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CURRENT PARAGRAPHS.

JOSEPHINE, the Queen Dowager of London, is dead.

WIRT SYKES has been appointed and confirmed United States Consul at Cardiff, Wales.

FRANK MAILLAN'S house, fifteen miles east of Windsor, Canada, was destroyed by fire, a few nights ago, and five children were burned to death.

A WOMAN named Wilhelmina Weick has been sentenced at Buffalo, N. Y., to be hanged on the 21st inst., for the murder, last September, of her step-son.

A PORTLAND (Oregon) dispatch of the 7th says that State had undoubtedly gone Democratic. The Democrats claimed a majority of twelve in the Legislature on joint ballot.

A MELBOURNE (Australia) dispatch, recently received in London, announces that the Fenian prisoners held under surveillance in West Australia had escaped on board an American whaler.

THE Boston *Evening Journal*, of a recent date, announces that it had been informed that J. C. Ayer, the patent-medicine manufacturer, had been sent to an insane asylum in New Jersey.

A CALL has been issued for a Republican State Convention to meet at Lansing, Mich., on the 3d of August, to nominate a State ticket. The Georgia Democratic State Convention has been called to meet on the 2d of August.

ALDERMAN J. H. HILDRETH, of Chicago, an ex-gauger, appeared before the United States District Court in that city a few days ago, and plead guilty to two counts of the indictment against him for being concerned, while gauger, in the whisky frauds.

THE West Virginia Democratic State Convention was held at Charlestown, a few days ago, and nominated a full State ticket, headed by Henry Mathews for Governor, and chose delegates to the National Convention.

LETTERS have been received at Cincinnati from members of the two expeditions from that city to the Black Hills, which show that the reports of the killing of several of Col. Stone's party were false. Both expeditions arrived safely at Custer City without being molested by Indians

THE fast special train from New York for San Francisco arrived at the latter city at 9:25 on the morning of the 4th, making the distance in eighty-three hours and thirty-four minutes, nearly four hours ahead of the schedule time. On one portion of the road the train made sixty miles in fifty-seven minutes.

THE reunion of the Grand Army of the Potomac was held at Philadelphia on the 6th, Gen. Hancock presiding. Ex-Gov. Dix, of New York, delivered the oration of the day, and addresses were made by Gens. Sherman, Sheridan and Hooker, Gov. Hartranft and ex-Gov. Curtin. A commemorative poem—the "Voice of Silence"—was read by William Winter, of the New York *Tribune*.

A RECENT New York dispatch says a large number of counterfeit five dollar bills were in circulation in that city and Brooklyn. Among them were counterfeits on the First National Banks of Chicago, Ill.; Paxton, Ill.; Canton, Ill.; Peoria, Ill.; Aurora, Ill.; Galena, Ill.; Louisville, Ky., and on the Traders' National Bank of Chicago. The best bills are on the Chicago banks—First National and Traders' National. Some of the others are fairly executed, but not sufficiently so as to deceive any one who is on the look out for the "queer." There is no such bank as the First National of Galena, Ill.

The Coming Fourth in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, June 2.

THE programme for the Fourth of July celebration has been finally decided upon. At sunrise there will be chimes and bells, and a salute of 100 guns. The ceremonies in Independence Hall will begin with a selection of National airs by the band, after which there will be a reception by President Grant and an introduction by Gov. Hartranft, when the original Declaration of Independence will be presented to the President by the Mayor. An adjournment will be then taken to Independence Square to take part in such ceremonies as the city authorities may decide upon. Thence, a procession will be formed, the prominent men in carriages, by way of Walnut street, under military escort, to Fairmount Park. The order of International ceremonies will be as follows:

Salute of trumpets and salvos of thirteen cannons.
Invocation by Bishop Stevens.
Anthem by the orchestra and chorus.
Declaration of Independence read by Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia.
Grand Chorus.
Oration by the Hon. William M. Evarts, of New York.
Airs of all nations by the orchestra
Poem by Bayard Taylor, of Pennsylvania.
Congratulatory messages from different States and Nations of the world.
Pæans of peace by orchestra and chorus.
Benediction.
Salvo of thirty-eight guns.

Poor Knott.

