

THE FRONTIER.

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PERHAPS those bankers wish to make it appear that they have got on the wrong side of the bond market.

JERRY SIMPSON says he will leave congress a bankrupt. Still Jerry was very anxious to get re-elected.

SENATOR GALLINGER's proposition for union with Canada is all right, but a little ahead of time. The first advance should come from Canada.

LI HUNG CHANG will probably be willing to call it quits with the emperor if he is allowed to take his head and fortune out of China.

EVEN a mossback ought to be able to understand that the country was badly struck when the democrats traded reciprocity for retaliation.

COL. BRECKINRIDGE's creditors should have waited until his box office receipts were large enough to stand alone before attempting to attach them.

MR. CLEVELAND might not be satisfied with the work of an extra session of the Fifty-fourth congress, but the business men of the country probably would be.

THE New York police captain who swore that he paid \$15,000 for his position and now asks to be retired on half pay, certainly deserves to be retired—to a prison.

Gov. FLOWER did a sensible thing when he refused to pardon McKane, the ballot thief, but his effect was spoiled by his declaring his belief that McKane is an honest man.

THE discoverer of anti-toxine declares that "diphtheria as a dangerous disease exists no more." This shows those peaky individuals who continue to die from the effects of that disease how foolish they are.

GRANT made some very bitter personal enemies while he occupied the white house, but he never considered it necessary that he should be surrounded by a cordon of armed detectives while he was holding a new year reception.

BULLY for Nebraska! She says she can take care of all the suffering within her borders without outside assistance. That's the sort of talk. There's too much passing the hat in this country for the future welfare of some of its citizens.

If the sporting men are right in their expressed belief that the acquittal of Lavigne of the charge of murder by the New Orleans authorities will help stifle exhibitions, it is a great pity that he was acquitted. Help is not needed in that quarter.

THE sheriff of Holt county is reported to have called upon the captain of the Bartley Guards for a loan of the arms and ammunition supplied by the state to its militia. The captain, it is further stated, promptly declined to honor the requisition. If this story be true the captain of the Bartley Guards only did what he was in duty bound to do. Since when has a sheriff been empowered to issue orders or make demands directly of the subordinate officers of the militia? The governor of Nebraska is commander of the Nebraska National Guard and all communications of this kind must be directed to him. We would soon witness a pretty state of affairs if the sheriff in every county were free to command the militia in his county and to make use of the state's military supplies quite at his own free will.—Omaha Bee.

BISHOP MESSMER of Green Bay, Wisconsin, has been called down by the Knights of Pythias, and challenged to prove certain charges made by him imputing to that order anti-Christian principles and purposes. This is business; and we sincerely hope that the bishop will manfully prove his charges or "eat his words." There is a duty incumbent on American Catholic laymen that must be asserted in the very teeth of any bishop who undertakes to put them in any false position in relation to those societies. Catholics are morally bound to render obedience to their bishops in matters of faith and morals; but it will be well for bishops and laymen to mutually understand that Catholics have other relations, duties and obligations to sustain. If they themselves are worthy of liberty they must forever cheerfully observe a decent regard for the rights and liberties, the opinions and feelings of others. The church commands us not to enter certain secret societies. She accompanies that demand with the satisfying reason that our individual consciences must not be chained by such societies' oath nor blindly guided by some power behind the scenes. In the august presence of the church we bow, and accept her dictate as the voice of God. But if any bishop seeks to unjustly assail the motives of our fellow citizens, and to make war upon them, American Catholics take no part in it. We are Catholics, but we are also Americans. On this soil our fathers died, and here our children were born. By the holiest impulses of patriotic duty we are always

and everywhere Americans, and we propose to cultivate feelings of mutual interest, charity, harmony and kindly forbearance with Masons, Oddfellows, Knights of Pythias and all other good and law abiding Americans. We are exceedingly jealous of our own rights, extremely sensitive as to doubtful aspersions upon our motives; and it is unfair for any man, whether he wear the beretta of a Cardinal, the mitre of a bishop or the plain collar of a curate, to call down upon us the reasonable resentment of our neighbors and our friends who are members of those societies.—Northwestern Catholic.

A Private Opinion.
A smart young officer thinking to make himself popular, a la Napoleon, had a way of promising things to the private soldiers under him. One day he met a regular old warhorse. "I say, Harris," he said to him, "you're a mighty good soldier." "Thank you, sir," replied Harris, stiffly. "How would you like to have me recommend your promotion? Give you something above the grade of private, for instance?" "Well, sir," responded the old soldier, "I'll be glad of that after a while, but just now, sir, there are so many officers that it is a good deal more exclusive to be a private, and I'd sooner remain where I am."

A Hans in Luck.
A modern Hans in Luck lives in the town of Washburn, Me. He started in business a while ago with an old brass watch. This he traded for an old horse, which he treated to the luxury of three square meals. He then traded the horse for a violin, which he changed for a patent knitting machine. Finding the market overstocked with socks and mitts, he traded the machine the other day for a goat. This is as far as the correspondent has followed him, but ere this he probably has changed his goat for a rooster, to help him crow over his financial achievements.

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