

PENNSYLVANIA has ceased to be a Commonwealth, and once more glories in a republican form of government.

WHITNEY REED'S fiancée is worth \$100,000. The Mills of the north-western gods will grind slowly but they grind an exceedingly fine grit.

GRAND JURY announces an early increase of press facilities through the extension and development of the great telegraphic system of which he is the chief executive.

SECRETARY WILSON'S course upon the silver question will be awaited with interest. If he is true to his record the west will have no reason to complain of a treatment of one of its greatest resources.

THE importance of the money order system of this country can be appreciated from the fact that over \$51,000,000 in cash is paid through the system of the New York postoffice department last year.

W. H. VANDERBILT says the richest thing in the world is to be satisfied with what you have. The country will applaud Williams' self-sacrifice. It is very difficult to restrain the instinct of avarice with only \$80,000,000 of property.

JAY GOULD has lately invested a large sum of money for developing the transportation of grain from St. Louis to Europe by way of the Mississippi. A large line will shortly be put in operation and the practicability of the plan thoroughly tested.

PORTMASTER GENERAL JAMES will now devote his attention to the "star route" scandal in the southwest. When it swells to \$10,000 to secure a \$50,000 contract, it is high time for the government to begin a searching investigation of the whole system.

THE purchase of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railway by the Pennsylvania road completes the missing link in the system of that gigantic corporation. It now comprises trunk lines connecting the three great sea ports of the middle states with the national capital, and has roads direct from each of the four cities to the west.

ALEXANDER II, the eldest son of Nicholas I, was born April 29, 1818, and was therefore at the time of his death nearly sixty years of age. He was crowned on his mother's side with Prussia, and on his father's side with Russia. He married in 1843, Maria, a daughter of the Grand Duke of Hesse Darmstadt and ascended the throne on the second of March 1855 during the Crimean war.

THE revolution is alarmed at the prospect of a bolt from party elements at the coming municipal election notwithstanding that it "reserves the right to work against any man it cannot conscientiously support." The conviction of the Republicans has always been so flexible that no bumper or fraud has been too odious to claim its support on the professed ground of party allegiance, if he was only put in nomination in the interest of its railroad masters.

THE Emperor of Russia, who takes the title of Alexander III, was born in St. Petersburg, on the 10th of March, 1844. His education was acquired under the best and most enlightened teachers of Russia, and further extended by a long residence in Germany and France. Since manhood he has been a determined and avowed advocate of constitutional reform in Russia, and his persistency in this respect has endeared him to the people and alienated him from the late emperor.

FIVE attempts were made to assassinate the czar before the last and successful one. The first occurred in April, 1866, when the emperor was shot at by a peasant in St. Petersburg, in a second garden during the review at the Paris Exposition, in 1867. The third took place on the 14th of April, 1879, while the emperor was taking his morning walk in the vicinity of his palace. The fourth was the attempt to blow up the imperial train while on route from St. Petersburg to Moscow, and the last occurred in February, 1880, when the memorable attempt to blow up the Winter Palace, failed in execution.

IN view of the growth of socialism in the German empire Prince Bismarck has proposed a plan for governmental labor insurance, which is attracting increasing attention in Europe. As finally developed, this measure provides for compulsory insurance for the entire mass of unskilled labor, and for all skilled labor below the higher grades. Miners, masons, builders, operators and all laborers whose work requires no long apprenticeship are required to insure in government offices against sickness, illness or death. The premiums are to be paid partly by the laborer, partly by the employer, and the entire cost of superintendence is to be borne by the state. In the case of laborers who work under a contract for a year, the premium will be paid by the employer and the rest furnished by the poor rate. Support in illness and old age, pensions for widows and a provision for infirm children are included in this comprehensive plan which proposes to treat every disabled laborer in the light of a soldier wounded in the great battle of industry and to provide for him accordingly.

THE practical working of the scheme will be watched with interest. It is the best an liberal initiative for the burdens on labor in Germany which prevent laborers from making a provision for themselves.

