

SAN MARCOS FREE PRESS.

I. H. JULIAN, Publisher.

SAN MARCOS, TEXAS

NEWS IN BRIEF.

West.

THE Michigan Attorney General is called upon to decide the legality of the election of three ladies on the Flint School Board. More than 100 women cast their ballots for them. Mack Marsden, leader of a gang of hog and cattle stealers who have infested the vicinity of Hillsboro, Mo., and who was suspected of the murder of two men, who lynched by his neighbors. The trial of Seth F. Crews, a member of the Illinois House of Representatives, at Belleville, on the charge of obtaining money under false pretenses, resulted in an acquittal. Mowbray's flour mill at Stockton, Minn., was destroyed by fire, causing a loss of \$50,000.

THERE are fears that the force of volunteers organizing in Arizona, as is claimed for protection against the Indians, in reality contemplate a raid on the San Carlos Reservation, a course which Agent Wilcox tells the Department of the Interior will prove disastrous. A cave-in occurred at the Ridge mine, between Quinnessee and Iron Mountain, in Northern Michigan, carrying down the engine-house and eight men, namely: Pat Egan, Richard Williams, W. Henderson, John Morris, Thomas James, Edward Wicks, William Jeffrey and William Polard. All of the men were killed. The greatest snow-storm of the winter raged at Minneapolis, Minn., on the 10th of April, causing a suspension of street-car travel. The snow crushed in the roof of the roller skating-rink and wrecked the walls. The storm was felt throughout Minnesota. Prof. MacLenn, of the Michigan State University, comes out largely ahead in his libel suit against James E. Scripps, editor and proprietor of the *Detroit Evening News*. The paper published a story to the effect that MacLenn had been criminally intimate with a woman whose name was given, but a jury, after two weeks' trial of the case, cast Scripps in \$20,000 damages.

THERE is a great rush of immigrants to Northern Minnesota, Dakota and Manitoba. A recent dispatch from St. Paul says: "Arriving and departing trains are taxed to their utmost to supply the demand for accommodations, and the resources of the roads centering at St. Paul are daily drawn upon to their farthest limit. In conversation with railroad men upon the subject they express themselves as surprised at the daily accessions made to the city's floating population. Nothing like it was ever before seen. At present it is thought that no less than 10,000 passengers are received here per week and forwarded to Northwestern points by way of the Northern Pacific and Manitoba lines." Advice from Arizona report that the people of that Territory are much disappointed at the inaction of Gen. Crook, and have about lost all hope of protection by the army. Several independent companies of miners and prospectors have been organized, and a war of extermination will be waged against the copper-colored pests. Benjamin F. Cocker, D. D., LL. D., professor of mental and moral philosophy in the University of Michigan, and a man of high standing as a preacher and author, is dead. The Atlantic Milling Company, of St. Louis, of which George Bain is President, has been obliged to suspend temporarily on account of dullness in the European market and overstock of wheat.

South.

A CONSIDERABLE portion of New Orleans was submerged, as a consequence of recent heavy rains. The Mississippi river reached the highest point ever known, washing over the levee at several points. One of the city cemeteries was under water, and numberless headboards were washed away. There were eighty-six deaths from small-pox at New Orleans last week.

A BILL regulating railroads has passed the Texas Legislature, and the law goes into immediate effect. It provides for a State engineer who shall inspect the roads and the manner of operating them, so as to secure the safety of the public and prevent any unjust discriminations under a penalty of a fine of \$500 for each offense. It fixes the passenger fare at 3 cents per mile for adults and 2 cents for children under 10 years of age. President Arthur arrived at Sanford, Fla., and was given a hearty reception by prominent citizens. He went thence to Hissimice City, when he made a brief stop, going from there to hunt and fish. While intoxicated at Nashville, Tenn., Dudley Porter, son of ex-Gov. Porter, provoked a quarrel with James Grundy a drummer for a Cincinnati house, and in the fight which resulted the latter was fatally cut. Nine and a half inches of rain fell at New Orleans in one day.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR landed a ten-pound bass at Kissimmee, Fla., very shortly after casting his line. Happy angler—happy fish, to be caught by a real live President, the first one that ever angled for bass in Florida waters. The telegraph also informs an anxious world that Mr. Philips, the President's private secretary, made an alligator