Poor Proctor Knott! Ben Hill and the venerable Tucker came out of their Blaine skirmishes with flying colors, as compared with the hero of Duluth. Monday he was proved guilty of withholding important testimony which was necessary to the complete exoneration of Mr. Blaine. At first he evaded, then denied, and finally acknowledged, and tried to extenuate his offense by bluster. He stands before the country guilty of a deliberate act of injustice.

But this is not all. Mr. Blaine called him to account again yesterday. He had asked Knott if it was not a fact that he appointed two rebel Generals on the subcommittee of investigation as soon as he learned that himself (Blaine) was to be the subject of investigation. The member from Kentucky replied in the negative. Yesterday Mr. Blaine demanded and secured the production of the records of the committee, when Knott was compelled to own up. He could only plead unintentional falsehood. There is not in all the country a more completely used-up politician than Proctor Knott. He has been known as the wag of the House. Hereafter he deserves to be known as the liar and villifier of that body.—*Chicago Journal, June 7.*

—There are many public schools in New York where the air space per pupil is less than sixty feet, and the atmosphere is loaded with the accumulated impurities of many hours during which the children inhale it.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

CONDENSED TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

A CONSTANTINOPLE dispatch of the 4th says it was officially announced that the ex-Sultan, Abdul Aziz, had committed suicide that morning, by opening the veins of his arm with a pair of scissors.

THE regular Florida Republican State Convention, held on the 2d, nominated M. L. Stearns for Governor and D. Montgomery for Lieutenant-Governor. Of the eight delegates chosen to the National Convention seven are for Blaine and one for Conkling. A bolt was made from the regular Convention, the bolters nominating Senator Conover for Governor and a Mr. Lee for Lieutenant-Governor, but choosing no delegates to the National Convention.

AN official telegram from Constantinople on the 5th, states that Abdul Aziz committed suicide on account of the seizure of his private funds. The Porte has officially notified the foreign ambassadors of Murad's accession and demanded recognition.

A MAJORITY of the five Circuit Judges for Cook County, Ill., to whom the question of the legality of the election of Mr. Hoyne as Mayor was submitted on the application by Mr. Colvin for a writ of *quo warranto*, have decided adversely to Mr. Hoyne, Judges McAllister, Rogers and Williams concurring, and Judges Farwell and Booth dissenting. The decision is to the effect that there has been a vacancy in the Mayoralty ever since the expiration of the term for which Mr. Colvin was elected, and that the failure of the Common Council to provide for the filling of such vacancy at the recent election, by issuing a call for the same (the regular time for electing a Mayor being biennially beginning with the year 1873), nullified the vote of the people for Mr. Hoyne at the late election. It is also decided that the Common Council can still call a special election for Mayor to fill the vacancy.

MR. MOODY preached his first sermon in his new tabernacle in Chicago to a large congregation, on Sunday, the 4th inst.

IT was reported from Constantinople on the 6th that the Grand Vizier, on behalf of the Porte, had issued a letter granting full amnesty to all insurgents who would offer their submission, and in order to give them time to do this, consenting to a six weeks' armistice. A quarrel was reported between the new Sultan and the Khedive of Egypt, and the latter had been ordered to Constantinople.

THE Chicago *Tribune* of the 7th says it had been finally decided by the Eastern railroads to make no further reduction in passenger rates, and adds that there was, however, no probability that the present rates will go up again before next winter.

TELEGRAPHIC dispatches from various points in the Old World on the 8th give assurance that there was no immediate possibility of war. The Great Powers were represented as being in harmony with respect to the Eastern question.

A RAGUSA telegram of the 7th announces the defeat of the Turks near Carkoviko, with a loss of 160 killed and 2,300 taken prisoners.

THE Democratic State Convention of Wisconsin was held at Milwaukee on the 7th. Delegates to the St. Louis Convention were chosen, of whom seventeen are said to be for Tilden and three uncommitted. The Convention adjourned without adopting any platform.

THE Minnesota Prohibition State Convention, held at Minneapolis on the 7th, adopted a platform and chose a State Electoral ticket in behalf of Smith and Stewart, the nominees of the National Convention for President and Vice-President.

