

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

Officers holding commissions of Nicholls took possession of the offices in Ouachita parish in violation of the statu quo. Gen. Augur called Gov. Nicholls' attention to the complaint of Eckard. Nicholls replied he would have the

WASHINGTON NOTES.

POLITICAL POINTS

J. W. Lawwell, one of the Oregon Democratic candidates for Presidential Electors at the late election, testified before the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections last week. He went to the meeting of the Oregon Electoral Committee, because he understood the Repub-

MISCELLANEOUS GLEANINGS.

Judge David Davis, whom the Illinois Legis-

Gen. John McDonald, one of the leading members of the Missouri whisky ring, has been pardoned by President Grant.

A system of customs frauds, thought to be unparalleled in breadth and ingenuity, has just been unearthed at Washington. The principal means of defrauding the revenue has been through false invoices, and the only means of their detection lay in attaching bills to United States Consuls in Europe. This has been done by means of a United States official traveling incognito among the crooked consuls, who has recently returned to Washington, having succeeded in securing clews that will lead to the conviction of some of the largest importing firms in the East. Suit is to be commenced by the District Attorneys against the offending merchants, and the developments promised are of a startling character.

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24.—*Senate*.—Consideration of the bill in regard to the electoral count was resumed. Mr. Conkling, who was entitled to the floor, not being present, Mr. Sargent took the floor and spoke in opposition to the bill. He said he did not believe the measure would accomplish the result aimed at. There were suspicions of unfairness about it; it gave improper power to the tripartite which it created. He argued that the members of the majority would be tempted to delegate to Congress the power to count the electoral vote or discriminate between the results. That action, he claimed, was taken in the President of the Senate. Mr. Sargent further proposed the bill because, he claimed, it defeated the Supreme Court by bringing the judges down into the mud-hole of politics, and he believed them to wade through it. At the conclusion of Mr. Sargent's speech, Mr. Conkling moved the yeas and nays be taken. Mr. Sargent argued that in no instance had the President of the Senate attempted to do anything in providing over the question.

the joint convention to count the electoral vote except by command of the houses, and cited numerous precedents and authorities to sustain his position.

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THURSDAY, JUN. 25.—Senate.—The debate in the Senate on the bill reported by the select committee in regard to counting the electoral vote was continued all night. Mr. Morton continued his speech in opposition to the bill. He claimed that the bill was flagrantly unconstitutional, that the commission could not carry out its provisions without going behind the votes as cast, thereby invading the domain of the electors, and that it was unequal, but the Democratic cat was reaping beneath it, and he earnestly urged Republican Senators to vote against it. Mr. Blaine responded by saying that the bill was entirely constitutional grounds. He had desired earnestly to support the bill, if he could do so consistently. The arguments adduced in its favor had persuaded him of its constitutionality, and he felt himself bound to support it. He concluded by urging the Republican Senators to record his vote.

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new to regulate and control the election of President, which power, in his judgment, had never been lodged in the two houses by the framers of the constitution. He said that the bill might be now, this bill would not be sustained by the American people when they should have time to consider it. He said that he would like to strike a blow at the Electoral College, which stood as a high in the constitution as the executive itself, and shattered it from the ground. He said that he would like to see the power of Congress, which might at any time thwart the will of the people and render null and void the election of President. The debate was continued till 11 o'clock p. m. Hewitt, New York, Caldwell, of Tennessee, Springfield, of Kentucky, and Ward, of Maine, speaking in support of the bill, and Johnson, of Pennsylvania, and Garfield, of Ohio, in opposition.

FRIDAY, JAN. 26.—Senate.—The session of the Senate was brief, and no business of importance transacted. Mr. Jones, of Florida, called up a petition of the Democratic Presidential electors of Florida, recently presented by him, asking that the Senate should be authorized to address the Senate at length in regard to the

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and because Congress had no right to support the authority. Mr. Harrison (Democrat, Ohio) said that the bill would be a support of the slave. Mr. Foster (Republican, Ohio) believed that in favor of the bill, selected Mr. Anderson (Democrat, Indiana) spoke in favor of the bill. Townsend (Republican, New York) was content to let the bill pass, but he thought it would not be proper to put in jeopardy that election; he did not he proposed to support the measure. Mr. Lynch (Republican, New York) said that the bill was a constitutional ground, Mr. Knott (Democrat, Kentucky) did not think that Congress had the right to pass the bill, but he thought it was a counteracting the electoral vote to a commission; he therefore opposed the bill, Mr. Carr (Democrat, Kentucky) said that the bill was a constitutional ground. Mr. Dannel (Republican, Tennessee) opposed the measure; he thought that the bill was a support of the slave and that the same great force would be played over again years hence. Mr. Hixson (Democrat, Kentucky) said that the bill was a support of the slave. Mr. (Republican, Iowa) opposed it as at variance with the whole course of constitutional procedure.

Mr. Speaker,	YEAN,	Power,
Abbott,	Hardenbergh.	Rea,
Adams,	Harris, Mass.,	Resgan.
Andrews,	Hartie, Ga.,	Reilly, John,
Anderson,	Harris, Va.,	Reilly, J. B.,
Beche,	Hartman,	Rice,
Binkins,	Hartbridge,	Riddle,
Bogby,	Hartzell,	Robbins, N. C.,
Bogley, Geo. A.,	Hatcher,	Robbins, Va.,
Bogley, John U.,	Hathorn,	Roberts,
Bunning,	Haymond,	Ross, N. J.,
	Henkle,	

[illegible]

and the papers, denouncing the attempt of the committee to compel their production as usurpation of the rights of the House. The documents were beyond their reach, being in possession of the Louisiana Secretary of State. After the adjournment of the House, the prisoners were ordered the prisoners to be held in the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms until they produce the papers. Mr. Knott, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, said that he had received the address of Mr. McElroy as the Representative from Louisiana. The Indian Appropriation bill was reported.

Republicans Caucus.—A caucus of the Republicans, members of the House was held in the evening, at which Messrs. Garfield and Hoar were chosen as the representatives of the party on the House branch of the electoral tribunal.

Monday, Jan. 29.—Senate.—A special Message was received from the President announcing the approval of the Electoral Arbitration bill. The President says he believes the bill gives assurance to the electors that their votes will be counted by the supporters of the disappointed candidate, and that the highest officer shall not hold his

acknowledging the Hampton Government in South Carolina as the legal Government, and made an address before the Legislature of that State. The result was early legislation which would have resulted there was any intimidation on the part of the whites toward the blacks. On the contrary, he had been told by the Hampton Government that the Democratic ticket by Republicans of their own color.... Mr. Sargent submitted to the Senate the bill for the purpose of having the State appointed to investigate the late election in Florida. The report finds that the electoral vote of that State was secured by fraud. He also introduced a resolution of the Canvassing Board in throwing out the returns on the ground of fraud and intimidation.

House:—The following bills were introduced and passed:—by Mr. Banning, fixing the time for the first meeting of Congress. It provides that at the first session of every Congress shall begin on the second Monday of December next after the adjournment of the United States certain lands granted to the Indians for railroad purposes, and providing for the sale of such lands to the highest bidder; and authorizing a freight railroad company from tide-water to the mouth of the Missouri river.

Tuesday, Jan. 30.—Senate:—Mr. Edmunds presented a memorial from the directors of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, asking that the President direct the Senate to acquire the land.

the part of the Senate to perform the duties assigned by the Electoral Count bill which recently passed. Agreed to....Mr. Mitchell, of Oregon, moved to amend the Pacific Railroad acts to increase the number of petitions were presented, asking for the election of the sixteenth Amendment, to the Constitution of the United States, prohibiting States from disfranchising persons on account of sex. (The Republicans), and Bayard and Thurman (Democrats) were unanimously selected to represent the Senate in the election of the sixteenth Amendment, but not to sit, they having previously been nominated success.

—The House, by a vote of 158 to 75, passed the following:—The Board of Police Commissioners of the District of Columbia, on the President's veto....The bill appropriating \$500,000 to be paid to James B. Eads for the construction of the Mississippi river jetty, etc., was passed by a vote of 158 to 75. The House then elected five members of the committee on the Presidential electoral count.

The Geysers of America.
A correspondent, writing from the region of the National Park, Mon., giving a description of the geysers and other natural curiosities, says: "This region is not adapted to farming, as there is a frost nearly every night in the year owing to its great altitude, it being in some places 9,150 feet above the sea."

