

# THE ELKO INDEPENDENT.

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## THE ELKO INDEPENDENT,

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BY  
**PERKINS & STREET.**  
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### The Debt of the United States.

A recent telegram justifies the expectations that were entertained in relation to Mr. Garfield's singular financial propositions, the bill having been virtually killed for the season. But there will be no lack of bills, to all appearance. The whole state of the Government finances is a reproach to a business people. During the excitement of the war, when every man assented without questioning to every demand made by the officers of the Government, taxes were piled on the people with perfect recklessness, and these have been paid during five years of peace without a murmur. The idea that it was "disloyal" to question even the most injudicious and absurd propositions of inexperienced officers of the Government has lingered in the public mind long after the occasion for patriotic self-sacrifice has died out, and the people continue to pour into the treasury with lavish hand millions of money more than is necessary.

The expenses during the war were mostly met by borrowing and the payment of paper money, for which the Government obtained what it wanted. During the five years of peace, the people have paid more taxes than during the five years of war, but the expenses of the Government have not been reduced. The ordinary expenses, exclusive of payments on account of the public debt, are enormously large as compared with those of the five years of peace before the war. Congress has continued these heavy taxes upon the people, who have hitherto paid them willingly. The customs duties have been maintained, not for the benefit of the public, but for that of the Eastern manufacturers. The average expenses of the Government before the war, exclusive of debt payment, were \$65,000,000 per annum, nearly all paid in customs. In the last five years of peace it has been \$244,000,000 per annum. In five years of peace since the war the expense, exclusive of the debt and the interest on it, has been as follows: Five years of peace before the war, \$325,188,397; five years of peace since the war, \$1,221,041,978; excess of expenses for five years, \$894,853,611. The people have paid \$894,853,611 more in the last five years for the ordinary expenses of the Government, exclusive of interest on the public debt, than they paid for the same purpose in the five years ending with 1861. That enormous sum of money has been expended in time of peace, without any object whatever, out of \$2,205,000,000 paid in taxes by this people in five years. Page 317 of the Treasury report for 1869 gives the debt outstanding July 1st, 1865, and the return for June 1st, 1870, gives it as follows: 1865, \$2,632,593,025; 1870, \$2,665,928,020. Total reduction of the war debt, \$33,365,000 to June 1st, 1870. The public complain of dull business and decaying industry. How is it possible it should be otherwise with such a weight of taxation and Government extravagance.

### SHARP SHOOTING IN CONGRESS.—

The Tribune's Washington correspondent gives the following account of those little Congressional sparring matches that do so much to awaken the admiration of the country for their Representatives at the national capital: There was considerable feeling aroused by General Butler's producing a couple of Cuban bonds, and exhibiting them to members after General Logan had finished his speech. General Logan was especially angered at this action. Later in the afternoon while Messrs. Butler, Logan, Bingham, Hoar, Burdett, and others were in the cloak-room warm words arose over the matter, and General Logan, in an excited manner, with emphatic gestures, informed General Butler that his exhibiting the bonds, for the purpose of influencing or alarming members, "was a contemptible trick, worthy only of a low police lawyer," and that if any man used Cuban bonds in such a way while he (Logan) was on the floor, that he would have to answer at once to him. The report has it that the fiery Illinoisan declared that it would be with "the heart's blood, too." Judge Bingham broke out in his usual impetuous way with, "Yes, yes; there's a d-d sight more Spanish gold than Cuban bonds in this matter, and I know it, and you too," with a gesture more emphatic than respectful toward Butler, who sat in a chair and rolled his head, looking the very picture of mild astonishment. No further either than passionate words resulted, and the matter ended.

### THE WONDERS OF COMPOUND INTEREST.—

But few people have anything like an adequate sense of the vast cumulative power of compound interest. Some mathematically inclined persons recently published in a New York paper the amount of a cent supposed to be out at compound interest at the birth of Christ and continued at interest up to 1870. The amount thus stated was expressed in forty-five consecutive figures, which, however, even at that figure, seems to be far from the mark. Professor Klinger, of the Hannum Commercial School of this city, has gone to the trouble of making the calculation, and finds the amount expressed in forty-eight figures, thus: \$2,098,785,469,721,770,280,517,336,007,361,941,519,962,773,447 38— or nearly three times the amount given by the New York paper. It is supposed that the New York mathematician discarded some of the decimals in the beginning of his computation, for it is evident that even the billionth part of a cent must produce an enormous sum at compound interest during 1870 years, if in that time a cent would produce an amount incomprehensible by the human mind, and which the mathematicians tell us would exceed the value of seven quadrillions of globes of pure gold, each of them the size of our earth, and rating the gold at \$50 an ounce.

The amount of a cent at simple interest for the same time, 1870 years, would be \$12.—*The New Northwest.*

A town man advertised his wife as "leaving Elko and home," and then borrowed \$2.50 from her to pay for the advertisement.

### The Independent Press on our Representative.

(From the Sacramento Union.)  
One of its noisiest advocates was Fitch, of Nevada, who had very much to say of the benefits of railroads in general, in the face of the fact that no people in the world have ever been so much tyrannized over by this sort of corporation as his own suffering constituents. In spite of the interest that nominated and elected him, and which he serves with single-minded purpose, regardless of their overbearing conduct, and upon whose influence he no doubt relies for re-election, we hope he may meet the reward of a man unfaithful to his trust, and be sent back to private life.

(From the Silver State.)  
Six months ago the party in this State that had honored him with its confidence, and placed him in the position he now fills, were loud in his praises as a talented and fearless advocate of the people's rights; but alas, how charged, within a few short months, are these sentiments. His name is now but seldom mentioned by his late admirers, and then only in tones of anger and regret for his recency to the interests of the State in selling himself to plundering monopolies and corporations.

