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A STUDY IN FIGURES

In response to an inquiry we again give the total vote on presidential candidates: Cleveland, 4,910,892; Blaine, 4,844,061; Butler, 134,163; St. John, 150,335; Cleveland's plurality, 66,831. The total number of votes cast was 10,040,688.

In 1880 Garfield received 4,449,053; Hancock, 4,442,055; Weaver, 367,366; Dow, 10,325. Garfield's plurality was 7,018. The total number of votes cast, including 2,271 scattering, was 9,210,970.

In 1872 the total vote was 6,466,165, of which Grant had 56 per cent and Greeley 43. In 1876 the total vote increased to 8,152,723, of which Hayes had 47.95 per cent, Tilden 52.04. The increase of the total vote from 1872 to 1876 was 30.1 per cent; from 1876 to 1880, 9.4 per cent; and from 1880 to 1884, 9.8 per cent.

The bulk of the increase has been in the western and southwestern states. New England barely holds her own, New York and Pennsylvania are below the average increase, Ohio and Illinois are nearly up to it, with Indiana several points behind. The southern states, excepting those west of the Mississippi, are much below the average, due more, perhaps, to absenteeism from the polls than to lack of voting growth.

The Nebraska legislature meets on the 5th of January, and the Lincoln hotel keepers are now polishing up their tinware. The Wall Street News is eloquently correct when it says: "There will be music in the air when the state legislatures meet in the west next month. The railroad people say 'we don't see how we can reduce rates,' and the farmers respond, 'we will show how to do it.'"

ABOUT the best way to get anything you want is to advertise for it in the paper that has the largest circulation. Democrats who want office, and want their names to be known, are hereby notified that the want column of THE BEE is open to them.

EX SENATOR SHARON, of California, is having up-hill work. Mrs. Sharon, better known as Miss Hill, has succeeded in obtaining a divorce from the old man. She evidently had more influence with the court than Mr. Sharon. The plaintiff does not want the earth; she only wants \$5,000 a month alimony.

THE legislature meets in a few days, and more citizens' meetings ought to be held to further discuss the proposed charter amendments. The work has not yet been half done. Among the matters yet to be considered, is the reduction of the number of justices of the peace and the two-mile limit around the city, in which, under the Stoum law, no liquor license can be issued.

WILLIAM M. EVARTS, in announcing himself as a candidate for the New York senatorship, has made a striking departure. His card is not only brief, but it is divided into comparatively short sentences. He probably intended to convince the public that if elected, he would not occupy the entire Congressional Record with one of his long-drawn-out sentences.

THE Chicago, Burlington & Quincy system will reduce passenger rates on its Missouri lines on January 1st from four and four and a half cents a mile to three cents a mile. Now what does it propose to do in regard to its lines in Nebraska? However, it doesn't make much difference whether it reduces the fare, for the legislature in all probability will do it on all the railroads.

other expenses diminish, the laboring man find work, business picks up, money circulates more freely, a better feeling prevails and people are generally much better prepared to pay their taxes before the 1st of May. It is hoped that our legislators will thoroughly discuss this matter, and if it is found to be more beneficial to the people to have taxes become delinquent on the 1st of May let them change the time to that date. There may be serious objections, however, to the change, which the people have not thought of. If there are any such objections they will naturally be presented in the course of the discussion of the matter.

When the Blair bill to create a federal commission on the alcoholic liquor traffic came up in the senate the other day, the only speech in opposition to it was made by Senator Vest, who said that he had no objection to an inquiry into the liquor question, but in his opinion it was a matter for the states to attend to, and there was no evidence offered that the states were not competent to make all the inquiry necessary for a thorough understanding of the issues involved, and therefore he was opposed to any interference by the national government. He did not care to be put in the attitude of opposing temperance movements or of upholding the liquor traffic, but he believed this bill and all such legislation to be a violation of the constitution. The fact is that this reference of the liquor question to a commission will result in nothing but the creation of needless expense. It makes a soft place for several commissioners who will have nothing to do but gather statistics and make a report and draw their pay.

THE elevated railroads are as successful tax-dodgers as the surface roads. They allowed their taxes to accumulate since 1879, until they amounted to \$2,843,511.18. They recently compromised the debt by paying \$1,285,533.51, thus making about \$1,600,000. This shows that procrastination is not only the thief of time but of the people's money. It is the old story over again. The same game is played everywhere by the railroads and other corporations.

