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NEARLY every day brings to light some peculiarity in the make up of Grover Cleveland. In reply to a letter of congratulation which also contained a request for the genealogy of the governor, Mr. Cleveland said among other things, "I have never been very much interested in my genealogy." Recent developments indicate the truth of the assertion; Grover is more concerned this year about his offspring than about his ancestors.—Ex.

The idea advanced by Col. O. M. Druse that much of the fatality among cattle in Wyoming is due to eating a weed is doubtless quite correct as far as it goes. The deadly loco weed is well known, and is probably the cause of most of the deaths on the plains. But the recent outbreak at Maxwell is too clearly traceable to the trail of freshly imported Texans to be attributed to that cause.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Washington, D. C., August 18, '84.

Between Ben Butler, the bete noir of politicians, and Steve Elkins, the Titanic dispenser of "soap," the present campaign promises to reach the bottom of the depravity that attaches to our political system. Not only are offices and high political positions made the objects of bargain and transfer, but pledges are made that huge Congressional jobs, in aid of railroad and other corporate monopolies, shall be put through as a reward for the intercession of these powerful influences. Jay Gould could well afford to put a hundred thousand dollars in the Indiana contest four years ago, because he got it back in ten fold ratio in the friendly legislation that followed, and the Republican party took Stanley Matthews and put him upon the bench of the highest court in the United States to look after Jay Gould's interests besides. It is this kind of "boodle" that is running the present campaign, for what amount of potency would there be in the paltry contributions wrong from the Government employes?

One of the most interesting and instructive of the departmental reports is that proceeding from the Commissioner of Education. The volume embraces eleven hundred pages, and exhausts the subject of education in America so far as the statistics are concerned. With a school population of sixteen million in the country, there are six million who attend school out of the ten million enrolled.

There are two hundred and ninety-three thousand teachers, to whom was paid last year ninety-one millions of dollars. Upwards of one-half of the number of teachers were women, whose salaries are gradually getting to a figure near to the just proportion of that of the male teachers. Why a man should receive one hundred dollars per month for the duty that a woman is required to perform for forty or fifty dollars, is not comprehended by the ordinary mind. While the colored population send eight hundred and three thousand of its children to school in the South, the whites in the Southern States with double the number of school population send only half as many more to school!

There are eight thousand colored pupils in normal schools, six thousand six hundred in academies, and two thousand three hundred in colleges. There are half a million of students pursuing studies above and beyond the elementary schools, that is, the higher branches of education, and upward of twenty-three thousand ministers, doctors, lawyers, and scientific men emerge from the colleges every year, with the doctors decidedly in the ascendancy. Dr. O'Donnell, minus his sample lepers, has been here and delivered his lecture on leprosy. It turns out that the doctor is simply an anti-Chinese emigration agent, delegated with authority to show up the loathsomeness of the disease and consequently the dangers that beset us from contact with the Chinese, who seem to have the sole monopoly of the infection. Whatever may be the sentiment of the general public upon the Chinese question, there is no disputing the fact that it was not ready to tolerate O'Donnell's lepers who have thus far been kept in the background and out of sight. The people of the far off Pacific coast who are threatened with Chinese invasion, can hardly expect to find the same antipathy to the moon-eyed children of the sun among the Eastern people, and O'Donnell's errand has only had the tendency to enlist sympathy for a people who are the only people to demonstrate the existence of a purely scriptural disease, whose loathsomeness is more imaginary than real.

The horrible part of the Greely Arctic business has come to light in the recital of the sufferings by starvation and the dreadful resort to cannibalism. We have therefore the reason for the recovery of but 11 of the

18 bodies of those who died upon the frightful shore of Cape Sabine. The other seven were eaten by their comrades, who were thus enabled to sustain life long enough to greet the rescuing party. For this hideous chapter of the Greely expedition there is grave responsibility resting somewhere, and the most proper place for it is the signal office, whose chief officer, Gen. Hazen, has exhibited either consummate ignorance and imbecility, or a total disregard of the teachings or impulses of a common humanity. Had he established provision depots at the points designated by Lieut. Greely, and in accordance with the explicit promise that he made to so establish them, this horror would have been entirely avoided. But Hazen, like many another army officer before him, became so profoundly impressed with his superior knowledge of the Arctic country and the necessities of its explorers, that he left at a single point 1,000 rations for a starving and ice-beleagured crew, and brought home 49,000 rations that should have been distributed along the shore of Smith's Sound, as had been faithfully promised. Is such a man as this fit to hold such a position a day longer? DOM PEDRO.

THE bustle has at last reached a stage of usefulness. Mrs. Bahrman, wife of a New York optical instrument dealer, who arrived from Europe, recently, had 1,000 glass eyes concealed in her bustles, which were taken by custom-house inspectors.

A REUNION of Brigham Young's family occurred the other day at Salt Lake. Over 200 were present. Artemus Ward's tale of his experience at Salt Lake where he generously gave family tickets to two of the principal citizens to his great moral show, and they packed the house so that no paying spectators could get in is vindicated.

THE strong minded are somewhat divided this fall. Miss Anthony, Mrs. Cady Stanton and Mrs. Livermore are for Blaine; Miss Lillie Devereaux Blake is for Cleveland, and Miss Willard is for St. John. But just wait till Ben Butler marshals his hosts and we shall see a galaxy of distinguished ladies at the front. Old Ben is a regular charmer.—Journal.

THE vigorous protest made by the citizens of Berlin against the constant piano-pounding in that great musical center, has led a Philadelphian to invent a simple method by which the volume of sound may be reduced at will four-fifths. The suffering men and women who have felt that there was no relief from the persecutions of the piano fiend can now take courage for their deliverance is at hand.

MONTANA takes the cake for an early harvest this year. Within the past month her industrious citizens have shot or hung fifty horse thieves. Not that they care so much for their horses, but because they desire to encourage immigration. It is claimed that only one man has suffered in a mistake of identity. Due apologies have been made to the family through the public press.

RUSSELL H. TRAVIS of St. Louis, who created much excitement in that city two years ago by shooting a man with whom his wife was too intimate, being afterwards divorced from and remarried to the woman, has committed suicide. He made demonstrations first as if to shoot his wife, but she fled and he turned his pistol on himself. The happiness and trust of wedded life once vanished can never return.

THE Chinese had a battery of Krupp guns at Kelung, but they were unable to kill any Frenchman with it and it was taken without bloodshed. No greater blunder was ever made by China than spending a lot of money for arms and munitions that her soldiers do not understand or are afraid to use. Had the besieged garrison at Kelung been supplied with stinkpots, big fire crackers and ponderous match lock muskets, they would have doubtless made a better fight and their defeat would not have been so humiliating.

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