happy by shooting it with his little gun, putting out both of its eyes. An incendiary fire was started in Thompson's livery stable at Westminster, Md., which consumed eighteen buildings and caused a loss of \$100,000. Twenty-five horses in the stable were cremated. An attempt was also made to burn the Mintour Hotel. A negro man and woman have been arrested as the fire-bugs. A construction train on the Missouri Pacific railroad was wrecked near Beaker, Texas, and five men were killed. Twenty prisoners in the Tarrant county jail, in Texas, overpowered the guard and escaped. When the alarm had been given, about twenty-five citizens started in pursuit with shot-guns and bloodhounds, and before evening seventeen of the fugitives had been captured.

Washington.

THE Treasury Department has decided to accept the proposal of the Hawaiian Government for the coinage of silver for the insular kingdom at the San Francisco mint.

THE Secretary of the Interior has decided to offer the Otee Indian lands in Kansas and Nebraska for sale May 1. The appraisers have valued the land at from four to ten dollars an acre. The comptroller Knox has authorized the establishment of the following national banks: The Vineland National Bank, New Jersey, capital, \$50,000; the Third National Bank of Sedalia, Mo., capital \$100,000; and the Merchants' National Bank, of Amsterdam, New York, capital, \$100,000.

THE Department of State has been strenuously endeavoring to obtain a hearing for the seven Americans arrested at Panama in January, on suspicion of robbing the Panama Railroad Company of \$50,000, intended for a payment of the officers and crew of the United States steamer Lackawanna. Many obstacles have been encountered, but the Consul at Panama reports that the men will soon be heard in court and represented by competent counsel.

Political.

A BOSTON newspaper has been collecting opinions from all sections of the country as to the availability of B. F. Butler as a Presidential candidate. The result is not altogether favorable to the Governor, though Senator Brown, of Georgia, says he would vote for him if he were nominated, and a Southern correspondent expresses the belief that he would divide the colored vote.

THE Michigan Senate has passed a measure in which it is specified that if a newspaper prints in good faith and without malice, stories which are subsequently discovered to be unfounded, the publication may not be deemed libelous if a thrice repeated retraction is inserted with a full explanation of the circumstances.

A MEMORIAL has been sent to the President by the Chairman and Board of Directors of the Central Committee on National Labor Legislation, petitioning an extra session of Congress, to be called as early as practicable, for the purpose of considering the relations of labor and capital. The Pennsylvania House of Representatives have passed a bill prohibiting the letting of convict labor by contract.

Foreign.

O'CONNOR POWER broached a scheme of home colonization in the British House of commons for the relief of distress in Ireland, which calls for a loan of £5,000,000 by the Government, secured by loans upon the land taken up. The Ministry opposed the scheme, on the ground that it was in conflict with measures already inaugurated for ameliorating the condition of Ireland. Four slaves were sold at public auction in the streets of Tangiers, recently, causing much indignation among the foreign residents. A large section of country in the Southern part of Russia is covered with water, owing to the floods in the rivers. A carbuncle has been the cause of Mr. Parnell's indisposition.

A MAN named Kirton, claiming to have only recently left the United States, was arrested in London for being connected with the nitro-glycerine plot. Bernhard Gallagher, a brother of one of the men arrested in London, has been taken into custody at Glasgow on suspicion of having been concerned in the recent explosion at the gas works there. He also claims to have lately arrived from America. The house of an avowed sympathizer with the conspirators, at Birmingham, was mobbed, and the man was obliged to seek safety in the police station. A contrivance was found in the lodgings of the London prisoners for filtering sulphuric acid into chloride of potash, which would cause a disastrous explosion. A cartridge containing dynamite was placed in a cavity in the tower of Chateau Plessis near Paris. The cartridge exploded, but did very little damage. An American named Ansburgh was arrested at London in connection with the dynamite plots. A. M. Sullivan has denounced the dynamite faction, and O'Donovan Rossa has warned him to be careful of his utterance. Minister Lowell spoke at a banquet of civil engineers at Kensington, and in the course of his remarks assured his hearers that "no American any more than an Englishman believes assassination is war or dynamite the raw material of policy." Prince Bismarck's famous appetite has failed him, occasioning his physicians great anxiety.

