

THE TRIBUNE hastens to assure Mr. Cheyney that the republicans have "gall" enough to put up a ticket this fall and it will be a ticket that will commend itself to the voters of the county.

THE TRIBUNE agrees, for once, with the Era that a fee of ten cents should be charged for admission to the meetings of the city council. It is worth more than that sum to hear an opinion rendered by the city attorney or listen to the mayor when putting a motion before the council.

THE editor of the Era knows that prior to 1891 the delinquent tax list was published in three newspapers, each publisher receiving one-third legal rate. No one publisher outside of Mr. Ellingham and Mr. Cheyney, ever received more than \$750 for doing the work. THE TRIBUNE never received more than one-third legal rates for publishing the tax-list, and is still willing to do the work at that rate.

EVERY county populist who aspires for nomination to an office this fall—and the hills are full of them—is seeking to ingratiate himself these days into the good graces of the court house ring. The ring treats these aspirants courteously and endeavors to send all of them away happy. The members of the ring are accommodating fellows; they have promised their support to a number of men who want the nomination for sheriff.

THE report of the state banking board shows that deposits in the Nebraska state banks are one million dollars greater than one year ago, and it is fair to presume that the increase of deposits in the national banks of the state is correspondingly large. If the calamity howlers will cease their yaps for a year Nebraska will pull nobly out of the slough in which she has been wallowing.

THE reduction in the number of failures gives another evidence of returning prosperity. They were 20 per cent less in last month than they were in June, 1896, and 25 per cent less in liabilities, while the liabilities were only one-half of those in June, 1895. The above relates to manufacturers while the general statement of commercial failures also indicates a falling off in number and in liabilities.

THE world's stock of silver money is now, according to the New York Journal of Commerce, a trifle over 4 billions of dollars of which \$3,433,000,000 is full legal tender. Of this amount no less than \$2,498,000,000 has been coined since 1873, and all of this but about 15 per cent is full legal tender, showing that the silver money of the world has much more than doubled since that "crime" period, and the proportion which is full legal tender has been well maintained.

THE Era does not deny that the taxes of 1896—which are being paid this year—are higher than ever before, and it does not attempt to explain why they are higher. The populist administration went into the court house three and a half years ago with the promise that they would show the republicans how to transact county affairs in an economical manner, and save the tax-payers money. That the populists have not kept their promise is shown by the increased taxation—the taxes have increased and the floating indebtedness has not been decreased.

THE statements of the fiscal year just ended show that the agricultural element of the country has enjoyed a greatly improved condition during the past year, while other statements received are equally gratifying as to the prospects for the coming year. The exportations of breadstuffs during the year ending June 30, 1897, amounted to \$180,838,828 in value against \$136,846,845 in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, and \$110,967,758 in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895. This is an increase of \$23,000,000 in the pockets of the farmers for the year just ended for breadstuffs alone, as compared with the preceding year, and an increase of \$79,000,000 compared with the year 1895. The exportations of cattle for the fiscal year just ended amounted to about \$2,000,000 more than in the preceding year, fresh beef increased about \$1,000,000, hams \$3,000,000.

WHERE ARE THE BENEFITS!

The time is coming when the people of Kansas and Nebraska will ask themselves what they gained by a populist state government, and the pause for reply will be so prolonged that the silence will be painful.

THE OUTLOOK FOR WHEAT.

The price of wheat is encouragingly firm considering the outlook for a 575,000,000 bushel home crop. There are decreased wheat harvests in Germany, Russia, France, Hungary, India, Australia and Argentina. Hence the bull statistical position is eminently sound, especially as the world's stock has shrunk to 75,000,000 bushels. The outlook is favorable of course, at present for the American farmer, as in 1879 when the country entered upon a splendid period of prosperity after a depression of the panic of 1873.

THE SUPPLY OF GOLD.

A very significant feature of the recent movement of gold is that while the reserve has been diminished by about \$13,500,000, the export of gold has been double that amount. The principal reason for this difference has been the deposits of gold at the mints. This would not have helped the treasury in the least if the depositors had insisted on receiving gold for the bullion thus furnished. That is what always happens when there is an uneasy feeling in the public mind with reference to the standard of value. On the other hand, in periods of confidence depositors of gold bullion are content to take payment for it in other money. That is what happened to a large extent during the recent outflow of gold, and the circumstance is notable as showing the extent to which confidence has been restored.