But there is a luxuriance of vegetation
growing where in the summer and autumn

"The rocky formation around the hot springs," he explained and illustrated, "is of every imaginable color, from the palest lavender to the darkest brown or black, while the water in deep pools or springs is of a dark turquoise blue. Even the beauties of the place have, however, not learned to save it from the vandalism of the tourist people, who have sought to embellish some of the most beautiful ever chimney-ways by the inscription of their names and null postoffice addresses. Hunting and fishing are of the best, game of all kinds being plenty until about two years ago, when a party of hunters killed some two thousand elk over their hides, since when elk have been scarce. He advocated earnestly the appropriation of a small sum by Congress, which has set this ground apart for a national park, for building a road and a bridge in order, as a concession to prevent the worst vandalism which is rapidly marring many of the beauties of the most beautiful as well as the largest park in the world."

Flight of Potato Beetles.

The Farmer's Club, which meets at Rochester, have been discussing the question whether the Colorado potato beetle can fly. After the evidence was given, the general verdict was that the insects were unable to sustain a flight. To one who watched their advent in this city in the summer of 1874 would question the fact. In the eastward progress of the destroying army the left wing had crossed the Detroit river and moved through Canada, arriving a full season earlier than the main body, which moved southward of Lake Erie through Ohio. When the army arrived at the eastern limit of their Canadian route, they were confronted by the Niagara river, half a mile wide at the narrowest place, with a current flowing from five to nine miles an hour. Swimming such a current as that was out of the question, and they must have crossed the river on the wing. They were apparently unable to do this, and the army crept across the streets, and on bearing due east, in obedience to the same mysterious instinct which led their progenitors from their Colorado home.

Quebec Commerce Depressed

The exhibit of the foreign commerce of Russia for the first eight months of 1876, as compared with the same period of 1875, shows a remarkable depression in trade. Raw sugar, as an import, has declined from 44,000,000 pounds to 14,000,000 pounds; from 2,000,000 to 1,709,000 pounds; coffee, oil, wine, fish, bar iron, machinery, and cotton and woollen fabrics, have declined in the same ratio. The importations of coal, steel rails, and raw cotton have, however, increased—the increase in total receipts exceeding 45 per cent. The exports, as a rule, have likewise fallen off heavily—the line of cereals declining 2,000,000 pounds, or to 72,000,000 pounds, equal to about 1,400,000 bushels; and the exports of flax and hemp have also fallen off heavily.

THE MARKETS.		
NEW YORK.		
KEYES	8	25 11 75
KEYES	6	80 6 700
KEYES	5	10 85 10
KEYES—Superfine Western	5	70 6 600
KEYES—No. 7 Chicago	1	43 4 44
KEYES—Western Mixed	1	43 4 40
KEYES—Western Mixed	1	41 4 47
KEYES—Western	1	44 85
KEYES—New Mexico	17	17 10 10
KEYES—Steam	11	6 11 12 1/2
CHICAGO.		
KEYES—Choice Graded Steers	5	00 5 50
KEYES—Choice Natives	4	75 4 90
KEYES—Cows and Heifers	2	75 2 75
KEYES—Good Second-class Beef	4	25 4 25
KEYES—Medium to Fair	4	25 4 50
KEYES—Lvs	5	50 5 50
KEYES—Purdy White Out	1	34 1 34
KEYES—Good to Choice Spring Ex.	5	00 5 75
KEYES—No. 2 Spring	1	23 6 12 1/2
KEYES—No. 3 Spring	1	23 6 12 1/2
KEYES—No. 2	41	42 41
KEYES—No. 3	24	36 35
KEYES—No. 2	70	64 70
KEYES—No. 2	80	61 80
KEYES—Creamery	33	86 35
KEYES—From	25	28 28
KEYES—Mess	10	50 16 75
KEYES—S.D.	10 1/2	11 11
MILWAUKEE.		
KEYES—No. 1	1	31 4 1 35
KEYES—No. 2	1	27 4 1 28
KEYES—No. 3	44	45 45
KEYES—No. 2	33	34 34
KEYES—No. 3	70	71 70
KEYES—No. 2	80	81 80
ST. LOUIS.		
KEYES—No. 2 Red	1	45 4 1 46
KEYES—Western Mixed	38	38 38 1/2
KEYES—No. 2	82	82 82
KEYES—No. 3	70	70 70
KEYES—Mess	16	50 17 00
KEYES—D.	10	10 10 1/2
KEYES—Mess	3	75 5 6 16
KEYES—S.D.	3	75 5 10 50
CINCINNATI.		
KEYES—No. 1	1	40 4 1 45
KEYES—No. 2	41	43 43
KEYES—No. 3	35	40 40
KEYES—Mess	17	60 17 75
KEYES—S.D.	10 1/2	12 12
TOLEDO.		
KEYES—Extra	1	48 4 1 50
KEYES—Amber	1	47 4 1 45
KEYES—No. 2	38	37 38
KEYES—No. 3	36	37 36
DETROIT.		
KEYES—No. 1	6	00 5 50
KEYES—White	1	30 4 50
KEYES—No. 2	45	47 45
KEYES—No. 3	43	44 43
KEYES—Mess	17	60 17 75
KEYES—S.D.	10 1/2	12 12
EAST LIBERTY, PA.		
KEYES—Yorkers	4	65 4 70 00
KEYES—Philadelphias	25	74 74 00
KEYES—Best	75	60 75 00
KEYES—Best	50	50 50 00
KEYES—Best	50	50 50 00

TO CORRESPONDENTS.
All communications for this paper should be accompanied by the name of the author; not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith on the part of the writer. Write only on one side of the paper. Be particularly careful in stating names and dates, to have no letters and figures plain and distinct.

THE LITTLE FOLKS.

A Nut to Crack.
There was an old woman who lived in a hut
About the size of a hickory nut;
The walls were thick, and the ceiling low,
And seldom out doors did the old woman go.
She took no paper, and in no book
Of any sort was she wont to look.
And yet she imagined she knew much more
Than any man or woman had known before.
They talked in her hearing of wondrous things,
Of the dazzling splendor of Eastern kings,
Of mountains covered with ice and snow,
When all the valley lay green below.
They spoke of adventures by sea and land,
Of oceans and seas by a castle spanned,
Of buried treasures—but thought she also heard,
She said she didn't believe one word!
And still she lives in her little hut
About the size of a hickory nut;
At peace with herself, and quite content,
With the way in which her days are spent.
Little it troubles her, I suppose,
Because so very little she knows.
For, keeping her doors and her windows shut,
She has shivered up in her hickory nut.
And you, my dear, will no longer grow
If you rest content with what you know;
But a faithful object you will dwell,
Shut up inside of your hickory shell.
—W. D. Howells.

The Pink Parrot and the Gray Boy.
Once there was a parrot, I knew him.
He wore a pink suit, with a pale,
sulphur-hued plume in his crested cap.
And there was a boy; and I knew him.
He wore a gray suit. There was a
shiny silver buckle on his cap.
The Gray Boy owned the Pink Parrot.
The Pink Parrot owned nothing—not
now, not even himself. It was a
great change, I tell you, from a forest
to a cage, from choosing his own fruit
and nuts to waiting for them upon the
pleasure of a boy. The Pink Parrot
judged all boys by the Gray Boy, and he
loved boys. He often sat on his ring,
silent, motionless, and hated boys by
the hour.
The Gray Boy would bring in grapes
and berries and nuts, and lay them down
in plain sight, but out of reach, saying
to the Pink Parrot, "Wait-a-bit! wait-a-bit!" And the Pink Parrot would
wait, and while he waited the Gray Boy
made faces.
Parrots have a hooked bill, and the
upper jaw is hung with a hinge, like a
box-lid. Did you know it?
The Gray Boy would draw his chin in to
look like the hooked bill; then he would
work his mouth like a hinge. Indeed,
the Pink Parrot was never certain of his
breakfast, as to time nor quantity. Ten
to one, when a luscious grape was all
but in his bill, the Gray Boy would go
out of the room carrying the grape with
him. He would say: "Will you have it
now, or wait till you can get it?" May-
be he would come back, and maybe he
wouldn't.
But the Pink Parrot's day came at last.

