BARRATT BROS.

Salt Lake Democrat.

- JANUARY 27, 1886

ALFALES YOUNG. - . EDITOR.

For Governor

UTAH TERRITORY, Samuel A. Merritt.

THE SENATE AND THE PRESIDENT

The recent talk as to the intention of the Senate in regard to the confirmation of the President's nominations has given rise to many suggestions as to the duty of the President and the Senate. It is said that the President himself has made one suggestion in regard to the demand of the Senate for the reason for removals, and it is that if the Senate wish to discuss his removals upon information furnished by him, it should be done in open session This is an excellent suggestion, but will scarcely be so thought by the Republican Senators. What objection can there be to an open discussion of the removals of various officials if such removals are objected to on the ground of the public welfare? The Republican Senators could not possibly wish to make a virtuous display of interest in the general welfare of the whole people merely for the sake of display and buncombe. Oh! no, they wouldn't do anything like that, because all Republicans, and more particularly Republican Senators, are virtuous beyond the dreams of Plato or More. It is constructive if not actual treason to the Government to say that a Republican Senator would do anything for the sake of buncombe and in the hope of making political capital out of it. It is clear that those Republican Sen-

ators who wanted to know the President's

reasons for making certain removals desired the information for purely proper motives, and such case, what objection can be to discussing the reasons for such removals in open session? None in the world. Such public discussions should not stop here. Whenever a man is an applicant for office, his merits and demerits should be thoroughly discussed both by the appointing and confirming power and by the people. It is safe to say that two-thirds of those who apply for and hunt office would never make known their desires if their character, merit and record were to be placed before the world for discussion and approval. They could not stand the glare of the light which would thus be thrown upon them, and the consequence would be that they would be eliminated from the contest for office from the very be before all others a worthy servant, but is not death. The two cases instanced as the fitness, both as to character and it might be well to except from the operwhat party employs it. The utter absurdity and inadequacy of the present system of making appointments to office is shown by the fact that men very frequently make application for appointment to half a dozen offices, the duties of each being of an entirely different nature, and chances are ninety-nine out of a hundred that the man who applies for half a dozen ing it were the policy of the Legislature offices is not fit for any one of them, and if he had a special fitness for some particular office he would recognize that he was not fitted for half a dozen offices. The man who is so universally fitted for office ought to die, for the angels, who are the just made perfect, alone are worthy to associate with such a man. Yet such are the majority of office-seekers, and the consequence is, and always will be, that the Government is worse served than the proprietor of a corner grocery. If a man is fit for office, he need have no fear when he is asked to compete with some other man to show which is the better qualified for discharging the duties of the office sought, and if he really cares for good government, he will see with satisfaction the best man get the office. There should be some sensible and reasonable method of determining the fitness of candidates for appointment to office, and the theory of civil-service reform indicates, thus far, the best method for determining this fitness, while the spoils theory is the most senseless and unreasonable of all.

TOO MUCH LAW.

The Herald this morning makes the following just remark in commenting on Governor Murray's veto of the Bail Bill: the laws of primary importance, be-Very few laws are required. The books are full of laws, and with such as we have the community has existed and maintained order, and with only these it will continue

to grow, thrive and prosper. The remark-"Very few laws are required-" should be well heeded by the in a criminal case? The law holds a de-Legislature, and mature and thoughtful fendant in custody after conviction that reflection will convince them that this is the law may have control of his person, true. Not only Utah, but every State that it may impose its penalty upon him and Territory in the Union, and the in case his conviction is said to have been United States themselves, has too much legal in all respects. The law retains law. The result is that great quantity is the custody of his person merely for the given in place of great quality. This is purpose of executing the penalty of the the common complaint all over the coun- law upon him when the highest tribunal try. It became so great in New York to which an appeal is allowed declares State two or three years ago that the that all the forms and requirements of sessions of the Legislature were changed the law have been complied with, and from annual to biennial, and with the not for the purpose of punishing him. result that the laws that were enacted If the law can have possession of the were better in every respect than those body of a person convicted when it deenacted under the annual system, and sires to impose the penalty of the law they were fewer in number. Take our upon such person, what interest of so-

three things indicated above as justifying ter we shall reserve a final opinion until legislation. It is an old saying that we see whether the Legislature amend legislation. It is an old saying that we see whether the Legislature amend where does the Bail Bill in accordance with the Govthis find a truer application than in the ernor's observation as to murder in the passage of ill-advised and ill-digested laws. It is not the abundance of law that makes | His Excellency for approval, and whether a community happy or prosperous, or or not that approval is given. gives it protection, but the enforcement of wise and just laws, which enforcement is brought about by the spirit of law and order dominating a community. It is the prevalence of the spirit of law that makes the law respected, and not the mere presence of laws upon the statute book. The present Legislature is apt to weaken their work by making it superabundant.

A LIST OF FREE TRAVELLERS.

Under the above title, the New York Sun of the 22d has an article on the free pass system. The Democrat has spoken of the acceptance of railway passes by public officials at divers times. We publish the Sun's article to show what a leading Democratic journal thinks of the

criminal laws, if wisely framed and properly enforced, may do much to lessen evil conduct by deterring men from the commission of forbidden acts; but laws of any kind can do very little to make men honest. If a statute were enacted in this State prohibiting the use of free railway passes by public officers, it would prevent a repetition of the spectacle presented in the Assembly Chamber at Albany on Wednesday, when the Clerk publicly distributed passes to such members as were willing to receive them; but it may well be doubted whether any real reform in the character of the people's representatives would be produced by it.

The true remedy is in the hands of the voters throughout the State.

If they want to be represented in the Senate and Assembly by men who accept favors from the great railroad corporations whose interests are always liable to be affected by legislation at Albany, they cannot justly complain of the results of their choice.