A RECOLLECTION.

It was indeed a perfect day. I scarce recall the weather. But autumn calm and bloom of May seem mingled there together. Then melody made sweet the hours, each sentence was a lullaby. From stony feet, weeds were flowers, when Mary dressed the child.

THE RETIRED BURGLAR.

At the foot of the stairs in the front hall of a farmhouse one night, said the retired burglar, "I stumbled over something soft that turned out to be a feather bed. If I had had a grain of sense at all, I should have suspected something from that, but I didn't. It looked as though it had been just trampled down stairs and left there to be carried off in the morning, and I let it go at that and stepped into it and over it to the first step of the stairs and on up.

"Stepping up on the fourth step, I kicked against a string stretched across the stairs and tripped. That made me suspicious, but I never connected the feather bed at the foot of the stairs with it. I looked up, I expected it to be connected with something there. And it was, and it was coming down the stairs at me and filling up the whole stairway. It was a big feather bed. Even then I didn't see that the one coming down had anything to do with the one down on the floor, and at the same time I couldn't understand why anybody should roll anything like a feather bed down on anybody—hinky, to be sure, but so light that it was an easy thing to stop.

"I put my hands to stop this one, but might just as well have tried to stop a mountain. It was soft and squishy on the outside, but it weighed a ton. It just wobbled me right over backward, and I fell on the other feather bed at the foot of the stairs. Then I began to understand what that one was for. It was to save the bones of the man that was trampled over by the avalanche bed.

TRADE WITH EUROPE

LARGE INCREASE IN COMMERCE OF SOUTHERN PORTS.

Direct Trade With Europe Has Enormously Increased of Late—Ports of the South Beat Those of the North in Percentage of Increase. The southern cities are making a good record this year in the matter of our foreign trade, as the following statistics show:

Table with columns for 1896, 1897, and Inc. P. C. for various ports like North Atlantic, South Atlantic, Gulf, All other, and Total.

Direct trade with Europe is what the south has always needed for the development of its business. It would be best, of course, if this increase were in imports as well as exports, but then the export trade is likely to bring a reciprocal business from Europe in time. General I. W. Avery, who has given the subject of direct trade much study and consideration, is particularly struck with the favorable showing of these figures and says:

"We see that of the 126 United States ports the 29 southern seaports, 23.3 per cent of the number, did 71.4 per cent of the whole increase, while the rest, 77.7 of the whole number, only did 28.6 per cent of the increase. Of the southern ports Galveston leads with \$21,307,697 increase; Baltimore, \$19,962,997; New Orleans, \$17,821,043; Norfolk, \$11,199,463; Newport News, \$5,454,853, and Pensacola, \$4,059,639.

Compare the percentage of the southern individual port increase with the great eastern and other parts, and the contrast is all the more striking. "Norfolk's increase, 200 per cent; New York's increase, 10.5 per cent; Pensacola's increase, 105 per cent; Philadelphia's increase, 17.5 per cent; Baltimore's increase, 66 per cent; Boston's increase, 6.3 per cent.

These official figures are amazing when we consider that there were no regular southern lines of steamers for foreign trade but from New Orleans, Norfolk and Baltimore. Only tramp ships ran irregularly to other southern ports."

It is probable that all this export trade which has latterly been handled by the southern ports has been permanently secured by them and will not be lost, but we should not be satisfied with this business and should make every effort to develop and increase our foreign trade. All the conditions are favorable for it.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Railroad Building in Mexico. Francisco Armendariz, a millionaire mining man of Monterey, was in the City of Mexico recently concluding arrangements for building a railroad from Monterey to Matamoros, on the Rio Grande border, opposite Brownsville, Tex. The federal government will give the road a subsidy of \$5,000 a kilometer, and the state of Tamaulipas will give the road \$120,000. It will be an important military line and will give the government easy access to that part of the Rio Grande border.

The Forewoman of a Man. All of the employees of Henry Walker & Bros., hat factory, Wooster street, New York, were the other day discussing the sudden transformation of Beckie Feingold, forewoman of the shop, into Max Feingold, husband of Sophie Goldstein, who worked in Rudnick Bros.' paper box factory in the same building.

ITEMS OF INTEREST. S. R. Crockett has been taking a walking tour in Pomerania, no doubt with a view to acquiring local color for his new story, "The Red Ax," the scene of which is to be laid in Pomerania.