The Gray Boy had a watch lately given
him, a lovely—O! a little darling of a
gold watch, that would tick, and need to
be real "true" wound up at night. It
had a fob-chain and some charms—
anchors and bells and bows and arrows,
mimic snakes and ball-bats—everything,
in fact, that would interest a boy, and
render his life perfectly delightful, was
attached to the Gray Boy's fob-chain.
The Gray Boy, one morning, the 24th
of December, in fact, to take the
half-past 9 train, all by himself, to join
his papa and mamma at his grandpa's
in the country. He had been left in
town, with the housekeeper, until school
should close.
The Gray Boy had breakfast, and was
now ready to go. It had been a
hasty meal, but was there not to be
stuffed turkey and cranberry sauce for
dinner? He had bidden the house-
keeper good-morning, and had gone up-
stairs for the bunch of hot-house rose-
buds and the *Harper's Magazine* he
was to take out to mamma, and to brush
his coat and put on his watch.
He had left them upon the table on the sit-
ting-room table, in readiness all to-
gether, a moment ago. And now, how
could he believe his eyes, that his watch
was not on the table! The Gray Boy
was in double dismay. It was near
train time, and then the idea that a
sneak thief had been in the house! He
ran up to his room to see if he could
have left the watch in its case; he ran
down, calling aloud to the housekeeper
as he went. But she had stepped out.
He ran back again, and stood still, look-
ing blankly at the table.
All at once, light over his head, there
was a shrill cackle of laughter. The
Gray Boy looked up. He gave an angry
cry. There, in the ebony ring which
had been attached to the ceiling for his
swing, high out of reach, hung the Pink
Parrot. The gold watch was between
his claws, the again glittering as it hung.
As he met the Gray Boy's eyes he
cackled again and laughed maliciously.
"Wait a bit, wait a bit!" he shrieked.
The Gray Boy danced with rage.
While dancing he heard the whistle of
the half past 9 train. He wildly flew
down to the kitchen. The housekeeper
had not returned. He flew up stairs
again, and, tears running down his
cheeks, he flew out into the street.
"Will you have it now, or wait until
you can get it?"
This was what the naughty Pink Parrot
shrieked after him, cackling with de-
riving laughter until he nearly fell off the
ring.
Just sobbing with helpless rage the
Gray Boy rushed up the walk toward a
tall man in blue with a star on his breast.
"Police! I say, police!"
The policeman was greatly puzzled by
the queer, half-understood request;
but he went into the house. And
whether the Pink Parrot had been sent to
seeing policemen in the green forests
of Australia and knew him at once, I
cannot say; but I knew he started,
dodged and tumbled out of the ring
when they entered; and carefully taking
the watch in his beak he dropped down
to the table with it, and, leaving it
scrambled out of the room as fast as ever
he could, squealing and cackling like an
imp.

The Gray Boy had his watch again,
unhurt; but the day was spoilt, his
luscious grape was not brought back.
The train was gone, and he had to stay

in town all through a lonely Christmas
day, and eat a commonplace dinner with
the housekeeper. And the Pink Parrot
laughed.—*Wide Awake.*

The King and the Stable Boy.
During the visit of George III. to the
royal stables, a boy belonging to one of
the grooms took his attention.
There is no accounting for fancies; but
there was something about the boy that
won his royal master's favor, and the
King treated him kindly in many ways.
But a time of temptation came, and the
poor lad fell into disgrace; he had
stolen some oats from the royal bins,
and, being detected, the head groom
discharged him. The fact that he was
noticed by the King may have aroused
the envy and dislike of others, and it
may be that the occasion was gladly
seized by the groom to have him turned
away. There seemed to be no idea of
speaking to the poor lad about the
weakness of taking the oats, and aban-
doning the confidence of his master, but
only a determination to treat him as he
deserved. Who knows what a kind
word might have done for an erring boy,
who gave way to wrong-doing in a mo-
ment of temptation? But such was not
the case; he was turned adrift, with a
stain upon his character, to the great
relief of his parents.

Not long afterward, when the King
again visited his stables, he observed the
absence of the boy, and asked one of the
grooms what had become of him. The
groom, fearing to tell the truth, yet not
liking to tell a falsehood, said he had
left. His Majesty was not satisfied with
the groom's answer, and, suspecting
something wrong, called the head groom
to him, and made the inquiry again.
"I have discharged the boy, sire," an-
swered he.

"For what reason?" asked the King.
"He was discovered stealing the oats
from one of the bins," was the reply,
"and I sent him away."
The King felt sorry for the poor boy
who had disgraced himself thus, but
determined not to give him up, and or-
dered him to be sent for immediately.
The order was obeyed, and without loss
of time the boy was brought to the
King. What a scene was that—face to
face with the King of England stood the
boy, a convicted thief!

"Well, my boy," said his Majesty,
when the poor lad, trembling and looking
very pale, stood before him, not knowing
what awaited him, "is this true that I
hear of you?"
The lad could not look up into the
King's face, but, with his head bent
down, his only answer to the kind in-
quiry was a flood of tears. He had not
a word to say for himself; his mouth
was stopped, for he knew he was guilty;
he had not a word of excuse. The
King, seeing the poor boy was sorry on
account of his sin, spoke to him of the
evil—how he had not only taken what
was not his own, but abused the confi-
dence reposed in him. "I will have
my lad," said his Majesty, putting his hand
kindly upon the boy's head, "I forgive
you." Then, turning to the head groom,
he said, "Let the boy have his former
place, and let him be cared for."

What a thrill of joy did the lad's heart
feel as the King uttered those three
words, "I forgive you." Instead of
being ordered off to prison, and pun-
ished, and disgraced, he was restored to
favor, and restored to the place he had
lost. What gladness this gave the boy's
heart! It seemed almost too good to
be true. But who could dispute it?
The King himself had forgiven him,
and then the highest judge in the land
had not a word to say against it; he
was a guilty one, but now was forgiven
and by the King himself. Will
our young readers learn the beautiful
lesson contained in this story?—*Chris-
tian Guardian.*

The Talmud.
Jews, Protestants and Romanists all
agree in receiving as canonical the books
of our Old Testament. But as the
Romanists would add to these the
apocryphal books, so the Jews insist on
adding their oral law. They say that
when the written law was given to
Moses, inscribed on two tables of stone,
God also gave another and verbal law
explanatory of the first, which he was
commanded not to commit to writing,
but to deliver down by oral tradition.
When Moses came down from the
mount, they tell us that he first repeated
this oral law to Aaron and his sons, and
then to the seventy, and finally to all
the people, each of whom was obliged
to repeat it in his hearing to insure
its correct remembrance. Just before his
death, they say, he spent a month
and six days in repeating it to them
again; and then, they assert, he com-
mitted it in a special manner to
Joshua, through whom it was imparted
to Phineas, and so on through the long
line of prophets, and afterward of
teachers, down to the time of Judah
the Holy, who lived in the second
century, by whom it was committed to
writing, as it is now. This work, con-
sisting of six books, is the famous Mishna
of the Jews, which, with its Gemara, or commentaries,
constitutes their celebrated Talmud.—*Scribner.*

Crook's Campaign.
During the recent campaign against
the Sioux, Gen. Crook's troops have
marched 3,300 miles, the General and
his staff accompanying them from first
to last. Only seven months have been
actually consumed in accomplishing this
distance, which would make an average
of 472 miles per month. The spoils re-
sulting from the four principal battles
fought and from the Red Cloud agency
after are 395 horses captured and de-
stroyed, representing the homes of near-
ly 3,000 Indians; about 5,000 robes and
tons of other camp equipment; 350 Indians
captured; estimated 300 killed and 450
wounded, and 1,850 ponies captured.
Gen. Crook has lost a total of 22 men
killed in battle and 55 wounded, while
three have been lost by accident and dis-
ease.—*Cheyenne Sun.*

"In," says Mrs. Swishelm, speaking
of the genus tramp, "they die of cold
and hunger rather than use the industry
and forethought necessary to preserve
their lives, let them die and welcome;
whose business is it but their own?"
The world will have a good riddance,
and as for keeping their progeny alive,
it is cultivating pauperism and crime.

THE BUSINESS FAILURES OF 1876.

Evidence of the Country's Return to a
Sound and Healthy Financial Condi-
tion.

[From the New York World.]
The annual circular just issued by the
Mercantile Agency (Dun, Barlow & Co.)
throws much light upon the business
casualties of the past year and the pros-
pects of business in the near future.
Notwithstanding the financial disasters
of the past four years, and the gloom
and depression which have attended the
country from 1873 downward, there are
many things which should bring com-
fort for the present and hope for the
future. The authors of the circular say
it is undeniable that the past year has
witnessed a marked improvement in the
value of many leading staples, as com-
pared with the prevailing prices in 1875.
It is equally a fact that, in extent of
profitable trade, there has been a per-
ceptible gain, while in many branches
of business, a much larger number have,
in 1876, added to their available surplus
than during the year preceding. Nor
should it be forgotten that while the
past year has shown an augmentation of
business failures, it also exhibits a sat-
isfactory increase in the wealth of the
country. "Cotton, grain, sugar, to-
bacco, gold, silver, petroleum and nu-
merous other resources of this great
continent have been produced in quan-
tities sufficient to yield \$1,000,000." It
becomes a matter of sincere congratula-
tion that, while the producing power of
the nation has thus been exhibiting it-
self, the people have clearly demon-
strated by a lessening of importations
and a reduction in the consumption of
foreign goods that they have
learned the lesson of wise economy.