A RECENT dispatch from Washington credits Dr. Loring, the commissioner of agriculture, with having a stronger affection for office than he has for the republican party, and that he does not propose to go out with his party even if he has to turn a somersault into the democratic ranks. We do not put any faith in this startling rumor, but if it is true Dr. Miller will probably see that he is ousted in order to make room for himself.

ON December 31st the United States navy will be run ashore. It will be left high and dry on that day without a dollar to run it, congress having failed to provide an appropriation for its support.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS. While parliament is enjoying its holiday recess, the British ministry are wrestling with several knotty problems which will tax their ingenuity to its utmost. A crisis is rapidly approaching in Egyptian affairs, and decisive action will have to be taken with regard to the relations between England and the continent. All powers that are interested in the proper settlement of Egyptian difficulties. While there are those in England who profess to believe that an amicable arrangement will yet be reached between England and France on the Egyptian question on the basis that England is to observe a quasi neutrality in China, to enable the French to carry out their schemes of conquest, these visionaries seem to forget that England has much greater interests in Asia than she has in Africa. The recent departure of M. Waddington, the French minister to London, for Paris, is pointed to as a fresh proof of the resumption of friendly conferences between London and Paris on Egyptian affairs, but it is known that M. Waddington's mission had for its principal, if not its sole object, the submission to the French government of the new peace proposals sent by China to the Marquis Tseng, based on English mediation, and announced in the memorial diplomatique on the 6th inst.

The latest news from Egypt gives promise of fresh complications in a question already sufficiently perplexing. A Frenchman in El Mahdi's camp is said to have organized a secret service by means of which he obtains from the French colony in Cairo news of Lord Wolseley's movements; and, it is further stated, that the recent reports of the weakness of El Mahdi were intended to decoy the English into an unsupported advance of the camel corps across the desert from Ambolet to Shendy. This report has excited much disturbance and indignation in England. If true, it may lead to a quarrel with France, whose attitude throughout the Egyptian troubles has been far from friendly. Such a contest, however, would probably not go beyond the bounds of diplomacy; for Mr. Gladstone is fortunately gifted with a good deal of discretion, and Mr. Ferry has his hands full, just at present with other matters.

M. Jules Ferry still holds the purse-strings in France and commands a majority of the national legislature. But the disclosure of his large plans for a French empire in the Cambodian peninsula has weakened the ministry with both the legislature and the people. France cannot afford large outlays of money, and will not make large sacrifices of men, even to acquire an Asiatic empire like that of England in India. The country is poor. The revenue shows a large deficit. The prospect of distant service for conscript soldiers affects the popular temper, as a like prospect for enlisted troops like the English would not. It is felt that the dangers of an invasion justify the government in keeping a large part of the younger generation of Frenchmen under arms. But there is a feeling against sending them in great bodies to

Torquin, to face malaria, cholera and the bullets of the Chinese. So the peasant hates the prospect of a distant war for his sons, who are commonly only sons and heirs to bits of land.

The next great political event is advertised in France for January 25, when the senatorial elections take place. The fate of Ferry may be determined then, but the most important result will be the bearing of the election upon the presidency. The executive term expires in January 1886, and the election will be by joint vote of the senate and chamber of deputies. The senatorial vacancies to be filled next month number eighty-seven, of whom at the last election forty-seven were republican and forty reactionary. The bitter feeling in all political discussion at Paris just now is caused by the approaching elections, and it is to be noted that the republicans are in a minority. The speeches of the chief candidates lead the nation through peril, was but the beginning of a determined effort of the spared monuments of the empire to secure, if it may be, the balance of power in 1886.

There is a fighting chicken at Atlanta, Ga., valued at \$100,000. An artisan well in Tulare county, California, supplies four cubic feet of water per second, or enough to irrigate 610 acres of land. Young banana trees are growing finely at Los Angeles, Cal., and in some of the sheltered valleys there will be quite a large crop of fruit this year.

Near Gilford station, on the Staten Island road, there is a peculiarly high ground. The roots of the trees are all from four to six feet above the surface of the ground. The soil is very porous, and the unusual appearance of the ground is attributed to the action of the water and the frost.

Drilling in the natural gas wells at Findlay, Ohio, was stopped at a depth of 1,500 feet for fear of striking a vein of salt water. The supply of light and heat is ample for the full demands of the city.