(From the Illinois Journal.)  
DON'T LIKE EXPOSURE.—A correspondent of a New York paper has been exposing some of Nevada Fitch's rascality, and has thereby called down upon his head the vengeance of this Congressman, and Fitch threatens to have him expelled from the halls of the House, because of his writing. It would be well for this Radical Fitch to go slow, or the New York correspondent may expose him still more.

(From the Chicago Times.)  
There is a Radical member of the House of Representatives from Nevada, by the name of Fitch, who for two or three weeks has been laboring with a fair measure of success, to make a fool of himself. Fitch was implicated by the correspondent of a New York paper, in some of Mr. Grant's stock-jobbing operations, whereupon the Congressman calls the correspondent a liar; repeats and reiterates that he is a liar; and proposes to expel him from the reporter's gallery. Suppose he should be expelled: would that prove the immaculate purity of Fitch? Or would the proceeding on his part tend to strengthen the public impression that the correspondent told the truth? Fitch is undoubtedly an ass. The probability is that Fitch is also a knave.

JACK STRATMAN AND SECRETARY FISH.—A good story is told in regard to the interview at Washington, some time since, between Major Jack Stratman, of San Francisco, and Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State; and as we have not seen a statement concerning the exhibition in print, we take the liberty of producing the same. Jack was earnestly engaged in pressing his claims for office. He had besieged Senator Cole to such an extent that his horn buttons on the back of his coat had made two holes in the Senator's parlor sofa. At last the irrepresible Major was referred to Fish, who, it is well known, is a polished gentleman, possessed of great refinement, and rather precise and dignified in his bearing. The Major called an interview with the Secretary, his tall white hat leaning back at an angle of forty-five degrees, stroking his huge moustache, and relieving his broad forehead from perspiration by means of a huge red handkerchief, bordered with blue. Fish addressed him: "Well, Major, I am told you have been of great service to our good cause in California, during the past political campaign."

The Major, throwing himself back in that graceful position peculiar to himself, and phlegm both thumbs in the armbolts of his vest, exclaimed: "Oh, no, I guess not! It's the man around the corner, in the grocery!" Fish somewhat daunted by the attitude struck by the Major, and deeming the language rather unbecoming for a gentleman to make use of who was an applicant for a high Federal position replied: "That being the case, Major, I will have a conference with the gentleman who occupies the grocery, and endeavor to reward him for his services. Good morning, sir."

Jack took the next train for California.—*California Sun.*

IS THE EARTH ROUND?—It appears—extraordinarily as it may seem to some of our school boys—that some British country gentlemen controvert the fact, and maintain that the earth has a flat surface. "A certain Mr. Hampden, who seems to have been persuaded that it is so, rashly risked £500 on the issue of an experiment on the Bedford level, in order to test the truth of the assertion. His offer was taken up by Mr. A. R. Wallace, and arrangements satisfactory to Mr. Hampden having been made, the experiment was tried by means of three discs, rising twelve feet above the level of the surface of a piece of water large enough to show the curvature, if there were any. The referee has just decided against Mr. Hampden, the central disc as every one with a grain of sense supposed it would, rising considerably above the line formed by the two other discs as seen from one end through an approved telescope. The curvature too and fro in six miles, to the extent of about five feet, was proven. As was made to be suspected, an attempt is being made to shuffle out of the bet now that it is decided."

THE TOWER OF SILOAM.—"Of those eighteen upon whom the tower of Siloam fell, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwell in Jerusalem?" Congress has rejected Whittemore. Perhaps his sinfulness in seeking re-entrance is accounted for by his knowledge of its members. He may know that some of them are not of "clean hands and a pure heart," and may infer that he has as good a right as his fellow sinners to a seat among the legislators of the nation. The Tower of Bribery should have killed more than one. Perhaps it has not fallen yet, and Whittemore has been struck by a loose stone.—*Christians Union.*

A Dutch woman kept a toll-gate. One foggy day a traveler asked: "Madame, how far is it to B?" "Shoot a little ways," was the reply. "Yes; but how far?" again asked the traveler. "Shoot a little ways," more emphatically. "Madame, is it one, two, three, four or five miles?" "The good woman indignantly replied, "I don't know!"

A Wyoming coroner's jury returned a verdict that the deceased came to his death from exposure. "What do you mean by that?" asked a relative of the dead man; "there were two bullet holes in his skull." "Just so," replied the coroner, "he died from exposure to bullets."

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and all kinds of

Groceries and Provisions!

Our very extensive assortment of

**LIQUORS AND WINES**

Cannot be excelled in this State.

**BOOTS AND SHOES**

Of every description.

A very large and complete assortment of all kinds of

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**LADIES' GOODS!**

Silks, Satins, Laces, Merinos, Calicoes, Bonnets, Hats, shoes, Trunks, Hosiery, and everything connected with the wearing department of the ladies.

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All of the above goods will be

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Retail Traders, Mining Companies, Hotels and Restaurants

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HAS JUST RETURNED FROM SAN FRANCISCO,  
and brought along with him the choicest and finest brands of

**Cigars**

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**SMOKING and CHEWING TOBACCO!**

**Meerschmum Pipes, Etc.**

Also on hand, a general assortment of

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Thanking the public for past patronage, I would

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citizens of Elko, and the public generally, that he has taken charge of the above mentioned springs. He has fitted them up, and is now prepared to accommodate visitors in the best style.

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2 tickets for Omaha;

10 tickets for San Francisco, at \$16 each;

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Elko, February 25, 1870. 1350

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Any information desired will be given with pleasure. List of numbers drawing prizes will be exhibited immediately after the drawing.

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