Looking at the business failures of
1876, the circular shows the number to
have been 1,352 greater than in 1875,
but the liabilities are \$10,942,567 less
in the former than in the latter year.
The failures were 9,092 in 1876, as
against 7,740 in 1875. The liabilities
in 1876 aggregated \$191,117,786, while
those of the year preceding amounted to
\$201,069,353. The following exhibit
an index of the financial disasters in busi-
ness circles for the past four years:

Year.	Number of failures.	Amount of liabilities.
1873.....	5,183	\$228,419,000
1874.....	5,909	155,239,000
1875.....	7,740	201,069,353
1876.....	9,092	191,117,786
Total.....	27,845	\$775,916,139

According to the circular the business
disasters of the past year have fallen
with greater heaviness upon the New
England and middle States than upon
other sections of the country. "It is a
significant circumstance," says the re-
porter, "that the failures in the middle
States are one in every fifty-seven men
reported in business, while in the West-
ern States the proportion is one in every
seventy-two; but the comparison be-
tween the East and South is even more
significant, for in New England, with all
its wealth and solidity, one in every
fifty-nine has yielded to the pressure
of the times, while in the South, with
all its poverty, its political and other
disabilities, the percentage of failures
is only one in every sixty-four." The
following table will serve to make this
disparity plain and clear.

STATES.	Number of failures.	Percentage of failures.	Average of liabilities.
New England.....	1,814	1 in 20	\$28,628
Middle.....	2,908	1 in 27	18,890
Western.....	3,130	1 in 72	16,843
Southern.....	1,381	1 in 64	16,960
Pacific.....	295	1 in 60	14,280

Compared with the whole country the
failures and liabilities of New York city
have been as follows for the two years
ending Dec. 31, 1876:

Year.	Number of failures.	Average of liabilities.
1875.....	9,092	\$1,026,000
1876.....	9,092	\$1,026,000

It will be seen from the foregoing that
the failures in this city were sixty-four
less last year than in 1875, while the
average liabilities fell from \$1,026,000
in 1875 to \$37,479 in 1876, a difference in
each case of \$14,290.
It would be interesting to refer to
other matters set forth in the circular
review, did space permit. Enough,
however, has been given to show that
the tide of disaster is lessening, and that
the country is making some approach
toward placing its business affairs on a
more sure and profitable basis. The
circular encouragingly says by way of
conclusion: "The steady improvement
in the value of our currency, the stabili-
ty of the credit of Government is-
sues, the approach to par of gold and
other values by natural causes, the
steady demand at excellent prices for all
the products of the land, are all circum-
stances which point to a healthy con-
dition."

The Iron Product of 1876.

Carefully prepared estimates of the
pig iron production of the United States
during 1876, compiled by the Secretary
of the American Iron and Steel Associ-
ation, show a total of 2,050,000 tons pro-
duced. This estimate will be supple-
mented subsequently by the exact fig-
ures, but it is very nearly accurate. There
has been a steady falling off in the
iron production of the country since
1873, as will be seen by the following
table, giving the total pig iron product
for each of the last four years:

Year.	Tons Pig Iron.
1873.....	2,488,273
1874.....	2,365,418
1875.....	2,365,581
1876.....	2,050,000

show this we give the number of pounds
of home-made, with the number im-
ported during the last five calendar
years, the quantity imported last De-
cember and November being estimated,
as the official figures have not yet been
published:

Years ending	Home-made, lbs.	Imported, lbs.
Dec. 31.....	501,050,700	5,709,116,000
1873.....	509,456,000	5,736,556,000
1874.....	423,350,487	5,375,825,000
1875.....	407,864,013	4,681,162,000
1876.....	370,373,937	4,100,000,000

—*Detroit Tribune.*

Webster Reformed.

With a view to the enlightenment of
unsophisticated and, therefore, fre-
quently puzzled persons of party out-
pourings, Mr. Finch has prepared the
following definitions and explanations of
some of the chief words and phrases in
the verbal armory of the party contro-
versalist. The personal pronouns in
these cases will, of course, be understood
to refer to the person speaking or writ-
ing:

**All Remarkable and Respectable
People—Ourselves.**

Everybody.—That portion of the com-
munity, small or great, which sides
with us.

Nobody.—Everybody who holds or ex-
presses opinions antagonistic to ours.

The Opinion of the Country.—This is
arrived at by an exceedingly simple
arithmetical process, namely, by sub-
tracting the views of "Nobody" (in the
above sense) from those of "Everybody"
(as before defined).

Common Sense.—The opinion common
to all those who agree with us.

Consent.—The impression on the
part of our opponents that they have
a right, equally with ourselves, to opin-
ions of their own.

Well-meaning but Misguided People.—
Persons whom it may be desirable to
deprecate but impolite to abuse.

Persistent and Pretentious Socialists.—
Persons of precisely the same way of
thinking or speaking, who may be at-
tacked with impunity.

Spouting.—A depreciatory epithet for
talk not our own.

Exit.—The specific of a rival per-
former.

Faction.—Departure from our pet pro-
gramme.

The Herd.—The world minus our
clique.

Imperial Interest.—National selfish-
ness—with a big S.

Humanitarianism.—A scornful sym-
onym for any form of humanity that
happens to run counter to "imperial
interest."

Intelligent Public Spirit.—Open advo-
cacy of our views.

Business Finesse.—Public advocacy
of any others.

Atrocity.—Verbal errors on the part of
our clients.

Atrocity.—The indignation of those
who dare to denounce them.

Sentiment.—The root of all—political
evil.

Inverted Commas.—A mechanical but
compensations and invaluable—because
unanswerable—method of tacit persua-
sion and mute depreciation. What a
shrug is to the scandal-monger inverted
commas are to a supreme critic.—
Punch.

Symptoms of Hydrophobia.

From a recent lecture on this disease
by N. Bouley, a French veterinary sur-
geon, the following precautions and
hints for detecting hydrophobia in dogs
is extracted:

Beware of a dog which begins to be
sick. All sick dogs, as a principle, must
be suspected.

Beware, especially, of one which is
sad, morose, and seeks for solitude;
which does not know where to rest;
which goes and comes, rambles about,
snaps and barks without reason; whose
looks are dull and gloomy; and whose
bright expression is lost.

Beware of the dog which looks about
and attacks imaginary phantoms.

Beware of one which is suddenly too
affectionate, asking for caresses by his
pitiful and repeated whines.

And thus you will protect yourselves
from danger to which you may be ex-
posed in your home from dogs kept as
family pets.

The bark of the mad dog is thorough-
ly characteristic; so much so, indeed,
that any one familiar with it can decide
with certainty the presence of a rabid
dog when this barking is heard. It is
not necessary, either, that the ear be
long exercised to familiarity with the
sound to obtain this certainty of diag-
nosis.

Instead of the normal and suc-
cessive barks, it is hoarse, lower in
tone, prolonged, and not so strong.
After the first bark made at full
strength, a series of five, six, seven or
eight others immediately succeed, low-
ered in strength, and thrown out from
the throat.

Belgian Offer to Coin Silver for the United States.

The Director of the Mint at Brussels,
Belgium, has made a proposition to coin
silver for the United States Govern-
ment. He states that the mints of Eu-
rope are closed against silver, and the
European market is in a deplorable
condition. He thinks that by using his
bullion-houses in Brussels, Paris, and
London for purchasing bullion and coin-
ing it at his mint, great stability would
be given the silver market, and the
United States would thereby be able to
coin the trade-dollar to an extent suffi-
cient to control the India and China ex-
changes. He is further of opinion that
the American silver-mining interests
would also be promoted if his proposi-
tion was accepted.

A Tremendous Clock.

The great clock at the south end of
the Crystal Palace at Sydenham is now
in working order. It is almost a coun-
terpart of the great Westminster clock,
with the exception of the striking and
chiming apparatus; and the dial is said
to be the largest ever constructed, being
four feet in diameter, and nearly 1,300
square feet in area. The hands, with
their counterpoises, weigh nearly a quar-
ter of a ton; the minute-hand measures
nineteen feet in length, and moves half
an inch at every beat of the pendulum.
The distance traveled by the point of
the minute-hand is nearly four miles a
week. During seventeen days of ob-
servation the variation was eight seconds
only.

THE STATE CAPITAL.

Letter from Our Regular Correspondent.

LANSING, Jan. 23, 1877.

