Democrat-Star

OFFICIAL for December, 1887.

P. K. [illegible]gers have been figur[illegible] [illegible]robabilities for December. [illegible] There appears to be FRI[illegible]y serious in store for the [illegible] this little planet. Zad[illegible]e London astrologer, pro[illegible]s as follows:

The conjunction of Mercury with Jupiter in the sign Scorpio will be attended by earthquakes in Europe and in New Zealand, in early days of this month. About the 14th inst., shocks will be felt in England, Scotland and Ireland. About the 23d, shocks will be felt in India and Afghanistan, and very probably in France and Italy. No less than five planets (Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn and Neptune) being in signs (Leo, Scorpio and Taurus) found to be intimately connected with volcanic action, great disturbing action on the earth must result; and there is too much reason to fear an appalling catastrophe in one of the volcanic countries. Mars enters Libra and fans the flame of war in Austria, Burmah and China. At the new moon on the 14th inst., Saturn will be rising, so that there will be much suffering among the poor at this period; many accidents, and many sudden deaths from heart disease; acute rheumatism will be very prevalent. The 13th inst. will prove an unfortunate birthday anniversary.

Raphael predicts in the following fashion:

The 5th degree of the celestial sign Leo will ascend at the time of the lunation on the 14th; Saturn will be on the ascendant in square to Venus in the 4th, in sextile to Mars and trine to Mercury, and in sesquiquadrate to the luminaries in the 5th. Four planets are out of their dignitaries, and Saturn rising, denotes a wretched time for the poorer classes, much suffering and want; many fatal accidents will occur, and much cruelty to females. The location of Herschel near the cusp of the 4th will produce changes in the weather, wind, storms and a great range in the temperature. Mars is unfavorably placed for traveling and agriculture. Jupiter near the cusp of the 5th will benefit pleasure resort; we shall hear the death of some eminent woman. The general position of the planets are rather favorable for the public health, and I anticipate a healthy month, with a low death-rate.

The transit of Saturn in Leo still unfavorable for the French nation, and will cause dissatisfaction. Mars enters Libra on the 6th, and Uranus being in this sign, we may expect lively scenes to occur in the Celestial empire, also in Egypt and Austria. The position of Jupiter in Scorpio is favorable for navigation and foreign commerce, and during his stay in this sign I anticipate an increase in the shipping returns, especially such as trade in the [illegible]uthern hemisphere. Australia [illegible] benefit much from the transit [illegible] Jupiter through the sign.

[illegible]he fortunate characteristics and [illegible]ificance of each day in the [illegible]th are given as follows:

[illegible]. Court, marry, ask favors and [illegible]e servants in p. m.

[illegible] A doubtful day; be careful.

[illegible] Do not travel or remove, the [illegible] is bad.

[illegible] Sunday—Visit thy friends in [illegible]

[illegible]Travel, deal and buy before 6 [illegible]

[illegible]gn no writings and make no [illegible]ts before noon, after which [illegible] and hire servants up to 8 [illegible]

[illegible]n uncertain day; be careful.

[illegible] Buy, speculate and deal before [illegible]. m., after which travel.

9. Buy carefully up to 2 p. m.

10. A doubtful day; be careful.

11. Sunday—Be thou careful.

12. Thou mayest buy, deal and speculate in p. m. before 6.

13. Buy, deal, speculate and push thy affairs up to 4 p. m.

14. Travel, remove, but ask no favors.

15. Sell about 4 p. m. after which court and ask favors.

16. A doubtful day; be careful.

17. Sell in the p. m.

18. Sunday—Travel.

19. Sell about 10 a. m., buy and deal about 2 p. m,

20. Court, marry and hire servants in p. m., but sign no writings.

21. Buy, deal and speculate in the p. m., or evening.

22. Buy and deal with care from noon to 6 p. m.

23. A doubtful day; be thou careful.

24. Uncertainty prevails this day.

25. Sunday—Doubtful.

26. Avoid females and do not marry.

27. Buy with care from noon to 6 p. m. and ask favors.

28. Travel and remove before 4 p. m.

29. A doubtful day; be careful.

30. Sell about 4 p. m.

31. Court, marry, speculate, buy, deal, hire servants, bake and brew before 7 p. m.

A Philadelphia family has a parrot that prays. He learned it by imitating a goody-goody girl in the house, and astonished the family on his first performance.

The *Scientific American* states on the authority of D. Gerard, that the inconveniences resulting from bites mosquitoes and gnats, especially when recent, may be relieved by rubbing the bitten spot with chlorofoam. Will some one try and announce the effect of the nostrum?

The great reduction in the price of quinine is attributable to the enlightened treatment of the cinchona trees. Formerly the bark was stripped clean and the trees were left naked to bleed to death. Now when the bark is removed the trees are swathed with moss, new bark forms on them, and instead of living to bear one crop of bark they might be preserved indefinitely, and yet yield their bark yearly. It amounts to multiplying the quinine-bearing trees by millions. Quinine will never be expensive again.

