

F. M. & E. M. KIMMELL, EDITORS & PUBLISHERS.

THE principal business of the hour is the taking of inventories and the balancing of ledgers.

C. P. HUNTINGTON, President of the Southern Pacific, started out in his business career as a peddler. He is now worth more than \$100,000,000.

WITH the beginning of the new year Uncle Sam will go into the junk shop business. The Boston navy-yard will be converted into a rope walk and the condemned vessels will be broken up.

UPON evidence showing fraud in making entry, the Commissioner General of the Land Office, during the present week, cancelled twenty-one entries of public lands in Colorado, twelve in Dakota and seventeen in New Mexico.

WILLIAMS and Marys College, of Virginia, has closed its doors, having but one student at the beginning of this school year. Next to Harvard, this was the oldest college in America, having been founded in 1693, and was the only one that received a royal charter. Among the most eminent men educated in its halls were Washington, Marshall, Randolph, Tyler, Breckenridge and General Scott.

THREE months bring a great many changes to the business world. Villard, of the Northern Pacific, when he took his immense excursion of aristocrats and newspaper men out to Oregon to drive the golden spike, was then considered the greatest of the railroad magnates of the country, and his biography was in every journal of the land. To-day he is "out" of every line that then was proud to count him its president and dictator. It is not known whether he has escaped with a fortune or has sunk his private means in a contest with the bears, and we look in vain for journalistic tributes to his greatness.—Journal.

THE cold, biting wind of winter is upon us. The pharisee would say, "God help the poor." But the broad-souled, good-hearted man goes down in his pocket and pulls out the wherewith to make the poor warm and to fill their gaunt stomachs. In the olden time it was acceptable to make sacrifices in lieu of prayers. At the risk of being accused of a leaning to paganism, these Topics venture to announce their faith in the efficacy of gifts as a substitute for prayers by those who do not feel qualified to familiarly approach the throne. The poor have the ear of the Lord, and when a man makes them his proxy in the matter of beseeching a throne of grace he need have little fear but his case will be well presented.—Topics.

THE death of General Humphreys removes another of the gallant soldiers who distinguished themselves during the late war. He was not only a brave soldier in every sense of the word, but also one of the most eminent engineers in the United States. His career in the army covers a period of over forty years active service. A native of Pennsylvania, he graduated from the military academy at West Point in 1831, and was assigned to the Second artillery. In 1838 he entered the topographical engineer corps, and was promoted to a captaincy in that corps during the Mexican war. At the outbreak of the civil war he was major in the engineer corps, and was assigned to duty as colonel and aid-de-camp on Gen. Scott's staff. On the 28th of April, 1862, he was appointed brigadier-general of volunteers, and in July, 1863, he was promoted to be major-general for gallant and meritorious services at the battle of Gettysburg. On August 8th, 1866, General Humphreys became chief of the United States engineers, with the rank of brigadier-general, which position he held until he was retired, at his own request, four years ago.—Bee.

THE fact that Brigadier-General R. S. MacKenzie, commander of the department of Texas, has been relieved of his command on account of temporary insanity, caused by nervous prostration, and placed in the military asylum at Washington, recalls to mind some sad and interesting incidents in the history of the Slidell-MacKenzie family, who, it appears, have been the subjects of what seems to be a singular fatality.

General MacKenzie's grandfather, forty years ago, was a naval captain in command of the war brig Somers in the West Indies. It was claimed that a mutiny was discovered on board the vessel, although no overt act had been committed, and upon the testimony of an informer, a young midshipman named Spencer was convicted of being a ring leader by a court on board the vessel. Captain MacKenzie ordered him to be hung from the yard arm of the vessel at sunrise next morning, and the order was carried out. Spencer, who was a mere youth, was the son of the then Secretary of War. The tragedy created the greatest sensation of the times in the United States. Captain MacKenzie, upon his return to this country, was arrested and tried by court martial, but as the captain had not over stepped the law, he was acquitted. His cruel act, however, was universally condemned. It was argued that, as the mutiny, if there was any, had been subdued, there was no good reason why Spencer, if guilty of any crime, should not have been kept as a prisoner until the ship returned to the United States. Captain MacKenzie never got another command in the United States navy, but despised of his fellow men he passed the remainder of his life, almost entirely without a friend, in anguish and remorse. Misfortunes have ever since befallen his descendants. One was killed in a railway accident, having his neck broken, and another was drowned at sea. The members of the Slidell branch of the family have all been overcome by sorrow, grief and want.

And now the grandson, General MacKenzie, a gallant soldier, who became a brigadier at the age of forty—the youngest general of that rank in the army—becomes insane a few days before his contemplated marriage. It certainly is a singular fact that ill-luck has befallen the MacKenzies ever since young Spencer was hung by order of the old naval captain.—Bee.