THE KILLING OF ALEXANDER II. The shadow which for the last fifteen years has been brooding over the life of the ill-fated Emperor of Russia has deepened into night. The hand of what the world will call an assassin has accomplished its purpose and drops stands appalled at the fearful death of a monarch who for twenty-six years has eyed the destinies of the largest empire on the face of the globe. The death of Alexander, while like all tragedies of the kind, sudden and startling cannot be said to be entirely unexpected. Five previous attempts against his life have failed. The existence of a society whose members were pledged to relieve the world of one whom they believed to be the greatest enemy to constitutional liberty, was well known. Repeated warnings, countless plots, innumerable conspiracies, some of which were traced to the walls of his own palace, have for over fifteen years kept the dead monarch in a constitutional state of apprehension, and proved upon his health until signs of impending insanity alarmed his physicians and induced the house of Romanoff to consider an abdication of the reins of government to the czar.

IN the death of Alexander Ruata has lost the most enlightened and liberal ruler of his long line of despots. While centuries behind England and France in his method of government, the late emperor must be given credit for accomplishing during the quarter of a century in which he ruled over Russia, a number of important political and social reforms. He was in 1861 against the will of the nobles of the empire, emancipated twenty millions of serfs and decreed the separation of education and military discipline. In the early years of his reign he evinced a tendency towards granting important concessions looking towards popular representation and punished official corruption and petty tyranny with a merciless hand.

IT was only after the first attack upon his life in April, 1866, that the policy of concession with which the czar opened his reign gave place to a rigid prescription of every tendency towards constitutional liberty and a reversion to the old methods of his predecessors.

THE nihilistic movement, which will be held responsible for the death of the czar, is the natural protest of an enslaved nation in the 19th century against a system of government based on the theory of the dark ages. The persistent refusal of the czar to give to his subjects some of the elements of popular representation was alone responsible for the origin, growth and development of nihilism. Presenting the spectacle of the only civilized continental government which had rejected all appeals of his people towards a semblance of popular representation it was not strange that with the growth of education and the diffusion of intelligence, secret organization should attempt to secure that which had been denied to open protest and popular sentiment. A general feeling was prevalent in the empire that what the czar could not accomplish, his heir apparent both could and would. Urgent attempts were made to induce him to abdicate in favor of his son who was considered more in accord with the national aspirations, and who, it was believed, would follow the example of Austria, Germany, Prussia, Denmark and Spain, and give to his Russian people at least a nominal share in the national government. Falling in this, nihilism determined to accomplish their end by taking the life of the emperor, and after four unsuccessful attempts, it has gained the purpose which it sought to secure.

IT is a serious question whether Alexander III will be able to meet the desires of his revolutionary subjects. His education and instincts incline him to grant greater political freedom to the masses than his father. He is said to have urged the granting of a constitution to Russia and a parliament in which the people might voice the national needs. That he is exceedingly popular with the masses is generally admitted, and the opening months of his reign will be awaited with interest by all lovers of freedom and constitutional liberty.

OMO has voted down the proposition submitting a prohibitory amendment to the people of that state. The following resolutions were passed at a meeting of the citizens of Olyssa, held at the Olyssa school house on the evening of March 4th:

WHEREAS, It has pleased an all-wise Providence to afflict the Fifty-first State of Nebraska with a representative having a tender liver, liable to get out of order in any emergency; and

WHEREAS, A very small man may fill a legislative office or place of confidential trust; and

AND WHEREAS, It seems but proper and just that a representative of the people, who is faithful to the interests of his constituents, should be sustained and encouraged, while rogues and scoundrels should be required to give place to honest men, therefore be it

Resolved, That we recognize in the Hon. Thomas Jensen a faithful and efficient representative, who labored industriously, generously and in accordance with his judgment for the best interests of his constituents.

Resolved, That we denounce the conduct of Arthur J. Evans as repugnant to the honor and respectability of the people of this district.

Resolved, That we heartily endorse the sentiment of The Lincoln Globe's explanation of the mysterious disappearance of "Breadstreak Roberts" in his great tragedy of "Lover's Complaint."

Resolved, That this worthy pair have done their part in stopping the wheels of legislation and contributed to the disgrace that has fallen on the general assembly and the state.

Resolved, That it becomes the duty of every honest citizen to inquire earnestly and thoughtfully into the record and association of our candidates hereafter, and that we prefer a legislature of farmers to one composed of pot house politicians, corporation hirelings and slippery Dicks.

