative, Freezene and the like is necessarily that sort of a fellow; but these chemicals do protect him from the results of negligence and ignorance, and seem, to the unprejudiced observer, to offer the careless milkman an undeserved salvation from his sins.

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No interest is allowed by law to be paid on deposits in excess of two thousand dollars except it be on deposits by widows, orphans, administrators, executors, guardians, charitable or religious institutions, or on trust funds deposited by order of court.

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THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

Arctic Visit to in Vermont. A Novel Trip—Various State Happenings.

During the past week reports have come from different parts of the state that the murres or foolish guillemots are again visiting this section of the country. The murre is a small bird of the auk family and was supposed to be an inhabitant of the arctic regions.

Three or four years ago a large flock of these birds was seen on Lake Champlain in the early winter and numbers of them were shot by gunners. They were also found at this time on many of the small lakes and ponds in different parts of the state. Naturalists could give no explanation of their presence so far inland.

Whether they were driven from the ocean by some storms or came because the food supply in their natural haunts gave out was never determined. Taxidermists who examined the specimens brought to them found the birds very poor in flesh and with empty crops.

This year specimens are being shot in many sections of the state and a farmer's wife in Lunenburgh caught one with her hands.

WORKING UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

Work on the receiving tomb at Morning Side cemetery in Brattleboro will be continued during the winter. A tent 125 feet square, inclosing the entire structure and heated with two large coal stoves, will be used during the winter by a large number of men employed on the job. The granite will perhaps be quarried at Dummerston and lifted under this canvas. It is the purpose of the contractors to complete the tomb early in the spring, regardless of weather.

A NOVEL TRIP.

Arthur Quimby of Lyndonville who is now a student at Norwich university, is to take a novel trip during the next summer vacation. He is having built at Bethel a gasoline launch. The craft is to be 30 feet long with a full cabin of plate glass. In the launch he proposes to travel with a party of friends from