MR. WILLIAM VESNOR HARCOURT introduced in the British house of commons a bill to amend the law in regard

to explosives, and it passed through the committee of the whole without opposition, was reported to the house and passed, being sent immediately to the house of lords, where it was adopted. The bill imposes severe penalties for causing or attempting to cause explosions imperiling life or property, and for the unlawful making or keeping of explosives, accessories being held to account equally with principals. The bill also enlarges the power of the police and vessel captains in searching for explosives, and authorizes the seizure of such compounds and the ingredients thereof. Brady, one of the Phoenix Parks conspirators was placed on trial at Dublin on the 10th inst., and pleaded not guilty. Dr. Webb Adams was assigned to defend Brady by the court. Hugh Gladstone, a cousin of the Prime Minister of England, and a member of the Liverpool firm of Gladstone & Sons, committed suicide by taking strychnine. Serious frauds have been unearthed in the accounts of the different Russian Ministers during the last ten years, but as several persons of distinction are implicated, the matter will probably be hushed up. The Czar and Czarina took a drive in an open carriage through the streets of St. Petersburg without the usual military escort. The ultramontanes of Germany are preparing for an imposing celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the consecration of the exiled Archbishop of Cologne. A Vienna dispatch says that in consequence of the success of Edwin Booth in King Lear, the engagement will be renewed.

The Colored Man and the Hog.

A writer in a Northern magazine wants to know why the negro constantly figures before the courts of the South. This question is very easily answered. We have been studying the colored gentleman's legal, or rather illegal, prominence for some time, and we have an abiding faith in the belief that the leading thinkers of the South will agree with us when we affirm that the hog, the unregenerated United States hog, is the cause. Place on a prairie, without any surroundings whatever, the average colored gentleman might prove to be an honest citizen, but when he lives in a community where hogs abound, there is no chance for him but to conduct his business on the silent under-current plan. From the remotest inception of slavery in America down to the last overflow, the negro and the hog have been linked in a relationship unknown to Hottentot. The grunt of the hog to him has ever been a sound as familiar as the lament of the missionary is to the Fiji Islander. This is not the fault of the colored gentleman. In no respect can you load the blame on him. He was doing business in Africa, at an obscure stand, when the white man transported him to America and introduced him to the hog and assisted him in cultivating an appetite for the flesh of the animal despised by the lineal descendants of Moses. He did not claim relationship with the hog until the white man, the pioneer of earthly mischief, induced a lasting acquaintance. The intimacy, carelessly begun, soon ripened into passion. The colored gentleman insisted upon associating with the hog. Now it is impossible to effect a separation. The hog is willing, but his legs are weak. The law is willing, but the negro is not. He adheres to the custom of his fathers. His father said let us have hog, and immediately there was hog. No revision that the law may make can effect this ancient declaration. The law may say thou shalt not steal hog nor bear false witness against the sow, but the action of tradition says, "gimme de shoat".

No, sir, the colored gentleman cannot be an undoubted Christian so long as the hog inhabits the land. He may struggle and pray a great deal, but when the light in the church is extinguished, and the sisters with tearful eyes go home, the colored gentleman looks around for a place where he can have undisturbed association with the swine. We don't mean that all or one-third of the colored gentleman do this, but we mean that the old-time representative is the man who will not forego the pleasure.—*Arkansas Traveler*.

—*Galveston News*: A fight between a rattlesnake and a black snake was recently witnessed near Fort Worth. The black snake forced the fighting, gliding around in swift circles, while the rattlesnake lay coiled. The circles grew smaller, and the rattlesnake appeared confused as the black snake drew closer. His rattles ceased to give their usual sharp sound and his head dropped as if vertigo was seizing him. The black snake by one lightning movement seized the rattler by the throat, and winding about him the two rolled over and over together. In a few moments the rattler ceased to breathe. An examination of the dead rattlesnake revealed a fracture of the spine as complete as if done with a club. The rattlesnake measured five feet four inches.