EVERY one is interested in the sunsets and sunrises, which have delighted the people of various parts of the earth for several months. Every one is asking why. One answer has been that we are passing through a portion of space filled with cosmical dust; but we have passed through the same portion before and have never witnessed a similar phenomena. Norman Lockyear, one of the most famous of English scientists, gives another answer, which it seems to us is more reasonable. He, like others, attributes the phenomenon to the presence of dust in the atmosphere, but not cosmical dust. Mother Earth has produced the conditions, which give to us such a beautiful picture every night and morning. On August 26 an island 3,000 feet high disappeared, the quaking of the island producing a sea wave 100 feet high. Sand, stones and vapor were hurled to an enormous height, and the sound of the eruption was heard 2,000 miles away. Millions of tons of matter were hurled in the air, the heaviest returned to the earth, the lightest remained suspended in the air. At first the coarse particles entirely absorbed the light and in the neighborhood of the eruption there was a total darkness. As these disappeared the sun seemed white and dim. When the finer particles only were left behind, blue and green effects were observed. Finally, enough only was left at a height of forty or fifty miles to reflect the sun's light after sunset and to prolong the twilight. Prof. Helmholtz has calculated that the material in the atmosphere producing the effect is about forty miles above the earth. There are two lines of these abnormal sunsets, one east and west, the other north and south, from the point of the volcanic eruption, and it seems very probable that the upper currents of the atmosphere have distributed the dust hurled into the air at Java, resulting in the sky glows which have produced such universal comment.—Republican.

AN experimental work has been going on for a short time along the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Branch and the Brandon Branch, about 30 miles in length, the object being to determine whether or not the barbed wire of the fence on either side of the road can be utilized for telegraphic purposes. The fence wire was placed in proper condition for a sufficient distance to make a satisfactory test, the wire being run under the surface at road crossings. Superintendent of Telegraph Simpson decides that the plan is not practicable. Telegraph work can be done over the fence wire at this time, he says, but during the winter months, when huge snow banks completely cover the fence, the line would be made useless. There are thousands of miles of wire fence along the Western lines, and it has been contended that they should be utilized for this purpose.—Scientific American.

When the notorious James Robinson, or "Jack Sheppard," or he is known to the detectives, was sentenced to three years in the Eastern penitentiary, he was advised to try to lead a better life, which lay entirely with himself. "Yes," answered he, "I worked three years in your state prison, and I know as much about shoemaking as I do about watches. They taught me in your prison to be dishonest. My principal work was to paste leather and pasteboard together to make a thick sole to impose on the public. The man having the contract was a Christian, a member of the church, and at the time I called his attention to the pasteboard business he was foreman of the Grand Jury. They send me to the state prison to make me honest, and that is the way they do it."—Philadelphia Times.

HARDLY had the echoes of the Marquis of Lorne's assurance to the people of England that the Irishmen of Canada were loyal and averse to any disturbance, died away on the air, before the telegraph began to echo another story from Newfoundland. The entire population of Harbor Grace are in arms over a bloody attack made upon an Orange procession, and the local militia are scarcely strong enough to prevent a war of extermination between the belligerent parties.

DATS BROOKS, for a long time editor of the Omaha Republican, has been made private secretary to Senator Van Wyck, notwithstanding Mr. Brooks was a staunch Grant Republican. Mr. Brooks will also act as secretary of the committee on the improvement of the Mississippi river.

CONSOLIDATION of old established newspapers, in the cities, would indicate that too many newspapers in a community don't pay. The latest is the consolidation of the Pittsburgh Chronicle and Telegraph, which will go into effect the first day of January.

VILLARD has been taken sick and has resigned the presidency of the Northern Pacific. When the storm which has been raging on Wall street blows over, Villard will probably be on deck again.

THERE are said to be 11,000 one-legged men in the United States.

GENERAL GRANT is rapidly improving, and will be out in a few days.