A VERY exciting scene occurred between Messrs. Blaine and Knott, before the Judiciary Committee in Washington on the 7th, relative to the Caldwell telegram, Mr. Blaine demanding of Mr. Knott his reason for not informing the committee or the public of its reception. Mr. Knott explained that he had made inquiries as to Mr. Caldwell's whereabouts, and had been informed that he was in Italy. When the telegram in question was received it contained no day of the month and gave no address in London, and he was unaware of the custom of the Cable Company of retaining the address at the point from whence a dispatch is sent, and not sending it over the cable. He read the dispatch to four members of the committee, and believed it to be a trick, and on that account had not made it public. Had the dispatch said Blaine was guilty—he (Caldwell) had got the bonds for him—it would have been an injustice to Mr. Blaine to have given it to the public. Mr. Blaine here intimated that, had it been unfavorable to him, the dispatch would have got out pretty soon. Mr. Hunton and other members of the committee confirmed the statements made by Mr. Knott. A spirited controversy took place between Messrs. Blaine and Knott on the subject of the former having communicated with Caldwell during his present sojourn in London, Mr. Knott stating that he had no evidence to that effect, and never pretended to have any. The following is a copy of the telegram received by Mr. Knott on the 1st inst., and which he furnishes for publication:

LONDON, ——.

To Chairman House Judiciary Committee, Washington:

Have just read in New York papers Scott's evidence about our bond transaction, and can fully corroborate it. I never gave Blaine any Fort Smith Railroad bonds, directly or otherwise. I have three foreign railway contracts on my hands which make it impossible for me to leave without great pecuniary loss, or would gladly voluntarily come home, and so testify. Can make affidavit to this effect, and mail it if desired.

JOSIAH CALDWELL.

IT was reported at Vienna on the 8th that Servia had declared its independence of Turkey and declined to pay further tribute, and had marched an army across the frontier.

MADAME DUDEVANT, the well-known French novelist, dramatist and social philosopher, better known as George Sand, died at Paris on the 8th.

IN the Spanish Cortes, on the 9th, the Bishop of Salamanca stated that the Spanish prelates would always oppose religious toleration because it was incompatible with Catholicism.

NEWS was received at Omaha on the 9th to the effect that over 1,000 hostile Indian lodges were located on Powder River, under the leadership of Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse, and that a severe engagement had been fought between them and Crook's forces, but no particulars of the fight were given.

SPECIAL dispatches from Bismarck, D. T., on the 8th and 9th announce the arrival there of a train of twenty-seven wagons and forty-two men from the Deadwood mining regions. The party had with them between $15,000 and $20,000 in gold dust, and told most remarkable stories of the Deadwood country, one of which is that two Frenchmen took out fifteen pounds of gold in one day, and that in many instances $1,000 per day to the man was being taken out. They were quite enthusiastic, and would return soon.

FORTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

SATURDAY, June 3.—In the Senate, the Senate bill providing for an agreement with the Sioux Nation in regard to a portion of their reservation and for other purposes, was amended and passed—30 to 8. The Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill was further considered, and all the salary reductions made by the House were non-concurred in, including the one fixing the President's salary at $25,000 a year, from and after March 4, 1877, the Senate voting—31 to 11—in favor of the $50,000 salary....The Indian Appropriation bill was taken up in the House, and several proposed amendments were disposed of; a point of order was raised on that portion of the bill providing for the transfer of the Indian Bureau from the Interior to the War Department, on the ground that it changed existing laws and did not on its face retrench expenditures. A report was made from the Committee on Ways and Means in regard to the Alaska Fur-Seal Fishery lease, exonerating the officers of the Government and company from all the alleged frauds.

MONDAY, June 5.—In the Senate, a new Conference Committee was appointed on the Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill, the former committee having reported a disagreement. All the committee amendments to the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill were disposed of, most of them being adopted, and other amendments were offered.... A resolution was offered in the House declaring T. W. Bennett, the sitting delegate from Idaho, not entitled to the seat....Mr. Neal offered a bill to repeal the Resumption act of Jan. 14, 1875, and called the previous question thereon....Mr. Blaine spoke on the subject of the investigation into the Union Pacific and Northern Pacific transactions in which his name had become involved, and made a lengthy statement and argument in his own behalf.