Resolved, That we will not vote for any man of the Church Home strips to represent this district in the next legislature.

Resolved, That while we deplore

the spirit of factionalism and would by all means rebuke the sorehead creation of hostility because of personal grievances, or disappointments involving no questions of public policy, moral principles or common decency, we would distinctly affirm the right and duty of every voter to step outside of his party when that party puts up monopoly tools, demagogues, or any other class of bad men as candidates.

THE Maquoketa Bell Telephone Company has declared a dividend of 52 per cent on the capital stock.

THE state tax of two mills on the dollar on taxable property amounts to \$10,912.52. Of this, Claydon county pays \$19,371.37, the county pays the highest tax of any county in the state, which is \$21,042.94.

Iowa City is organizing a company to build a railroad to the south side of Johnson county.

DURING the month of February the Camanche distillery exported 850 barrels of alcohol to Algiers. During the same period the total revenue collections for the sub-district amounted to \$881,771.

A new wagon company has been organized at Keokuk, with a capital of \$20,000. Buildings will be erected and operations commenced as soon as practicable.

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IT is reported that a new Opera House will be built in Dubuque in the spring on the site of the old St. Cloud hotel.

A MUSH and milk festival held recently at Winnebago, netted \$30 for church expenses.

THE Iowa Iron Works at Dubuque are to be enlarged as soon as spring opens.

IN a special election recently held at Dubuque it was decided to retain the C. M. & St. P. shops.

IT is said that there are 5,000 acres of unbroken corn in Harrison county.

KEOKUK has a new daily paper known as The Evening Call.

OVER 5,000 tons of ice have been packed in Lyons this season.

THE new building to be occupied by McDonald's pump factory at Dubuque, was brilliantly lit up for a banquet on the night of the 23rd.

A few applications of St. Jacobs Oil cured Mrs. S. Conyers, Cor. Spring and Olive streets, Quincy, Ill., who had been ill with rheumatism and suffered the most excruciating pain.

M. R. RISON, General Insurance Agent, REAL ESTATE AGENCY, NEBRASKA, OMAHA, NEB.

NEBRASKA VINEGAR WORKS, ERNST KREBS, Manager, 11th and G Sts., OMAHA, NEB.

IOWA BOILED DOWN. The building outlook for the season of 1884 at Sioux City is very promising and it is estimated that the number and value of buildings erected will exceed that of any previous season.

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Island towns within ten miles from New York. While the profits in plants are large, but about 100 per cent, the profits in cut flowers are still larger. Why, during Christmas week, the Jacqueminot roses brought \$2 each.

That there are fashions in flowers as well as in everything else must be patent to the most casual observer. One season this flower has an enormous sale, the next season that. The Jacqueminot, Mareschal, Niel and Nephele roses have been most popular this season. A few flowers are imported by the thousands and every one of them is sold at a profit.

The street flower peddlers have had very little business this winter, and many have adopted other means of gaining a living; but with the return of warm weather they will again be seen on the streets, stags and boats with the old cry, "Bouquets, bouquets, only 5 cents."

Advertisements. The Times, of Bethlehem, Pa., is anxious to know what is done with the soapstone which is largely quarried and ground at Easton. The industry has lately received a wonderful impetus, and the mills are running night and day. The product is shipped to New York; thence where "it is claimed to be used in paper pulp. It may be, but the Times says, "to no extent. It is alleged to be used in hatter's felt. Perhaps so; but where is so large an amount of soapstone to be used in paper pulp, or in hatter's felt, or in any other way? It is a soft and almost impalpable powder. No one who has seen it in its own state will question its almost diamond value for adulteration. Candies, sugars, flour and butter, it is alleged, can be adulterated in any section of 20 to 25 per cent, without any chance of detection." Fortunately detection in such cases is not at all difficult. Dissolve the suspected candy or sugar; the adulteration will remain. Burn a sample of suspected flour; an excess of ash will betray the cheat. Melting and filtering will do the same for suspected lard or butter.

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Preparation on each equal St. Jacobs Oil as a safe, sure, simple and cheap External Remedy. A trial will be made by the comparatively trifling cost of 50 cents, and every one suffering with pain can have cheap and positive relief of the same.

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