NOTICES OF COMPLAINT.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 17th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by John C. Russell against George H. Nelson for failure to comply with law as to timber-culture entry 786, dated North Platte, Neb., June 4, 1879, upon the southeast quarter section 27, township 2 north, range 28 west, in Red Willow county, Nebraska, with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contestant alleging that Oregon Washburn has failed to cultivate, or to plant to trees, seeds or cuttings, any part of said tract at any time since making said entry; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 26th day of January, 1884, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 18th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by John C. Russell against George H. Nelson for abandoning his homestead entry 2169, dated North Platte, Neb., April 10th, 1880, upon the south 1/2 northwest 1/4 and west 1/2 southwest 1/4 section 13, township 2 north, range 28 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 24th day of January, 1884, at 9 o'clock, A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged abandonment. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 17th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by Francis M. Kimmell against William A. Wallin for failure to comply with law as to timber-culture entry 1046, dated North Platte, Neb., October 1st, 1879, upon the southwest quarter section 3, township 3 north, range 29 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contestant alleging that said William A. Wallin has failed to break the second five acres required to be broken from October 1st, 1882, to October 1st, 1883; that he has failed to cultivate 5 acres or any part of said tract from October 1st, 1881, to October 1st, 1883, or at any time; that he has failed to plant to trees, seeds or cuttings 5 acres or any part of said tract at any time since making said entry; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 5th day of January, 1884, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 17th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by Walter K. Forsey against Benjamin Clark for failure to comply with law as to timber-culture entry 503, dated North Platte, Neb., March 29, 1879, upon the southwest quarter section 1, township 2 north, range 30 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contestant alleging that said Benjamin Clark has failed to break his second 5 acres of said tract from March 29, 1881, to March 29, 1883, or at any time; that he has failed to cultivate 5 acres or any part of said tract from March 29, 1881, to March 29, 1883, and to this date; that he has failed to plant to trees, seeds or cuttings any part of said tract at any time; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 18th day of January, 1884, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 10th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by John S. Modrell against Elisha Pondell for failure to comply with law as to timber-culture entry 574, dated North Platte, Neb., April 17, 1879, upon the northeast quarter section 29, township 4 north, range 29 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contestant alleging that said Elisha Pondell has failed to break 5 acres since making said entry in the year 1879 up to the present time; that he has failed to cultivate the second 5 acres since April 17, 1882, that said land is abandoned and grown up to weeds and grass; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 25th day of January, 1884, at 1 o'clock, P. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 14th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by Alfred B. Fuller against Daniel Grimm for failure to comply with law as to timber-culture entry 806, dated North Platte, Neb., August 29, 1879, upon the northwest quarter section 19, township 2 north, range 28 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contestant alleging that said Daniel Grimm has failed to break, plow or cultivate, or to plant to trees, any part of said land since making said entry; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 28th day of January, 1884, at 1 o'clock, P. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 14th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by William P. Burns against Samuel Fisher for failure to comply with law as to timber-culture entry 1106, dated North Platte, Neb., August 29, 1879, upon the northwest quarter section 29, township 2 north, range 28 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contestant alleging that said Samuel Fisher has failed to break or cultivate any part of said land and has not attempted to plant timber thereon; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 28th day of January, 1884, at 1 o'clock, P. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 18th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by Peter Muntz against Ira Crandel for abandoning his homestead entry 1885, dated at North Platte, Neb., October 30, 1879, upon the northeast quarter section 3 north, range 28 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 25th day of January, 1884, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged abandonment. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 14th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by William Fruin against Herman Thale for failure to comply with law as to timber-culture entry 1545, dated North Platte, Neb., May 24, 1880, upon the northeast quarter section 22, township 3 north, range 30 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contestant alleging that said defendant, Herman Thale, has failed to cultivate or cause to be cultivated any portion of said tract of land since making said entry as required by law, and has failed to plant or cause to be planted to trees, seeds or cuttings, any part of said tract of land since making said entry as required by law; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 22nd day of January, 1884, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 18th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by Bothes S. Hileman against George W. Simpkins, for failure to comply with law as to timber-culture entry 1308, dated North Platte, Neb., February 23, 1880, upon the northwest quarter section 24, township 2 north, range 30 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contestant alleging that George W. Simpkins failed to break, cultivate, or to plant to trees, seeds or cuttings, any part of said tract during the year ending March 20, 1883, or caused the same to be done; that he has failed to plant to trees, seeds or cuttings, any part of said tract at any time; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 25th day of January, 1884, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 17th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by Charles M. Nelson against George Franklin Stinchfield for failure to comply with law as to timber-culture entry 585, dated at North Platte, Neb., April 24, 1879, upon the southeast quarter section 6, township 2 north, range 30 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contestant alleging that George Franklin Stinchfield has failed to break, cultivate, or plant to trees, seeds or cuttings, any part of said land from April 24, 1882, to April 24, 1883, or to cause the same to be done; that the 10 acres of said tract has never been broken or cultivated; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 21st day of January, 1884, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 19th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by Charles Thibaut against Ludwig Bohlgman for abandoning his homestead entry 2469, dated North Platte, Neb., June 3d, 1880, upon the southeast quarter section 17, township 2 north, range 28 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 21st day of January, 1884, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged abandonment. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 27th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by Walter Hickling against Horace A. Deau for failure to comply with law as to timber-culture entry 553, dated North Platte, Neb., April 19, 1879, upon the southwest quarter section 23, township 4 north, range 29 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contestant alleging that Horace A. Deau has failed to break the second 5 acres during the years 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882 and 1883; that he has failed to plant the first five acres to trees, seeds, or cuttings during the year 1883; that said claim is abandoned and grown up to weeds and grass; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 12th day of February, 1884, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure. G. L. LAWS, Register.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 17th, 1883. Complaint having been entered at this office by John L. Sollers against Jacob Zingre for failure to comply with law as to timber-culture entry 599, dated North Platte, Neb., April 15, 1879, upon the southwest quarter section 33, township 1 north, range 29 west, in Red Willow county, Neb., with a view to the cancellation of said entry; contestant alleging that Jacob Zingre has failed to plow or cultivate any part of said tract from April 15, 1882, to April 15, 1883, and to this date, and that he has wholly abandoned said claim; the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 29th day of January, 1884, at 1 o'clock, P. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure. G. L. LAWS, Register.