TUESDAY, June 6.—A petition of Gen. G. T. Beauregard, of Louisiana, for the removal of his political disabilities, was presented and referred in the Senate. A number of private bills were passed. In order to earn a dollar before they spend it, and consequently know its value. These gentlemen have formed a camp within five minutes' ride of the Centennial enclosure, where guests can be accommodated with all the comforts of tent life at prices in proportion to the size of the roll of greenbacks they carry. This enterprise is being largely patronized, and the speculators are likely to come out at the end of the season with vastly more plethoric pocket-books than the five-and-ten-dollar-a-day-establishments, where proprietors had such golden visions a month ago.

A feature incident to the Centennial Show is the presence in Philadelphia of vast numbers of "help" from all sections of the country—girls who came hither in the expectation that the influx of so many strangers would create a demand for their services at vastly better prices than they were getting at home. There is scarcely a village in the country that has not contributed a specimen of its household servants. Where 1,000 were wanted, probably 10,000 came. You can't throw a brick without hitting a girl into a place that number of places, and so there are 9,000 disappointed ones. As a consequence the employment agencies are overridden with applicants for work, and the authorities are growing uneasy at the number of unemployed accumulating in the city. Idle men are bad enough, but idle and impecunious women are far worse.

There is a large building on the grounds devoted especially to carriages, sleighs, harness, etc., though some of the exhibits, as those of France and Norway, are in the Main building. There are 240 exhibits in all; of these our own country display (107) the British Empire seventy-five, and twelve other countries fifty-eight. Great Britain sends "Victorias," a "Stanhope" phaeton, dog-carts and one of those huge coaches with seats on top for the whole party, which occupy about the same position on land that the pleasure yacht does on water. The London "Four-in-hand Club" has recently had its annual exhibition in Hyde Park, with thirty of these coaches in line. An imitation of this club has been started in New York, with half a dozen coaches. Visitors here can see exactly what this coach is in the carriage-house. Scarcely any vehicle to be seen on the streets of an American city, from a baby carriage to a brougham, is without its representative. The racing sulky is here in all shapes, with an array of single and double sleighs. There are parts of carriages, also, in every stage of manufacture. Canada sends twenty-eight exhibits of carriages and sleighs, besides nearly as many of harnesses and saddles. France, besides six exhibits of carriages, sends a "steam velocipede." Norway contributes a number of the low racing sleeges peculiar to that country, with a seat for but one in each. It also sends several vehicles much like our two-wheeled racing sulkies, except heavier, and the seat and foot board cance shaped. The Bey of Tunis has contributed some ornamental saddlery. There are silk and embroidered blankets from Egypt. Of our own carriages Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts send the greater number.

In the shoe and leather department only the United States is represented, there being 324 exhibits of blackings, boots and shoes, trunks and valises, leather machinery, shoe machinery and leather, showing all varieties of tanning processes, with every quality and grade. Nearly every imaginable process in the making of shoes or the reduction of leather is provided for and there is no more interesting machinery in the Exhibition. Pennsylvania and New York seem to divide the honors with Massachusetts.

Statements by Messrs. Blaine and Kerr.

In his statement and explanation in the House on the 5th, Mr. Blaine claimed that he had rightful possession of the letters obtained by him from the witness Mulligan, who had no right whatever to them. After lengthy remarks in which he stated that the whole inquiry of the committee investigating specific railroad companies had been aimed personally at him, he proceeded to read the letters and memorandum in question, and made passing comments upon and explanations of various points in the several letters. He introduced the reading of the letters with the following remarks: "Many of these letters have not the remotest bearing on the subject, but some of them will require a little explanation. Some of them may possibly involve humiliation, but I would a good deal rather take that than take evil surmises, and still more the inferences that might be drawn if I did not act with this frankness.

Mr. Blaine thereupon proceeded to read and make passing comments upon and explanations of the various points in the several letters. The allusion to the Spencer contract he explained by saying that in the summer of 1861, two years before he first came to Congress, he had been asked if he could not get an opportunity for the inventor of the Spencer repeating rifle to bring that new arm to the attention of the Secretary of War. He came on to Washington, and had an interview with Secretary Cameron. Mr. Cameron had given orders to have it tested by the Ordnance Bureau. It had been thoroughly tested, and the experiments were so satisfactory that a preliminary order for 20,000 rifles was made. He had been paid not an extravagant, but a moderate, fee for his services, which he had just as much liberty to take as any lawyer or agent had to take a fee. Subsequently he had taken and paid for $10,000 worth of stock in the company. That was the whole story. There are the five letters. There are the whole of them, and here is Mulligan's memorandum. I keep it as a protection for myself, to show the identity of the letters in every respect.