One of the evils which every law-making
body should guard against is "class legisla-
tion." There is the more necessity for vigi-
lance in warding off this evil from the fact
that so much pressure is brought to bear upon
members of legislative bodies by persons or
corporations in whose interest such action is
desired. Not only do the chartered corpora-
tions besiege with every enticement which can
be used without suspicion of dishonesty, but
the various boards of State institutions each
put in a plea for their pet. Wednesday last
the doctors wanted a bill for the protection
of the people, but they didn't get it, as the
impression too largely prevailed that
the bill in question was principally in the
interest of the knights of the pill-box and
scalp. When a medical bill is presented
which meets the necessities of the case in a
plain and sensible manner there is little doubt
but that it will pass, yet we advise the doctors,
if they have any interest in the matter, to let
somebody else introduce and champion the
bill. The eloquent speeches the House
listened to the other day in support of catnip
tea and other "old woman's remedies," as the
doctors term them, fully attest the fact that
some members have more regard for the
purses of their grandmothers than for
the astute scientific knowledge of the
M. D.'s who have so earnestly at heart
the protection of the people against "quackery
and empiricism." The impression is gradu-
ally gaining ground that the medical depart-
ment of our State University is the cause of al-
together too much controversy. Already we
have two parties running in the department,
and their systems are directly opposed to each
other. Now come the eclectics as a third
school, and ask that they, too, shall have their
recognition. Of course, this is just the
much reason for granting their request as
there was for admitting either of the
other schools, and when we have added
a third who knows how soon the fourth and
the fifth will knock at the door and "present
their card." Would it not be better to banish
the medical department from the institution
altogether? That is the fact as applied to
medicine alone. The course of anatomy and
chemistry as well as the practice of operative
surgery could be maintained without any con-
flicts between the parties, and I see little good
to be done by the issuing of hundreds of
diplomas to worthless youths who go out
to prey upon the pocket-books and
lives of the people under the
sanction of an institution supported by the
State. I do not mean to say that no competent
physicians have been schooled at the Univer-
sity. Far from it; but I do confidently assert
that one-half of the graduates are not qual-
ified for the practice of medicine. So long as
the standard of medical excellence is placed at
the present low grade of requirement in our col-
lege, we can hardly wonder that many of the
people have more faith in catnip tea than in
the prescription of the professional practition-
er.

Thursday evening, Dr. Kedzie, of the State
Agricultural College, undertook to illumine
the subject of kerosene oils with reference to
the relative merits of high-test and low-test
brands. The use of Representative Hall had
been purloined for the purpose of the lecture,
and most of the members were present to obtain
all possible information upon a subject with re-
ference to which they have been preyed
upon by hosts of petitions from dealers
and consumers.

Dr. Kedzie said the present law requiring a
flash test of 150 degrees had been in force two
years, and as a result during that time we
have not had a lamp explosion reported in the
State. The only fault the people found with
the law was that in many instances
the high test had given them
oil with very poor burning qualities. The
doctor explained that the high test did not
necessarily produce this result. A good high-
test oil was a good burning oil. The difficulty
lay with the dealer, in order to raise the
test on their light oil—which was exceedingly
volatile—had run in large quantities of paraffine
in some cases the paraffine was
present to such an extent as to render the
oil entirely useless for illuminating
purposes. He showed four ounces
of clear paraffine which he had
extracted from one quart of oil. The
should be so amended that the Michigan test
would require freedom from paraffine, then we
would have a good oil. It would be a little
higher in price than the low-grade oil, but
it would burn longer to make it fully as
economical, to say nothing about the safety,
which was in reality the thing above price, or
any other consideration.

The Centennial Commissioners held a meet-
ing of their board during the past week. They
will present a report, and it is expected will
ask an appropriation to cover their expenses.
The report of the Michigan building at
Philadelphia has been brought hither and attached
to some one of the State institutions—for a library
building or something of that sort.

The report of the Legislature, Lansing
will have a farmers' institute, of which I
shall have something to say in my next letter.

The old State House looks solitary enough
to-night. Your correspondent sits alone, like
"Patience on a monument," etc. Think he
will take occasion to "glide around" among
the State institutions with the rest of the
"boys," and you may as well expect an in-
flux of what he saw at the schools, asylums, etc.

Legislative Proceedings.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 24.—SENATE.—The Com-
mittee on Education, to whom was referred a bill
providing for a uniformity of text-books in the
primary and graded schools of the State, reports
favorably to the passage. The concurrent resolu-
tion of the House, that the Legislature adjourn for
the purpose of visiting the several State insti-
tutions, was not concurred in, and all resolutions
looking to such an adjournment were lost.
Notice was given by Senators of bills to
be introduced, among which were: A bill to
amend the law relative to the taxation of
land, a bill to provide for the impeachment
of the returns of Justices of the Peace in cases
moved to the Circuit Court by appeal or upon cor-
tation; joint resolution to amend section 18, of
the constitution of the State; joint resolution
for the relief of Philander M. Barker....

The bill was acted upon in the committee
of the whole, reported back to the Senate, and placed
on the order of third reading.... Senate bill No. 10,
providing for the compilation, printing and dis-
tribution of laws of the State relative to the sup-
port of poor persons to certain town and county
wards, having passed both houses, was engrossed
and sent to the Governor for his approval.

ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE, Mr. Moore.... Eight petitions
were presented, and six bills introduced, which
were referred to their respective committees. The
House bill No. 28 and Senate bill No. 10 were
passed; also a number of bills to third read-
ing. The bill reported and recommended.

The bill to protect the citizens of Michigan from
empiricism, and elevate the standing of the medi-
cal profession, led to a long debate. One member
said that as he was a married man and a father, he
could not favor the bill, as it might oblige a col-
lege graduate to prescribe for his child, who might be
troubled with colic, while the loving mother or
nurse could easily relieve the pet by a ready dose of
catnip or soothing syrup.

THURSDAY, Jan. 25.—SENATE.—Little or no
business was transacted in the Senate, the larger
share of the day being consumed in committee of
the whole.

HOUSE.—The concurrent resolution involving the
compromise of the electoral count was voted down
by a strict party vote.... The Clerk of the House
asked and obtained leave of absence, he
having been summoned to appear before a com-
mittee in Washington as a witness....

The following bill was passed: To authorize the
Commissioner of Mineral Statistics in the Upper Penin-
sula, and defining the duties and compensation
of the same. Section 1. The people of the State of
Michigan enact that it shall be the duty of the Gov-
ernor of the State of Michigan to appoint a Com-
missioner of Mineral Statistics in the Upper Penin-
sula, whose duty it shall be to make an annual re-
port to the Governor setting forth in detail the
mineral statistics for the year, with the progress
and development of mining and smelting industries.
Sec. 2. It shall further be the duty of such Com-
missioner to make such geological and other sur-

Ingham County Democrat
The Paper for Home.

NEWS, STORY, SKETCH, POETRY,

Farm Talk, Household Topics, Correspondence, Chess, Puzzles, Etc.

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THE FREE PRESS will candidly and fearlessly discuss all questions which may arise. Planted firmly on the platform of broad and liberal Democracy, it will to the full extent of its ability uphold and advance those fundamental principles of Democracy which it believes are the basis of free government, and will give a cordial support to the party maintaining them. It will in all cases address its appeals to the judgment and reason of men, believing that the cause which it espouses rests in truth and justice, and that the triumph of that cause and the ascendancy of the Democratic party are for the best interests of the country. It will labor unceasingly for local self government in every State, for honesty and economy in the general administration, for the reform of abuses, and for a scrupulous regard for the will of the people as constitutionally and legally expressed. It is of the highest importance that the sentiment of the Democracy of the country should have utterance through journals qualified to give its voice; and THE FREE PRESS, which is unquestionably accorded a foremost place among the leading Democratic papers in the land, can be depended upon to work unceasingly for the right.

The Michigan State News and the very accurate and trustworthy Commercial Departments, hitherto so popular, will be maintained and if possible improved.

A distinguishing feature of THE FREE PRESS is its correspondence. These letters abound in anecdote and information, and perhaps the best test of their popularity is the avidity with which they are perused by readers everywhere.

The Agricultural Department of THE FREE PRESS is suggestive, instructive and fully up to the times. Prof. C. W. Garfield, of the Michigan Agricultural College, contributes every week to this department, and valuable papers have been furnished by Prof. Beal and Prof. Cook, of the Michigan Agricultural College, and C. K. Carpenter, of Orion. Many men and women of known qualification contribute to this department of the paper.

The Household Department is unique and original. It contains a great variety of information upon matters pertaining to home comfort and decoration. Mrs. J. P. Worstell, of New York, is a regular contributor to this department.

The fashions, and all that pertain to them, are regularly chronicled by a lady prominent in the highest literary and social circles in New York.

All the noted American writers contribute to THE FREE PRESS, and it numbers among its contributors of pithy sketches, bright poems and readable short stories the best in America.

The tone of THE FREE PRESS is unexceptionable. It is pre-eminently the paper for the family circle. The most fastidious cannot take offense at it. The aim is to make it a newspaper suited to the wants of the best classes of American society, amusing, instructive and entertaining to young and old.