THREW AWAY A THRONE.

Now a Shipwrecked Sailor Becomes King of the Cannibals. Captain Curtis of the British ship Eurydice, which recently sailed for Europe from Tacoma, Wash., grain laden, had a thrilling experience last year, part of which is now made public for the first time. He was first mate on the ship Flora Stafford when she foundered in the south Pacific ocean. The crew embarked in boats, and after 15 days of hardships, during which both provisions and water gave out, Curtis' boat landed on one of the main Caroline islands. Though they sometimes practice cannibalism, Curtis and his fellow sufferers persuaded the natives to treat them kindly. In fact, the sailors claimed to belong to European aristocracy and announced that warships would be sent to exterminate the natives if they were molested. Curtis was received with great respect and made friends with King Kikikee, who he claims abdicated in his favor. Curtis describes his reign as follows:

"My reign was brief, but brilliant. Proclamations were sent to all subjects to desist from eating the flesh of any white man who might thereafter be cast upon the shores of my dominions, this being done so none of my helpless shipmates who were yet at sea would meet death at the hands of the subjects of their erstwhile first officer. Kikikee had a daughter, she had most exquisite golden skin and was tall, lithe and graceful. I wooed the princess and won her, and we had a gorgeous wedding. My reign ended after six months. When the first steamer passed the islands, I had become tired of royal life and actually disgusted with the smallness of my kingdom. I kicked over the throne, threw away my scepter and swam off to the ship. My guard of honor witnessed the last act of my reign and summoned the former king to his banana patch."

DIED TO SAVE A DOG.

Rescued His Pet, but Was Himself Struck by the Engine. As the engineer of the Erie express, New York bridge, approached the Riverside bridge, near Putnam, N. J., he saw a young man, with a couple of hounds at his heels, hurriedly cross the tracks.

Just an instant the young man hesitated. Then he made a dash in front of the locomotive, seized the dog and threw it out of harm's way. But he had miscalculated the speed of the train. The pilot of the engine struck him squarely and his mangled body was thrown far into the air and out to the side of the tracks.

The inmates of the train carried it a mile or more. As soon as it could be stopped it was backed slowly to the scene of the accident. When the trainmen alighted, the body lay still where it had fallen. The two hounds were standing over it, baying mournfully at the top of their voices. The trainmen had to remove them by force while they examined the man lying, bruised and bleeding, on the ground.

THE BOOM IN COTTON. SOME INTERESTING STATISTICS OF THE CHIEF SOUTHERN STAPLE. South to Enjoy a Monopoly of the Cotton Industry—Mills of New England Losing Ground in Their Competition With Those South of the Line.

Mr. John A. Smith, manager of the Charleston freight bureau, recently delivered a practical address before the south and west commercial congress at Kansas City on the industrial development of this section. In touching upon the phenomenal growth of the cotton industry in the south during the past seven years Mr. Smith cited data from official sources to show that within the next generation, if not sooner, the south would enjoy a virtual monopoly of the cotton industry. The following table, compiled by Mr. Smith, shows that the amount of cotton consumed annually by our southern cotton mills has been steadily increasing since 1890, while the amount consumed by the cotton mills of New England has been steadily decreasing:

Table comparing Southern New England consumption in 1890 and 1896, showing a decrease for the south and increase for New England.

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During the past seven years, as disclosed by the foregoing table, the capacity of our southern cotton mills has almost doubled, while that of New England during the same length of time has fallen off considerably. The explanation which Mr. Smith gives of these figures is complete and satisfactory. "In the south," says he, "our mills are always sure of cheaper raw material and cheaper labor than is possible in any other section. Material is cheaper because it is produced at the very doors of the mill, and is therefore free from the numerous charges made for transportation, insurance and compressing. Labor is cheaper because the cost of subsistence to a large degree fixes the rate of wages. Cheap subsistence in the south can be obtained because the soil is easily tilled and the climate mild."

It is possible for the cotton men of New England to resist the logic contained in these simple statements of fact. Undoubtedly it is nature's plan that the cotton industry should be restricted to the south, and if such is the case it is useless for our New England competitors to defy the inevitable.

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NEW AMERICAN ACADEMY.

Will Be in Rome and Students to Be Sent There.