Mr. Glover—Will you have that memorandum read?

Mr. Blaine—I will do so.

Mr. Hale—Does this exhibit cover every paper that came from Mulligan?

Mr. Blaine—Every solitary scrap.

Mr. Glover—Let that memorandum be read at the clerk's desk.

Mr. Blaine (sending it to the clerk's desk)—Yes, I will be glad to have it read.

The following is the memorandum of Mulligan:

"1. October 4, 1869: Relating to debate in the House and Blaine's rating; also Globe, and favors he was to receive from C. for pressing bill.

"2. October 4, 1869: On same subject.

"3. June 27, 1869; Thanking Fisher for admitting him to participate in the L. and F. railroad, and urging him to make Caldwell say how much he would give him for what he knew. He would be no dead-head, but would render valuable assistance.

"4. July 25, 1869: On same subject.

"5. September 5, 1869; Contract with different parties.

"6. Contract with Northern Pacific.

"7. May 14, 1870; Caldwell designed to treat him handsomely.

"8. October 31, 1871; Fisher to Blaine, urging settlement of the Union Pacific Railroad account of $25,000.

"9. October 4, 1871; Blaine admits that there are $6,000 paid on the $25,000 loan, and to having received $30,000 from Fisher.

"10. October 1, 1871; Admits being paid $6,000 on account of loan. Mr. Blaine sold sundry parties $125,000 first mortgage bonds, and common stock $125,000, preferred stock $125,000, for which he was paid by them $125,000 cash, and Mr. Blaine was to receive for his share in the transaction $12,500 in land-grant bonds, and $32,500 first mortgage bonds."

After the memorandum was read, Mr. Blaine said:

"Now, I would be obliged for any gentleman, when he reads these letters, to see the obvious intent in which that memorandum was drawn up. I desire, also, to call attention to the fact that those were the letters for which I was ready to commit suicide, and sundry and divers other desperate things, in order to acquire them.

I have one or two more observations to make. The specific charge which went to the committee was whether I was a party in interest to that $64,000 transaction. I submit that up to this time there has not been one particle of proof to connect me with it. These letters were picked out of correspondence extending over fifteen years. The man Mulligan did his worst—his very worst. They were picked out of the most intimate business correspondence of my life. I ask you, gentlemen, and I ask with some feeling, if any of you could stand a closer scrutiny—a more rigid investigation—of your correspondence? Now, there is but one thing to close the complete circle of testimony. There is one witness whom I can't have; but to whom the Judiciary Committee voted to send a cable dispatch—I mean Josiah Caldwell. I ask the gentleman from Kentucky if that cable dispatch was sent?

Mr. Knott—The gentleman from Virginia (Hunton) and I have both endeavored to get Caldwell's address, and have not got it yet.

Mr. Blaine—Has the gentleman from Kentucky received a cable dispatch from Caldwell?

Mr. Knott—I will explain that directly.

Mr. Blaine—I want an unbroken answer.

Mr. Knott—I have received a dispatch purporting to be from Caldwell. How did you know I got it?

Mr. Blaine (advancing down the aisle)—When did you receive that dispatch?

Mr. Knott—I want you to answer my question first.

Mr. Blaine—I never heard of it till yesterday.

Mr. Knott—How did you hear it?

Mr. Blaine—I heard that you got a dispatch last Thursday forenoon, from Josiah Caldwell, exonerating me completely and absolutely from this charge, and (with great vehemence of intonation) you have suppressed it. (Loud applause and cheers on the Republican side of the House and in the galleries, which caused the Speaker *pro tem.* to lecture the galleries and to direct the doorkeeper to clear the floor of all unauthorized persons.)

After some time spent in having order restored, Mr. Blaine again returned to the charge, and demanded of Mr. Knott an answer to his question.

Mr. Knott (contemptuously)—I will answer when I get ready. Go on with your speech.