HOW HE WAS TEMPTED!

A new story, by "ELZEY HAY," the Southern novelist, whose book was last year received with approbation and delight, and warmly commended by press and people, has just been commenced. Readers are assured that the story will prove one of the best written and most thrilling romances of the day.

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A Full Stock of all Kinds of
Family Groceries Cheap,

And always kept on Hand, Fresh and Neat.
Everything at Hard Time Prices

Come and see for Yourselves.

More about Little Charlie Ross !

A Mason Man Implicated.

Confession of M. A. Sweet to the People:--

WHEREAS, It has come to my notice, and the truth has leaked out, that I am charged with the unparalleled crime of selling my Stock of Goods, at the old PIONEER GROCERY, cheaper than any living man this side the equator; and

WHEREAS, The proof is overwhelmingly against me, I am forced to plead guilty to the charge, humbly asking my customers to take into consideration the extenuating circumstances, which I hereby assign has led me to the cause. I plead the following reason: First, the Centennial year has closed upon us, a new era has dawned, and with it pressing hard times, money remaining close, and the people's mind still remains in a mental tread mill, on the account of the vulgar word, Bull Dozing. But from my stand point, and to alleviate the wants of my customers, I have adopted the following rules and regulations, following out the old axiom, a penny saved is two pennys made, quick sales and small profits, honesty and uprightness in deal, will warrant me in making the Old Pioneer what it has ever been for the past thirty years, the New Pioneer, adopting Reform Prices. Come on now, and let him that heareth say come. Bring your Produce if you have it to dispose of, if not force us to take Cash, and we will cheerfully wait upon you. Respectfully returning thanks for the past favors, on the principle of equity only, will we hope to merit your trade.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

M. A. SWEET.

Our Little Joker Smoking
Tobacco now Takes the
Lead. D. W. HALSTED.

Gloves and
Mittens VERY
CHEAP at the
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Our 50 cent
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BACCO is the
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-ANY MORE-
ASHTABULA DISASTERS !

T. H. Gibbons

Proposes to lay out a plan for much safer and cheaper mode of transit where safety of life will not be endangered.

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MASON, - - MICH.,
-With a new and splendid outfit in the-
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Horses that are fast, Carriages that are neat, and the terms can't be beat, while he is ready to greet all his old customers, day or night, rain or shine, hot or cold, ever ready to do his best to please those wishing convenience to any part of Ingham Co. You can find me at the old stand on Maple Street, near the Depot. Call and see me and save money when you want a splendid ride.

247. T. H. GIBBONS.

BEST TEA
In Town for 90 cts.
D. W. HALSTED,

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First door north of First National Bank, Mason Michigan, keeps for sale a full supply of
SCHOOL BOOKS, MAGAZINES, DAILY
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I am the sole Agent in this vicinity for the
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My prices always correspond with the times. Call and see me.
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Fresh Fish And Oysters

By the Barrel, Can or Quart, at the Flour and Food Store of

J. D. SWARTZ,
Maple Street, Mason, Mich. A good stock constantly on hand. Goods delivered in the City.

Hickory Nuts
At 50 cents
per peck at the
CHECKERED
STORE.

RESURGAM!

I have gathered together what of my effects were not burned in the recent destructive fire and have opened a

Tailor Shop

One door south of Brown's shoe store. I am again prepared to cut, fit, make and repair whole or part suits of clothing in the latest styles, at lowest prices and in the very best manner.

Thanking my many friends for their former patronage, I solicit a continuance of favors in my hour of adversity. All work warranted to be first-class. Give me a call.
H. M. SLITOR.
Mason, Mich., Dec. 21st, 1876.

THE SUN.

1877. NEW YORK 1877

The different editions of THE SUN during the next year will be the same as during the year that has just passed. The daily edition will on week days be a sheet of four pages, and on Sundays a sheet of eight pages, or 56 broad columns; while the weekly edition will be a sheet of eight pages of the same dimensions and character that are already familiar to our friends.

The SUN will continue to be the strenuous advocate of reform and retrenchment, and of the substitution of statesmanship, wisdom, and integrity for hollow pretence, insincerity, and fraud in the administration of public affairs. It will contend for government of the people by the people and for the people, as opposed to government by frauds in the halls of Congress and in the counting of votes, endorsed by military violence. It will endeavor to supply its readers with a body now not far from a million of souls with the most careful, complete, and trustworthy accounts of current events, and will employ for this purpose a numerous and carefully selected staff of reporters and correspondents. Its reports from Washington, especially, will be full, accurate, and faithful, and it will doubtless continue to deserve and enjoy the hatred of those who thrive by plundering the Treasury or by usurping what the law does not give them, while it will endeavor to merit the confidence of the public by defending the rights of the people against the encroachments of unjust and powerful.

The price of the daily SUN will be 35 cents a month or \$6.50 a year, post paid, or with the Sunday edition \$7.50 a year.

The Sunday edition alone, eight pages, \$1.20 a year post paid.

The weekly SUN, eight pages of 56 broad columns, will be furnished during 1877 at the rate of \$1 a year, post paid.

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A SLENNID MAP OF THE SOUTH.

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Lumber Agent, for the Jackson Wagon Company,
Mason, - - Mich.

Will furnish Pine Lumber, Lath and Shingles in any quantity and at the lowest prices. Will also buy all kinds of Wagon Material.
Don't fail to see him before purchasing.

'77 A SLENNID OFFER! '77
The Ingham Co. Democrat,
AND LOUISVILLE

WEEKLY COURIER-JOURNAL
One year for \$2.85. Two papers for little more than the price of one.
Send us \$2.85, and receive your home paper with the COURIER-JOURNAL, the best, widest, brightest and ablest Family Weekly in the country.

A good Rio Coffee for 25 cents,
at HALSTED'S.

BLACKSMITHING !

JOSEPH SHAW,
North of the Court House, Mason, Mich.
Is prepared to do all work in the line of Blacksmithing and

HORSE SHOEING !

In a workmanlike and satisfactory manner, learned my trade in England and practice in the first-class Horse Shoeer. Have been for many years a shoe for the past five years.
A good stock of all kinds of Horse Shoes, of my own make, always on hand.
Thankful for past patronage, I hope by a close attention to business and good work, to merit a continuation of the same.
JOSEPH SHAW
Mason, Mich., 1876.

A NEW FIRM.

Wilson & Mason,

Have entered into a co-partnership in the Blacksmith Business, first door west of the Donnelly House,

MASON, - - - MICH.

They are prepared to do all kinds of Blacksmithing with neatness and dispatch

Particular attention paid to

Horse Shoeing.

All Work warranted to give satisfaction.
H. J. WILSON, ROBERT T. MASON.
Sm.

C. C. FITCH. L. F. BUNNELL

FITCH & BUNNELL,

Mason, - - Mich.,

-DEALERS IN-

Grain and Produce !!

Will pay the Highest

MARKET PRICE,

-For-

WHEAT, CORN, OATS, &c.,

Delivered at their Elevator. Will also pay

CASH FOR WOOL!

Give us a call before selling, and you will not regret it.

FITCH & BUNNELL.

W. S. STEWART,

Fashionable

Barber and Hair Dresser.

Over Huntington's Shoe Store.

Mason, - - Michigan.

Puffs,

Curls,

Braids,

Switches,

And all kinds of

LADIES HAIR DRESSING,

Done to Order and Satisfaction

promised.

CITY BAKERY

-AND-

RESTAURANT.

On Maple Street, north of Court House,

Mason, - - Mich.

Bread, Cakes, Fies, Rusk.

Rolls, Buns, &c.

Always on hand Fresh and Nice.

The best assortment of

CONFECTIONERY

IN THE CITY.

We make our own Candy, and know it is Pure and Fresh every time.

ARROW BRAND OYSTERS,

By the Can, Dish or Case. Try a can of the Arrows, and you will have no other. We warrant them

Fresh and Good.

Frazell & Mahan.

Little gray eyes, set back in their sockets, form the windows to the soul of William A. Wheeler, and he is round and plump, with a fleshy neck. He is a brave man, but has a retreating forehead, and he is spoken of as Anxious-to-be-inaugurated Wheeler, just as Hayes is called Retreating Board Hayes.—*Ex.*

The Pontiac Gazette says: "Since the prosecution of the lightning-rod swindlers it would seem that sensible men should have their eyes open. But the inundation of the cloth men and their villainous operations absolutely throws the lightning-rod business into the shade; more than fifty men in this county have been made fools of during the past week—seduced into buying cloths of peddlers and giving their note. On an average the goods can be had at from 10 to 75 per cent. less of any legitimate dealer than these farmers gave their notes for. There is generally one good bait in every package, while the balance is worthless for any practical use, a fraud inside and out, in color and material." Look a little into these fellows may strike Day county soon.