The American academy in Rome was incorporated in Albany recently. The object of the academy is the promotion and advancement of fine arts in America by the establishment and maintenance of an institution in Rome for the study of painting, sculpture and architecture. Daniel C. French, the sculptor, when seen at his home in New York, said that the academy is to be formed on the plan of the French academy in Rome, to which a certain number of painters, sculptors and architects are sent every year.

The idea of the academy had originated with Charles F. McKim, one of the firm of McKim, Mead & White, one of the corporations. Among the other corporations and trustees are Frederick Crowninshield, E. H. Blasfield and John La Farge of the Society of Mural Painters, Augustus St. Gaudens, J. Q. A. Ward and Daniel C. French of the National Sculptors' society and F. W. Chandler and D. H. Burham of the American Institute of Architects.

Third Time Married at Ninety. Considerable interest was created in Kankakee, Ill., by the marriage lately of Joseph Dupuis, a wealthy French-Canadian, 90 years old, to Miss Josephine Humeau, a comely maiden of 85. Mr. Dupuis has been a familiar figure in Kankakee many years, where he is known by the French equivalent of Tom Thumb, on account of his diminutive stature. He is only 4 feet tall, his wife standing a head and a half above him.

He Was Attacked by a Python. Walter Fox, aged 19, is an attendant in a Tremont row (Boston) museum. Recently he started to help the keeper of a python give the snake a bath. The snake was in an ugly humor and seemed ready for a fight. In spite of their care the python reared his head, made a spring at Fox, his jaws wide open, and his teeth sank into the youth's arm at the biceps.

Generous Treatment of Employee. A large Lendon firm has secured for the entire season a commodious and well furnished detached house at Waltham-on-the-Azoe, where every one of its hundreds of factory hands and warehouse staff will be accommodated in batches of 30 at a time with a fortnight's free board and lodging, in addition to receiving a present of three weeks' wages. Moreover, on June 21 and 22 the works were closed, and to each of the workers was presented three days' pay.

HERE AND THERE. Insanity is increasing in Ireland. English statisticians say that one serious cause of lunacy is the abuse of ten, another an overindulgence in alcohol, a third the displacement of having tried emigration and failed.

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INQUISITIVE SPARROWS.

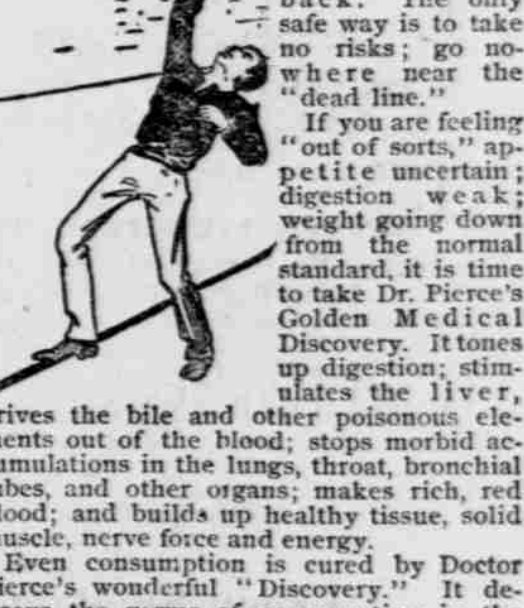
They May Have Been Hostile, but They Didn't Dare Attack the Cuckoo.

There was trouble and to spare one day last week in a back yard on Brooklyn Heights. The cause of it was an innocent cuckoo which had flown away from home and found its way to the top of a tree near State street, between Henry street and Garden place. Where the strange bird came from there is nobody to tell.

It was first discovered by the large and noisy colony of English sparrows which inhabits that vicinity. The first sparrow to see the foreigner lost no time in commencing the news of its discovery to its mates, and in three minutes no less than 50 sparrows had assembled to examine the strange visitor and exchange views about him. They took places on all sides of the cuckoo and began a chattering which soon attracted attention from all the neighboring windows.

But the unwelcome foreigner soon found that the chattering was harmless, and that the saucy sparrows lacked the courage to make an attack. Finding himself surrounded on all sides by the little nuisances, he gradually worked his way through one side of the circle and out on the end of a branch, where he perched contentedly and viewed his tormentors with the calmest indifference.

If a military prisoner puts so much as a foot or a hand out from his stocks, he is shot through the head. In this case, the "dead line" is never known where it is, we never know when it is too late to draw back. The only safe way is to take no risks; go nowhere near the "dead line."



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