If they do not want such representatives, they need not elect them.

In order, however, that they may be in-

If they do not want such representatives, they need not elect them.

In order, however, that they may be informed on the subject whenever a member of the Legislature presents himself for relection, it would be well to amend the law relating to reports by railway companies so as to compel each company in its annual report to give a list of all persons by whom free passes had been held during the year.

This list could be printed by the Railroad Commission, and would be a most useful and instructive guide to voters.

We would guarantee it the largest circulation of any public document printed under the authority of the State.

THE BAIL BILL. Governor Murray has vetoed the bill introduced by Representative West making bail a matter of right, pending apbeginning. The public servant should peal, in all cases where the punishment the worthiest will never be had so long by Governor Murray, murder and rape, capacity, of candidates for office is ation of the bill, and we trust that the determined on the ground of favor- bill will be so amended as to include itism and political influence. And these crimes and then presented to the this remark is equally true of Democrats Governor for his approval. We do not as of Republicans. A bad system of think that Governor Murray's reasoning selecting public officials is bad no matter justifies his conclusions. It may be said that the grounds upon which an appeal is allowed are a sufficient reason for allowing bail. Governor Murray refers to the Rudger Clawson case to show that the present law has been fully sustained. That it has been sustained is very true, but there is are content with any one of them. The a wide difference as to the validity of a law and the policy of the law. Supposto abolish capital punishment and a bill to that effect, having passed the House and Council, were presented to the Governor for approval, what kind of a reason would it be for the Governor to say, as his reason for refusing to approve it, that the statute imposing capital punishment had been fully sustained? Near the close of the eighteenth century, the number of crimes in England punishable by death was very near fifty and the laws punishing these crimes with death had been fully sustained for some centuries. What would the world have thought of the British Parliament had that august body refused to modify the criminal laws of England on the ground that the said laws had been fully sustained? Society seeks to protect itself by punishing those who violate its laws, but society fully recognizes the fact that when it punishes any violator of its laws outside of the form and sanction of those laws, it transcends its powers and trespasses upon the rights of the individuals composing the artificial body known as society. What is the reason for granting an appeal at all? The reason is that society is organized primarily for the protection of the individual and it deems the liberty and protection of the individual where he is on trial for an offense against cause it thinks there is a reasonable likelihood that the law has been transcended by the courts of law. Now is not this ample reason for granting bail to a defendant who has taken an appeal

own Territory as an illustation. At ciety is subserved by refusing to grant every Legislature bills are intro- such a person bail? We think none duced on every possible subject of whatever. Governor Murray's observalegislation and in almost unlimited tions in regard to depriving the courts of Price, delivered by carrier, 75cta. per month.

By mail, 1 year, \$7.50; 6 months, \$2.00; 3

months, \$2.00; 8

months, \$2 number. The great majority of these a discretion in the matter of bail are best a confounded mess of confused nonsense; Zane has always refused to grant bail ity of bills introduced into the Legis- granted bail in the very same class of latures of the various States and Territo- cases in which Judge Zane has refused ries. The consequence is that the super- it. Who exercised the wiser and better abundance of laws brings the laws into discretion, Judge Zane or Judge Powers more or less disrepute with the people. Judge Powers, we think, because he used Laws should only be made to correct his discretion in favor of liberty and gave some wrong, change some condition or to the prisoner the herefit of the doubt some wrong, change some condition, or to the prisoner the benefit of the doubt to facilitate the execution of some law which justified the granting of his apalready in force. The great mass of the peal. We cannot but think that Goverlegislation introduced into the local Legis- nor Murray used the veto power in a lature is introduced in disregard of these harsh and unwise way, but on this mat-

second degree and rape, and submit it to

DIDN'T THINK OF IT.

Another Yarn on Governor Hauser

of Montana. Some time after his appointment, Mr. Hauser was passing along Main street, Helena, on his way to the bank, when from a doorway a friend accosted him:
"Good morning, Governor."

No response, "Good morning to you, Governor." Salute unnoticed. "Good morning, Sam," shouting after

A quick stop and a turn.

"Good morning, good morning," stepping back and shaking hands heartily.

Nobody getting stuck up, I hope?"

"What's that?"

"I spoke out loud and several times before you deigned to notice me."
"Well, well! Let that pass. I thought ome one was speaking to some one

"You're 'Governor,' remember."
"I'll be hanged if I can think of it.
Just you holler 'Sam.' I'll answer to
that every time, and don't you forget it!" -Helena Herald, 23d.

O Lord, Save Us.

This frightful picture of eternal punishment is quoted by the Chicago Times from one of Elder Knapp's sermons:
"The soul of the impenitent sinner is plunged by beneficent and omnipotent justice into the awful lake of hell. Weighted with its sins, it sinks down into the molten billows, and down and down for centuries, for thousands and tens of thousands of years. Each instant of this descent is an awful, an unendurable agony, a thousand times worse than the pressing of the quivering human flesh against blazing coals. Millions of years after the plunge, the damned soul rises from the molten depths, and emerges on the surface of the seething billows. Cast-ing his descripting even agross to where ing his despairing eyes across to where the Father sits, he cries: 'God, is it not enough?' to which the righteous Father, as His countenance flames with wrath, thunders in a tone which shakes the vaults of heaven and hell, 'down to all eter-nity.'"

Miss Phœbe Couzins says that the woman suffrage movement is not sleep-ing, although little is being said about it. Susan B. Anthony wrote to Miss Couzins, requesting her to take care of the cause in Washington this winter, but ill-health forced her to decline.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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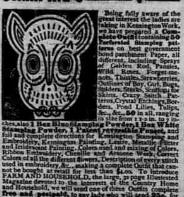
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