FINAL PROOF NOTICES.

LAND OFFICE AT McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 20th, 1883. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register or Receiver at McCook, Neb., on Tuesday, February 5, 1884, viz: William P. Burns, homestead 2469, for the east 1/2 southwest 1/4 section 5, township 5, range 28 west, in Red Willow county, D. S. 2738, for the east 1/2 southwest 1/4 and west 1/2 southeast 1/4 section 10, township 2 north, range 30 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Joseph Newcomb, George Fredricks, Kay Davis and C. E. McPherson, all of McCook, Neb. G. L. LAWS, Register.

LAND OFFICE AT McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 22nd, 1883. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register and Receiver at McCook, Neb., on Tuesday, February 5, 1884, viz: William P. Burns, homestead 2469, for the east 1/2 southwest 1/4 section 5, township 5, range 28 west, in Red Willow county, D. S. 2738, for the east 1/2 southwest 1/4 and west 1/2 southeast 1/4 section 10, township 2 north, range 30 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Robert Bond, Nicholas Whitesell and William Perkins, of Bondville, Neb., and G. L. Clark, of Indianola, Neb. G. L. LAWS, Register.

LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., NOV. 27, 1883. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register or Receiver at McCook, Neb., on Friday, January 7, 1884, viz: John M. Ferguson, D. S. 2755 for the south east 1/4 section 7, township 2 north, range 29 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Samuel L. Green, Joseph E. Berger, Wm. A. Sanderson and Frank P. Allen, all of McCook, Neb. G. L. LAWS, Register.

LAND OFFICE, McCOOK, NEB., NOV. 30, 1883. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register or Receiver at McCook, Neb., on Friday, January 11, 1884, viz: Allen A. Phillippi, homestead 1876, for the southwest 1/4 north-west 1/4 and lot 4 section 3, township 2 north, range 28 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Henry H. Picketts, John Eaton, Harmon Eaton and Nathaniel L. Meyers, all of McCook, Neb. G. L. LAWS, Register.

LAND OFFICE AT McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 13th, 1883. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register or Receiver at McCook, Neb., on Friday, January 25th, 1884, viz: Carl Willert, D. S. 52, for the southwest 1/4 section 15, township 2 north, range 29 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Nathaniel Myers, George Roper and Alexander Johnson, of McCook, Neb., and Detrick Blake, of Valley Grange, Neb. G. L. LAWS, Register.

LAND OFFICE AT McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 14th, 1883. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register or Receiver at McCook, Neb., on Friday, January 25th, 1884, viz: Carl Willert, D. S. 52, for the southwest 1/4 section 15, township 2 north, range 29 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: John W. Warner and Alexander Negus, of Laird, Neb., and Lewis West, of Stockville, Neb. G. L. LAWS, Register.

LAND OFFICE AT McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 12th, 1883. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register or Receiver at McCook, Neb., on Thursday, March 4, 1884, viz: Perry Jones, D. S. 2169, for the southwest 1/4 northeast 1/4 and southeast 1/4 section 9, township 2 north, range 28 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Robert Bond, John E. Bond, and Samuel Stockton, of Indianola, Neb. G. L. LAWS, Register.

LAND OFFICE AT McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 29th, 1883. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register or Receiver at McCook, Neb., on Saturday, February 9, 1884, viz: Mary E. Ostrander, D. S. 84, for the south 1/2 northeast 1/4 section 6, township 4 north, range 29 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Daniel Doyle, James Porter, Irving Spaulding and Thomas Scofield, all of Box Elder, Neb. G. L. LAWS, Register.

LAND OFFICE AT McCOOK, NEB., DECEMBER 29th, 1883. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register or Receiver at McCook, Neb., on Saturday, February 9, 1884, viz: Mary E. Ostrander, D. S. 84, for the south 1/2 northeast 1/4 section 6, township 4 north, range 29 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Daniel Doyle, James Porter, Irving Spaulding and Thomas Scofield, all of Box Elder, Neb. G. L. LAWS, Register.