One Opinion of the Democrat.
The following kind words come to us from Locke:

Locke, Jan. 25th, 1877.
Mr. J. V. Johnson:—

Dear Sir:—Inclosed you will find one dollar and fifty cents, the amount of my subscription for the Democrat. Your paper is a welcome guest in our family, as we appreciate a live editor and the advocacy of sound Democratic principles in times like these. Wishing you success and an increased patronage in the future, I ever remain your sincere friend,
H. F. M.

Correspondence of the Democrat,
From Leroy.

Jan. 22, 1877.
Last Thursday a young man in the employ of Mr. Edwards met with a severe accident. He had chopped down a tree in the woods, that in its fall carried with it and held in a bent form a smaller one. The young man struck the small one with his axe and it flew back and hit him on the chin, cutting the lip loose from the jaw. Dr. B. Smith dressed the wound and sewed up the gash.

This morning Jay Collier fell and struck his elbow against a log, fracturing the joint. He was at work in the Leroy portable mill.

The taxes in Leroy foot up a little over \$5,900.

There will be considerable building in Leroy the coming summer. The buildings to be put up are mostly barns.

J. R. Dart is getting more logs than all the other mills in Leroy. H. W.

Correspondence Ingham County Democrat,
From Fitchburg.

[The following communication was crowded out of last week's issue.]
Thos. Eggleston, while chopping for C. Clinton, two miles north-west from here, cut his foot severely in the instep. Dr. E. Sherwood dressed the wound.

F. H. Fitch had to shut down the new mill because of the well giving out.

Miller & Son have engaged Zach. Clark to run their engine until April 1st. Mr. C. is a good fireman and engineer.

Alfred Aldrich is suffering from an abscess on one of his limbs.

Richard, only son of A. C. Bunker, living in the west part of town, died very suddenly, on the 18th inst.

On the 23d inst. Mrs. C. J. Earl presented her husband with a fine democratic boy.

Mr. Crispell is burning a large coal pit on the farm of George Bogardus.

Mr. Clark opened his saloon on the 23d inst., doing the "fair thing" by "the boys."

Mrs. Riley Cole made her husband happy in the possession of a bright eyed girl on the 23d.

A Dansville man is having a set of boots ironed at the shop of John A. Curtis. The people of that village evidently appreciate a good workman. H.

Correspondence Ingham County Democrat,
From Dansville.

Jan. 24th, 1877.

Mr. Editor:—
I am in a frenzy to write. Here I am with quill and ink and paper, and I feel that I must write; but what shall I write? I want to say something for Dansville, but there are no accidents, not very much sickness and no deaths. In fact our town moves right along. There, now I have caught the spirit that presides over our community. It is progress, and I can write. Yes, our town isn't flinching, just now, with casualties; but it is tending surely and steadily to the requirements of progress. It takes but a few moments observation to prove this. Just step into one of the leading Hardware stores of our country, kept by Mr. T. Hoffman, and look at his improvements. He is tearing out the partition between his sales-room and work-shop preparatory to extending the sales-room the entire length of Rice & Hoffman block. He is also making many other improvements so as to render his place of business very handy and complete. A firm in Cincinnati are to furnish him with an elevator (at a cost of \$140) which will communicate with the work-shop above the first floor.

Our grocers are putting up a generous supply of ice. They are bound to keep cool next summer, which you know is an element of progress. My quill will progress no farther.

J. M. S.

Real Estate Transfers.
The transfers for the week ending January 27th, 1877, as reported by J. C. Cannon, Register of Deeds for Ingham County, are as follows:
J. Westfall to E. P. Joslin, s. 2 of n. e. 1/4, w. 2 of s. e. 1/4, n. 55 ac. of c. 1/4 of s. e. 1/4, sec. 6, White Oak \$8,000.
J. R. & E. Frederick to M. & F. Frederick, lot 1, blk 1, Williamston \$1,000.
Jas. Blackmoor to J. H. Tanner, s. 60 ac. of n. 1/4 of fr. sec. 18, Bunkerhill \$2,200.
J. F. Joy to M. J. Hall, lot 1, blk 76, Lansing \$400.
J. F. Bennet to Geo. Lovely, s. 1 of s. e. 1/4 of n. w. 1/4 and s. 1/4 of s. w. 1/4 of n. e. 1/4, sec. 35, Lettoy \$600.
J. T. Eamon to Geo. Singer, n. e. 1/4 of s. e. 1/4, of sec. 22, White Oak \$600.
J. M. Williams to H. G. Frederick a piece of land on s. w. 1/4 of sec. 35, Williamston \$408.
H. G. Frederick to M. L. Frederick a piece of land on s. w. 1/4 of sec. 35, Williamston \$408.
Jane & E. N. Cowdery to J. Rayner, lot 11, blk 36, Mason \$700.
C. C. Kelle to Ira Rolfe, e. 40 acres of n. w. fr. 1/4 sec. 30, Verna \$2,000.
E. W. Sparrow to G. E. Lawrence, e. 1/4 of lots 7 & 8, blk 139, Lansing \$1,150.
A. Steele to J. B. Lupton, s. 1/4 of w. 2 of sec. 10 (160 acres) Meridian, and w. 1/4 of s. e. 1/4 & s. e. 1/4 of s. e. 1/4 sec. 32 (120 acres) Ingham \$800.
T. Gawne to J. S. Mathews, same land as last above \$5,500.

PAT BRADY, TRAMP.
Patric Brady, tramp, when arraigned in the Harlem Police Court yesterday, read a manuscript describing his adventures. He is young and intellectual, and was born of wealthy parents. His first walk was from New York to Philadelphia, which he accomplished in less than a week and with only a dollar in his pocket. Then with a fellow vagrant, he walked across Pennsylvania, begging food and lodging by the way. He afterward returned to New York on foot, and was committed for the winter. In the spring he started for Boston, and found numerous fellow tramps on the road. After summering in New England he returned to New York, which is according to Brady's story, the paradise of tramps. "They are better treated here than in any other part of the country," the returned traveler says. Every spring, after his release from Blackwell's Island, Brady resumes his journeyings taking a new route every time, and returning late in the fall to Blackwell's Island. Brady says that two-thirds of the brotherhood are thieves, and that all drink. He was committed for three months.—*Sun.*

Diphtheria.
This peculiar disease is identical with inflammatory or membranous Croup, arising from the same causes and requiring the same mode of treatment. Both are accompanied by exudation of a false membrane, which can be subdued and removed by the use of Dr. W. Derry's Croup Mixture, if commenced in time, and given strictly according to directions. Yet it will be well to remember that when Diphtheria is of a malignant type, a majority of cases prove fatal with the best known treatment. While I am now recommending my croup mixture as a cure in all cases yet I class it among the best as a remedy for Diphtheria in all its forms.
Dr. W. Derry, No 3, MINERVA ST., EATON RAPIDS, MICH. 436f

Horse Breaking.
I am now prepared to break any number of colts or vicious horses in a careful and thorough manner, preparing them to work or drive in a safe and pleasant manner, and at reasonable prices. I take pleasure in referring to the following named gentlemen as to the manner in which I do my work. Vandercok & Sanderson, R. J. Teel, Lansing Seely and R. F. Griffin. For a short time I may be found at the residence of Mr. R. F. Griffin, and I invite all having colts or vicious horses to call and see me.
ASA FARNSWORTH.

Rail Road Time Tables.

Michigan Central R. R.

On and after Dec. 10th, 1876, trains will run as follows:

MAIN LINE.
Trains East. Mail Express. *Night Express. *Day Express. *Night Express. *Day Express.
Chicago, 5:00 a. m. 8:30 a. m. 5:15 p. m. 9:00 p. m.
Milwaukee, 7:32 a. m. 10:40 a. m. 7:40 p. m. 11:15 p. m.
St. Paul, 9:00 a. m. 11:55 a. m. 8:15 p. m. 12:30 a. m.
Kalamazoo, 10:50 a. m. 1:15 p. m. 10:25 p. m. 2:17 a. m.
Battle Creek, 11:47 a. m. 1:57 p. m. 11:15 p. m. 3:15 a. m.
Marshall, 12:45 p. m. 2:40 p. m. 11:40 p. m. 4:10 a. m.
Albion, 1:10 p. m. 3:02 p. m. 12:05 a. m. 4:07 a. m.
Jackson, 2:15 p. m. 3:45 p. m. 12:50 a. m. 4:55 a. m.
Ann Arbor, 3:22 p. m. 4:55 p. m. 2:10 p. m. 5:28 a. m.
Ypsilanti, 4:15 p. m. 5:10 p. m. 2:37 p. m. 6:18 a. m.
Detroit, 5:45 p. m. 6:15 p. m. 3:25 p. m. 8:10 a. m.