(Mr. Blaine here offered his resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to report forthwith whether such telegram had not been received from Mr. Caldwell, and on which resolution the House subsequently refused to second the previous question.)

The gentleman (Knott) intended to convey the idea that I had some previous knowledge of how that dispatch was obtained. I have had no communication with Josiah Caldwell, and no means of knowing from the telegraph office when it was received. But I tell the gentleman from Kentucky that murder will out, and that secrets will leak. I am prepared to state to this House that at eight o'clock, or thereabouts, last Thursday morning, the gentleman from Kentucky received and read for a message addressed to him from Josiah Caldwell, in London, entirely corroborating and sustaining the testimony of Mr. Thomas A. Scott, which Caldwell had just read in a New York newspaper, and entirely exculpating me from the charges, which I am bound to believe, from the suppression of that dispatch, the gentlemen are anxious to fasten upon me.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

A CARGO of half a million flag-poles has reached Philadelphia from St. Johns, N. B.

ENGLAND has about 140 art schools, which have an attendance of nearly 20,000 pupils.

SINCE the war Pennsylvania has spent $8,000,000 in educating the orphans of soldiers.

OF the 23,000 persons employed in watch-making in Switzerland, one-third are women.

IT is estimated that over $100,000 worth of pearls have, first and last, been taken from bivalves in the streams of Northern Vermont.

THE first bonded indebtedness of Kansas, amounting to $160,000, and contracted in 1861, was payable in fifteen years. It falls due on the 1st of July next.

THE production of pig-iron in the United States in 1875 was about 2,100,000 net tons, a falling off of about 600,000 tons compared with the production in 1874.

IT is now said that the victims of the Rouen fire numbered twenty—namely, twelve soldiers, of whom two are killed and seven injured, and eight civilians, of whom three are killed and five injured.

IT is said that the London brokers, taking advantage of the French *furore* of indignation over the Suez transfer, "unloaded" some of their surplus Turkish and Egyptian stocks in Paris just before the market fell.

ONE of the attractions of the Paris Exhibition of 1878 is to be the largest balloon ever made. It will contain 18,000 cubic meters of gas, and is to be twenty-three to thirty-four meters in diameter. The car will hold fifty persons.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, June 10, 1876.

LIVE STOCK—Cattle	$9 00	@	$10.50
Sheep (clhorn).	5.00	@	7.00
FLOUR—Good to Choice	4.25	@	5.75
WHEAT—No. 2 Chicago	1.17½	@	1.18
CORN—Western Mixed	.56	@	.60
OATS—Western Mixed	.34	@	.38
RYE—Western	.86	@	.87
PORK—Mess	19.40	@	19.50
LARD—Steam	11.37½	@	11.40
CHEESE	.4	@	.11
WOOL—Domestic Fleece	.36	@	.38
CHICAGO.			
BEEVES—Choice	4.65	@	4.85
Good	4.30	@	4.50
Medium	4.15	@	4.30
HOGS—Light	5.80	@	5.95
Heavy	5.75	@	6.00
SHEEP—Good (clhorn)	4.25	@	4.75
Choice	5.00	@	5.25
BUTTER—Choice Yellow	.18	@	.23
Good	.15	@	.17
EGGS—Fresh	.10½	@	.11
FLOUR—Choice Winter	7.37½	@	7.87½
Choice Spring	5.75	@	5.87½
Patent	6.00	@	9.00
GRAIN—Wheat, No. 2, Spring	1.05½	@	1.06¼
Corn, No. 2	.46	@	.46¼
Oats, No. 2	.29¾	@	.29¾
Rye, No. 2	.72	@	.72¼
Barley, No. 2	.59	@	.60
PORK—Mess	18.87½	@	19.00
LARD	11.00	@	11.10
LUMBER—Common and Fenc'g	10.00	@	12.00
Shingles	2.40	@	2.75
Lath	1.50	@	1.65
EAST LIBERTY.			
CATTLE—Best	$5.25	@	$5.50
Medium	4.75	@	5.00
HOGS—Yorkers	5.90	@	6.00
Philadelphias	6.20	@	6.30
SHEEP—Best (clhorn)	5.00	@	5.25
Medium	4.00	@	4.75