The Washington obelisk will not long retain the proud distinction of being the highest monument in the world. An iron tower, 1,600 feet in height is to be erected in the grounds of the French exhibition in 1889. Passengers will be carried to the top in an elevator.

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Santa Maria, Cal., by the arrival of a wagon containing two turtles discovered in a gypsum quarry near Point Sal. The bodies are those of a man and woman. They were buried side by side with a large bowler between them. The body of the man is in a perfect state of preservation, except a half of the left ear; both feet were broken off in dismemberment. The woman was apparently of the same age, with very symmetrical proportions. The discovery was made by George Connor and George Holt, miners prospecting in the neighborhood.

The ape which has been killed by the natives in the mountains of the Argentine Republic is reported to be no more than experimental maneuvers, and certainly Brazilian papers a week later than those movements give no intimation of immediate war. Yet a conflict between these countries is easily within the possibilities. There has long been bad blood between them, growing out of border troubles and mutual desire to gobble up Uruguay. This little republic lies between them like a nut, ready to be cracked, and her unhappy internal condition makes it not at all improbable that her neighbors may one of these days be fighting for her possession, and putting her to the sword.

Man Burned to Death. Bay City, Mich., December 26. A fire in Catlin block at 1 o'clock this morning destroyed the building, a laundry and a fruit stand, loss \$3,300 insured. Edith M. Parrell was suffocated while asleep in the building. The body was found after the fire. He leaves a wife and twelve children.

It will give the Australians no pleasure to realize that Germany is in earnest in the Pacific. The emperor's address now popular in Australasia, and by the London press aptly called "the Monroe doctrine of the Pacific," holds that no territory 140° east shall in future be acquired by any power but that of the confederated nations of the Pacific. The report is taken by Germany fall within the limit, and it will be interesting to see whether the Australians will attempt to act in defence of their ambitious declarations.

The Swiss confederation has just had its presidential election, too. The federal assembly of the two houses elect a federal council of seven, and then select a president of the council who is the recognized head of the confederation. M. Schenk, last year's vice president, was elected according to custom, and the first move of the council, which is radical in politics, will be to put a high duty on alcohol, purely as a temperance measure.

There are signs of renewed agitation in Ireland, and there is apparently some want of harmony in the cabinet as to the manner of dealing with them. At all events members of the government outside the cabinet are allowed to talk about the matter of seven, and the secretary of Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, for instance, who succeeded Mr. Trevelyan as secretary for Ireland, has been making a speech in which he declares that the spirit in which Ireland is governed must be changed, and that the Irish are a proud people and will not be appeased by any concessions made with an air of "benevolent condescension." Here he really touched, as an Englishman rarely does, the root of the Irish difficulty. It is this which makes the goodness and benevolence of really well-meaning Englishmen like Mr. Forster and Lord Spencer positively exasperating to the people. It is this which makes the English, on the other hand, Lord Morley, the under secretary of war, has been making a speech in the house of lords in which he dwells with much severity on the intractable spirit shown by the Irish, and predicts that it will be necessary to renew the coercion act. This came from a higher source than any that the English would expect. Parrell would be nothing loth to take up in the new parliament.

The report that comes from the Sudan to the effect that the best laid schemes of Gen. Wolseley for the relief of Khartoum are thwarted by the machinations of an artful Frenchman, by name—who serves as advisor of El Mahdi, is strange enough, but not altogether incredible. It is said that the wily and adventurous Frenchman has his agents at Cairo, with whom

he has established a line of couriers, who not only supply him with minute details respecting the movements of the English expeditionary force, but also assist at his bidding in the information concerning El Mahdi, upon which the British commander has acted to his sore disadvantage. Of course, if this be true, it naturally excites great indignation on the side of the English people. But that they can make the acts of this particular Frenchman the pretext of a quarrel with France, as has been suggested, is not to be supposed for a moment. To impartial lookers on, the course of M. Pain, even though it is to be lamented, appears to be that of a totally irresponsible individual who is now engaged, and not for the first time either, in a political intrigue, the dire consequences of which may only be visited upon his own scheming head.

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SPECIAL NOTICES

TO LOAN.—Money. MONEY TO LOAN in real estate. MONEY TO LOAN on real estate. MONEY TO LOAN on real estate.

WANTED.—A first-class servant girl. WANTED.—A competent girl to wash and do the housework for a family of three at 803 Park Avenue. WANTED.—A competent girl to wash and do the housework for a family of three at 803 Park Avenue.

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FOR RENT

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