TEXAS COTTON.

Estimated Receipts at Galveston for the Present Season 900,000 Bales. Globe-Democrat.

GALVESTON, April 12.—The total receipts of cotton at Galveston thus far this season, in round numbers, are 60,000 bales net in excess of the total receipts at this port during the whole of last year. There are five months of the present cotton season, lacking eleven days, still to run. It is estimated that the total receipts at Galveston during the present year will approximate 900,000 bales. The following table shows the total receipts at the five leading cotton ports of the United States thus far this season, ending last evening, and for the same time during the two previous seasons:

| FOR 1882 AND 1883. | | Bales. |
|--------------------|-----------|--------|
| Galveston | 757,884 | |
| New Orleans | 1,532,226 | |
| Savannah | 771,300 | |
| Charleston | 546,122 | |
| Norfolk | 791,151 | |
| FOR 1881 AND 1882. | | |
| Galveston | 400,984 | |
| New Orleans | 1,131,499 | |
| Savannah | 697,643 | |
| Charleston | 476,124 | |
| Norfolk | 571,915 | |
| FOR 1880 AND 1881. | | |
| Galveston | 613,341 | |
| New Orleans | 1,416,790 | |
| Savannah | 814,063 | |
| Charleston | 587,882 | |
| Norfolk | 644,592 | |

The total receipts at the ports above named during the whole of the seasons 1881 and 1882, and 1880 and 1881 were as follows. The figures are those of the running account as given at the close of August, and do not include the corrections subsequently made by the National Cotton Exchange:

| FOR 1881 AND 1882. | | Bales. |
|--------------------|-----------|--------|
| Galveston | 442,860 | |
| New Orleans | 1,188,242 | |
| Savannah | 733,668 | |
| Charleston | 499,485 | |
| Norfolk | 618,937 | |
| FOR 1880 AND 1881. | | |
| Galveston | 694,661 | |
| New Orleans | 1,605,584 | |
| Savannah | 889,383 | |
| Charleston | 625,164 | |
| Norfolk | 719,536 | |

Receipts at the five points from the present date to the close of the season in 1881 and 1882 were as follows:

| FOR 1882. | | Bales. |
|-------------|---------|--------|
| Galveston | 41,876 | |
| New Orleans | 56,747 | |
| Savannah | 36,205 | |
| Charleston | 23,361 | |
| Norfolk | 47,022 | |
| FOR 1881. | | |
| Galveston | 61,320 | |
| New Orleans | 188,794 | |
| Savannah | 75,320 | |
| Charleston | 37,782 | |
| Norfolk | 74,924 | |

The increase this season over last season and the increase and decrease this season over 1880 and 1881 are as follows:

| INCREASE FOR 1881 AND 1882. | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|--|
| Galveston | 356,400 | |
| New Orleans | 45,072 | |
| Savannah | 73,657 | |
| Charleston | 69,998 | |
| Norfolk | 159,236 | |
| INCREASE FOR 1880 AND 1881. | | |
| Galveston | 144,043 | |
| New Orleans | 115,436 | |
| Savannah | None. | |
| Charleston | None. | |
| Norfolk | 86,559 | |
| DECREASE FOR 1880 AND 1881. | | |
| Galveston | None. | |
| New Orleans | None. | |
| Savannah | 43,763 | |
| Charleston | 41,260 | |
| Norfolk | None. | |

GALVESTON'S PROGRESS.

It is interesting to note the progress which Galveston is making as a cotton port. In 1871 and 1872 her rank in point of receipts was sixth in the list of cotton ports. From 1872 and 1873 to 1875 and 1876 she was fifth in the list. In 1875 and 1876 and 1876 and 1877 she held the fourth place. In 1877 and 1878 and 1878 and 1879 she was third. In 1879 and 1880 and 1880 and 1881 she went back to the fourth place, and in 1881 and 1882 she was led by four other cotton ports, giving her the fifth place. This was due to the fact that the cotton crop suffered more severely from drouth in Texas that year than in any of the other cotton-growing states, the yield falling off from 1,260,347 bales in 1880 and 1881 to 828,854 bales in 1881 and 1882.

