MCCOOK WEEKLY TRIBUNE.

VOLUME III.

McCOOK, RED WILLOW COUNTY, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1885.

NUMBER 49.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

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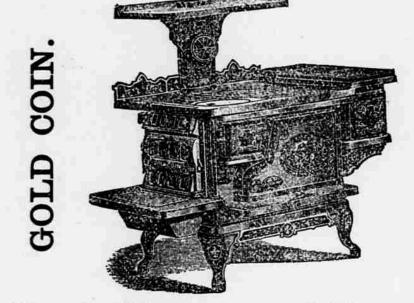
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OUR EXPOSITION LETTER.

Among the United States exhibits, that of the Fish Commission is of interest to the whole people. If, as some times claimed, fish is brain food, there can hardly be too much of it, and it ought to be distributed among politicians, statesmen and newspaper correspondents! The exhibit here represents the entire process of fish culture, from the taking away of eggs all the way up to the full grown fish. A large model includes the effigy of an operator opening a large salmon, when millions of eggs are disclosed, and the curious thing about it is, that the process does not injure the mother fish, which is often replaced in the water alive, and eggs taken from her the next year. The eggs, as here exhibited, are placed in various jars, being removed from one to the other as they increase in size, or are shipped to order.

There are also various models of inclined 'Fish Ways," designed to ascist fish in swimming over the falls of streams, one representing that in use at the Great Falls of the Potomac, which are 72 feet high, and over which, by means of inclined "Ways," causing the water to flow backwards, the fish swim with perfect ease. A singular fact in the life of a California trout is, that it is sent into the world provided with rations for six weeks, which are carried in a haversack affixed to its stomach, and which serves to sustain its life until it is able to work for its own sustenance. If any of your readers wish to establish a fish pond and want a supply of carp, they can address Mr. I. F. Ellis, U. S. Fish Commissioner, Exposition Postoffice, New Orleans, when their requests will be promptly attended to. Ours is a fraternal government, and will not permit any of her children to needlessly suffer for fish-any "carping" criticisms to the contrary.

So much for fish, and a word about "fowl" may not be out of place. In various legislative bodies next winter, propositions will be made for appropriations to foot a great many bills incurred by various "Commissioners," in charge of state exhibits. While doubtless most of these bills will be found correct and fair, it has, in more than one instance, been openly charged that some have been lavishly and unnecessarily contracted. It has been charged that "deputies" have been McGOOK, and are attached to some commissions, at \$9 per day, whose sole duty consisted in spending a few minutes each morning in dusting the exhibits, a work that any boy could have done as well for a few cents, as some are so engaged. And it is a notorious fact that often, when some of these "deputies or "superintendents" have been really wanted, they were off on pleasure trips, or hidden away in some secure nook, engaged in "sparking," or in sucking iced brandies through straws. While it is to be hoped that these criticisms cannot be applied to many commissioners, it is certainly true that some so-called assistants, or acting commissioners when they even had duties to perform, have neglected them, being absent from their bosts when wanted, and of no earthly use, except to draw fat salaries. It might be well for some legislatures, before paying bills, to do as the government is doing before paying out its late appropriation to the Exposition, require an itemized statement of account, or appoint investigating committees, etc. Honestly conducted commissions could not object, and ornamental deputies who have idled the winter away here at \$9 per day, might look elsewhere for pay for uselessness, or no services at all.

But criticism of this sort is not so pleasant as to indulge in just praise, and I leave it for more agreeable subjects. While "loafing" around the throne" the other day and passing through the model educational system of Iowa, I found an exhibit there which, in complication, variety and ornamentation and beauty and finish, rivals the five thousand dollar dressing case from Mexico. It is a piece, or work, of penmanship, which has never been equaled among its class. In size, it is 5x4 feet, and consists of a dozen varieties of lettering, with winged figures of Mercury, Corinthian columns, a vine-wreathed border, shading as exquisitely fine as gossamer, the whole so perfect and picturesque as to be frequently mistaken for a fine steel engraving. The artist whose work it is, Mr. C. S. Chapman, a student of Prof. Bailie's Commercial College, at Dubuque, was engaged splendid "pen picture," his only in-It has on it his perfect portrait and that of his instructor, and is valued at \$1500.00. Among the beautiful let-(CONCLUDED ON EIGHTH PAGE.)

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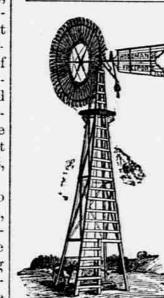
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