Trains West. Mail Express. *Night Express. *Day Express. *Night Express. *Day Express.
Detroit, 7:10 a. m. 9:10 a. m. 6:05 p. m. 10:15 p. m.
Ypsilanti, 8:15 a. m. 10:17 a. m. 7:25 p. m. 11:35 p. m.
Ann Arbor, 8:25 a. m. 10:35 a. m. 8:00 p. m. 11:39 p. m.
Jackson, 9:10 a. m. 11:20 a. m. 9:30 p. m. 1:05 a. m.
Albion, 11:04 a. m. 12:45 p. m. 10:18 p. m. 1:44 a. m.
Marshall, 11:56 a. m. 1:30 p. m. 10:46 p. m. 2:03 a. m.
Battle Creek, 12:20 p. m. 1:57 p. m. 11:16 p. m. 2:30 a. m.
Kalamazoo, 1:15 p. m. 2:38 p. m. 12:16 a. m. 3:20 a. m.
St. Paul, 3:11 p. m. 4:07 p. m. 1:20 a. m. 4:30 a. m.
Milwaukee, 4:40 p. m. 5:29 p. m. 4:15 a. m. 5:45 a. m.
Chicago, 7:05 p. m. 7:25 p. m. 6:55 p. m. 9:00 p. m.

*Saturdays and Sundays excepted. Daily.

SAGINAW DIVISION.

The Short Line to and from the Saginaw Valley and Northern Michigan.

Trains South. Mail Express. *Night Express. *Day Express. *Night Express. *Day Express.
Bay City, leave, 6:30 a. m. 3:30 p. m.
Wenona, 6:40 a. m. 3:40 p. m.
Saginaw City, 6:50 a. m. 3:50 p. m.
Owosso, 7:00 a. m. 4:00 p. m.
D. & M. Crossing, 7:10 a. m. 4:10 p. m.
Lansing, 7:20 a. m. 4:20 p. m.
Mason, 7:30 a. m. 4:30 p. m.
Lewistown, 7:40 a. m. 4:40 p. m.
Jackson, 7:50 a. m. 4:50 p. m.

Trains North. Mail Express. *Night Express. *Day Express. *Night Express. *Day Express.
Jackson, leave, 7:10 a. m. 4:30 p. m.
Lewistown, 7:20 a. m. 4:40 p. m.
Mason, 7:30 a. m. 4:50 p. m.
Lansing, 7:40 a. m. 5:00 p. m.
D. & M. Crossing, 7:50 a. m. 5:10 p. m.
Owosso, 8:00 a. m. 5:20 p. m.
Saginaw City, 8:10 a. m. 5:30 p. m.
Wenona, 8:20 a. m. 5:40 p. m.
Bay City, arrive, 8:30 a. m. 5:50 p. m.

H. B. LEDYARD, Gen. Supt., Detroit.

H. C. WENTWORTH, G. P. & T. A., Chicago.

2 Cigars For Five Cents.

At D. W. HALSTED'S.

South Side Ash Street, Mason, Mich.

TAKE NOTICE! Out of the Ruins.

Another Car Load of
Ladies and Children Cardinal Knit Jackets

—AT—
J. W. DAY'S,

Now is the time to Buy Them!

Ladies Cardinal Jackets, 55c

Childrens " " 25c

Men's " " 75c

" Woolen Scarfs 65c

Boys " " 25c

" Woolen Mittens 12c

" Suspenders 16c

Childrens Balmoral Hose 10c

FURS AT COST!

Nubias at Cost. Cashimers at 30c.

A New Line of Seal Brown.

Red & B'k Plaid Dress goods 14c.

Give me a call, and Charley Worden will give you more

Goods for One Dollar than any Clerk in Mas. n.

Yours Truly,

J. W. DAY.

CLARK HOUSE,

WM. H. CLARK, PROPRIETOR.

MASON, - - MICHIGAN.

Board One Dollar Per Day.

Good Feed Barn and Livery Stable in connection with the House.

Attention, Farmers!

I now have on hand and for sale, of the best improved styles,

Feed Cutters,

Root Cutters,

Corn Shellers,

Bob Sleighs,

And other Implementations, as cheap as the cheapest.

A reasonable credit, good notes, and even CASH taken in exchange for goods.

J. A. BARNES.

BEECH AND MAPLE 4-FT. WOOD,

A reasonable credit, good notes, and even CASH taken in exchange for goods.

J. A. BARNES.

Mason Marble Works!

—

DAVIS & RANDALL,

Manufacturer of and

Dealer in all kinds of

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC MARBLE AND GRANITE,

Monuments, Tablets, Headstones, &c.

—

All kinds of CEMETERY

WORK Promptly Executed.

Material and Workmanship

First-class and at the

Bottom Prices.

South Side Ash Street, Mason, Mich.

VANDERCOOK & SON,

—Agents for the—

Watertown Fire

Insurance Co.

This is one of the best Companies in the State. It confines its business strictly to private residences. Pays all losses by Fire and Lightning. Also,

—Agents for the—

Agricultural Insurance Co.,

The only strictly Farmer's Company in this State. Takes nothing but farm property. Goes in side of no village or city. Has done business for twenty-two years. Has paid \$1,800,000 in losses, and never lost \$5,000 by any one fire. Pays all losses by Fire and Lightning on the farm. The Company is composed of Farmers. Has only one agent in a County, therefore can insure cheaper than those companies having twenty officers in a county.

Rates, 25 cents on the \$100 per year.

NO SINKING FUND,

to twice a year. Pays the full amount of all losses.

VANDERCOOK & SON, Agents.

Mason, June 23, 1876.

Frazell & Peters

Wish to be heard and are bound to say and prove, that they have the

Best Meat Market,

To be found in Mason. They are both practical Butchers, and have the best taste for the Market Business of any two men to be found. Every animal that parts the hoof and chews the quid, can be found in the shambles at their stall, daily. Also, Hogs cut up from the size of a lamb to a mule, and flavour to suit the taste.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Poultry and Game adorns the hooks in their shop, while delicacies from Sausages up to the

Spiced and Prssed Beef!

Both of which are delicious and unequaled, in this Market.

Give the Boys a call and see for yourself.

FRAZELL & PETERS.

Mason June 23, 1876.

An Entire New Stock of Hardware!

Everything Bought at the Bottom Prices, and Will be sold Cheaper than Ever, at

A. T. HENDERSON'S,

One Door East of Tanner's,

Mason, - - Michigan.

PARTICULAR ATTENTION IS CALLED

—To Our Stock of—

DIAMOND SAWS!

Which I am Selling at Very Low Prices!

Read the following testimonial:

PORTLAND, IONIA COUNTY, MICH., March 3d, 1876.

Messrs. Henson & Orris, Portland Mich.:

GENTLEMEN—I have in my employ some twenty men cutting wood for railroads. I purchased last fall a Diamond Cross-Cut Saw, manufactured by E. C. Atkins & Co., Indianapolis, Ind., said to be made of silver steel. Upon testing this saw its quality proved so superior, and the ease and rapidity with which it cut, was so much in advance of other saws, that my men found it profitable to buy the Diamond of this brand, as the difference in results would pay for the saw in a week or ten days. We are now using ten of the genuine Diamonds, manufactured by E. C. Atkins & Co., and can not say too much in favor of the saw. I have in my employ Charles C. Porter and John Porter, who felled the timber and sawed, in a day of 10 hours, 14 cords of sound white oak, 24 inches long, with apparent ease. C. W. Brown piling and measuring it. The usual time of running the saw, in such sawing, without filing, is from two and one-half to three days. Our timber is beech, maple and white oak.

Yours respectfully,

WINTHIOP CARPENTER.

P. O. Address, Portland, Mich.

Wherever this saw has been used it has given entire satisfaction, as hundreds of testimonials certify. To close out the stock now on hand, I am selling at extremely low prices.

Stoves! Stoves! Stoves!

—My Stock of—

Cook and Parlor Stoves

And Heaters, Comeplet

Don't Fail to Look at the Elegant Line of Goods in this

Department. They are all marked low to

Meet the Exigencies of the Times.

In the Line of General Hardware,

I have Everything usually kept in a

FIRST-CLASS HARDWARE STORE.

Brass, Iron and Copper Kettles.

Stove Furniture, Bolts, Locks, Cutlery, Horse Shoes,

and Hundreds of things useless to mention.

Having lost heavily by the fire, I propose, for the purpose of increasing my sales, to mark all goods at bottom prices, and shall be pleased to meet old and new customers at my store, where they will be waited upon promptly to goods in my line. Don't fail to call on me at an early day.

A. T. HENDERSON.