Texas during the present season has made an immense cotton crop, which will undoubtedly place Galveston second in rank among the cotton ports of America. At this date she is led by New Orleans and Savannah,

but it is believed that before the season closes Galveston will lead Savannah. Galveston's receipts to date are 757,884 bales, against 771,300 bales at Savannah, the latter port being 13,961 bales ahead of Galveston at this date, and with a considerable amount of the Texas crop still to come forward the difference in favor of Savannah will shortly be wiped out and Galveston will take rank as a cotton port.

SECOND ONLY TO NEW ORLEANS. When it is understood that Galveston is dependent for her cotton receipts upon the state of Texas alone, the increase in her cotton business shows the wonderful productive development that is going on in the interior. New Orleans has tributary to her cotton business more or less of the trade of some seven or eight states, while Galveston has but Texas alone. Yet two-thirds of the total cotton product of Texas in the way of receipts will make Galveston the second cotton port in the United States. Results such as these demonstrate what the state of Texas now is, and what she may become when all her grand possibilities and varied resources are fully developed.

Galveston, however, to maintain her supremacy as the second cotton port of the Union and fully meet the requirements as the principal seaport of Texas, must speedily remove the bar at the entrance of the harbor, and secure a depth of water to admit the passage of all vessels seeking tonnage at her port. She will then become the leading commercial city of the southwest, and not only the great exporting point for Texas, but of a large portion of the northwest, unless the powerful syndicates that now control the railway system of the southwest, by discriminating against Galveston and diverting the products seeking exportation, from her to New Orleans or ports on the Atlantic seaboard, as is now indicated.

TEXAS TOPICS.

—Twenty-five freight cars were reduced to kindling wood by a collision on the Texas and Pacific road near Marshall on the 6th.

—There are capitalists, both American and English, now at work making arrangements for the purpose of shipping beef by the refrigerating process from Texas to England. They have already made a contract with the English government to furnish them with all the beef they can take over. This company now has six 5,000 ton steamships ready to put on the line.

—*Chicago Shoe and Leather Review*: The grading up of cattle in the west and southwest has been going on rapidly for the past ten years. It would be difficult to decide whether Illinois or Kentucky is the centre of the short-horn breeding interests in this country. The centre, wherever it may be, is a moveable one. The Texas steer, that is, the original, broad-horn, half wild animal, is rapidly disappearing. Drovers of these cattle are now rarely seen. They have been displaced by better ones. This, as we have previously pointed out, means that one source of supply for plump, heavy hides is being cut off. The improved breed of cattle, with their sleek, glossy coats, have very thin, flabby hides. It is already getting to be a serious question as to where the future supply of thick, heavy hides will come from, for this grading-up process is going on to some extent on the South American pampas.

—Now that the foundation for the new capitol has been excavated, the syndicate are met with a trouble in the character of the cement to be used in the building, which the Capitol Board will be called upon to settle. The specifications require Texas cement to be used, that will stand a tensile strength of 300 pounds, and a crushing strength of 2,000 pounds to the square inch, the samples when tested, to have had an exposure of seven days. Captain W. D. Clark, superintendent of construction, gives the following opinion upon the subject to the capitol commissioners: "Cements that will sustain so large a weight at seven days, are necessarily very quick setting, and are objectionable on the ground that in making concrete the time required in mixing the matrix with the broken stone, wheeling or conveying, placing, spreading in the trenches and mauling, the cement is liable to become set and the bond destroyed; consequently, a slow setting cement is preferable. I venture the assertion if a cement will be permitted that will be equal to the best American brands, and the concrete made in a proper and thorough manner, the stone thoroughly bedded, with the vertical joints filled, that at the expiration of three years it will be difficult to remove the concrete without blasting, and as difficult to part the stone at their joints as to split at their centers."