CORRECT IT.—It is a deplorable fact that Mississippi is underestimated because her lands are not assessed at their true value. This is another play of the false economy theory. Property should not be underestimated. There is no point gained by so doing, but there are many points lost. Nothing is gained, but foreigners will depreciate our State because it is not correctly represented. This evil should be corrected.—*Starkville Citizen.*

A WAIL FROM THE SANCTUM.—If the gentlemen who tarred and feathered us last Saturday night will kindly return our clothes they will confer a lasting favor. We are still wearing the feathers, and while, owing to thoroughness of our fellow-citizens' work, they are quite comfortable for house wear, still the gentlemen who have come out with a fall feather suit are so few that our appearance in the street in the costume would be sure to cause remarks.—*Grub Stake (Texas) Prospector.*

Mrs. Seymour, a Chicago widow, was blown off the train by a gale while passing from one car to another, and now sues the railroad company for twenty-five thousand dollars. The company never anticipated a gale that could lift a Chicago widow off her feet.

The Democrat-Star

A General Salutation

Texas Siftings.

The Texas journalist, who has been summer-fallowing himself on a stock ranch for a couple of years, suddenly assumed control of a country weekly, and in the first issue after he struck the quarter deck he published a small and unpretentious card in which he said:

"The former editor of this sheet is practically and politically dead, but the Sausage still survives. It is just as well though, and a mighty sight better, as I am a hoss at editin' and sling one of the most caustic and fluentist quills west of the Red river. I have a record behind me which doesn't need a new coat of whitewash every spring, like that other editor which recently peyuked and drawed out of the game.

"At gitten up obituaries I'm a tossel top, and if there's any hitch in the programme I can generally furnish a fresh corpse on short notice, and at the usual slight advance on cost of insertion. I merely throw this out as a leeler to the opposishun, which I hear is amassing its forces agin me and my paper and by the freckled-faced, bow-legged, cock-eyed gods of war there'll be a power of high priced opera music floating in the air if any of them try to climb me.

"If there is any corte house ring in this sweet scented locality, I'll get on to it, sure as you're a foot high. If there is to be any monkeying with the free-born, untrammeled country delegates to the next county convention, I'll be there with my face washed and my hair combed back of my ears.

"I've licked many a good man, and I've been licked once or twice in my variegated career, but I've always noticed that them fellers who whipped me were not the same men afterward, and drooped along for a while like a sun-struck tomato vine, and finally dropped into the grave with a dull thud, having kinder outlived their usefulness.

"I want it distinctly understood that I'm in from the back counties, and ain't up to the cote etiket of the strawberry blonde or the pulpy dude. If I made any miscues it will be more an error of the head than the heart; but, for all that, I propose to run a jam-up sizzing-hot, nitty little paper, and move along with the best kind of harmony. But if harmony bucks, and tries to do any dirt on me, harmony will have to git off the track and leave me gli'de right inter the confidence of the public.

"If this journal says anything out of the way and grieves any mottle-faced, tendertoot, remember I'm the man he wants to see about it! There ain't no back stairs or back windows to this sanctorium. I'm always in. I'm ever on the tripod and now with these few brief remarks I cordially invite everybody's co operations. The tone of the paper will be pure in sentiment, chaste in expression and typographically bang up and delirious."

LARGE VERSUS SMALL TREES. We are satisfied from long experience and observation that a great mistake is made in ordering large size 3 to 4 year old fruit trees in preference to a smaller size of two years old. First, the freight or express charges are double. Second, the larger trees are more likely to die because of poorer roots, in proportion to the size of the tree. Third, they cannot be packed as well and go a long journey as safely as smaller trees. In our long experience we have found that a medium sized 2-year taken up and set at the same time as a large 3 or 4-year old tree, will come into full bearing first and be the healthier. [*Popular Gazette.*

FREE NEWSPAPERS.—When people want to read a newspaper they should always subscribe to and pay for it, and they will get double the worth of their money. But when they want to borrow a newspaper they should always first go to a first-class hotel and ask for free meals and lodging, and to grocery stores and dry-good establishments and ask for fresh goods without charge, just for the fun of the thing. They will not, of course, be fully accommodated in such small matters, but they will at least profit much by learning some common sense which they have not when they want to borrow a newspaper and read its costly news for nothing.

An exchange says: "Gentle reader, did you ever notice that the fellow who goes round telling what the papers ought to do, how they should write up the towns in glowing colors and poetry to the world, publish the glad news of the home boom, give tone to the city and boom it according to their own ideas, did you ever notice, we repeat it, these same fellows are the last to pay anything for the support of their papers? They are all blow. They are great fellows by their mouth measurement, but when it comes to help pay off these hurrahs and expenses they are the worst kind of kickers.

The amount of gold and silver received at the United States mints during the last fiscal year was very much greater than in any corresponding period for the past seven years.

A large white oak tree at Vernon, Ala., is one of the botanical curiosities of the State. Half of the foliage of the tree is yellow all summer and autumn, and the other half is always a dark green.