

It is stated that Des Moines has twelve railroads.

Rev. Dr. JOHN HALL says New York needs forty more churches.

The Chicago & Alton earnings for the year just closed are \$8,573,000.

Prof. BAIRD says the Long Branch sea serpent is a South Carolina devil fish.

The Mormon church has bought the Pische and Meadow Valley railroad.

It is stated that opium is smuggled in soles of Chinese shoes at San Francisco.

The Emperor of China sleeps on a bedstead that has been in use for two centuries.

Flour to the value of \$295,000,000 is annually consumed in Great Britain and Ireland.

The Austrian ladies have taken to learning the art of fencing as an amusement.

SERGEANT MASON, who shot at Guiteau, will settle in Washington as a shoemaker.

REPRESENTATIVE VALENTINE is a member of the committee on militia and elections.

WISCONSIN has paid during the past year \$10,000 in bounties for wolf and wild cat scalps.

One hundred and twenty-five thousand Christmas trees were used in New York City.

JAY GOULD has resigned the directorship of the New York and New England railway.

Four fatal affrays occurred in New York on the 1st, the result of celebrating with whiskey.

The sales of government lands the present year amount in the aggregate to 16,830,455 acres.

MISS MAUD HOWE is writing the biography of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe for the Women Series.

The bark Paragon arrived last week at Gloucester, Mass. The crew were badly frost bitten.

The earnings of the Union Pacific for the eleven months ending Nov. 30, '83, were \$27,354,000.

The Omaha Republican threatens to sue for libel the next man who calls it a Union Pacific organ.

GEN. MACKENZIE has been taken to the Bloomingdale insane asylum near New York for treatment.

At Port Arthur, Manitoba, on the morning of the 3d, the thermometer was 45 degrees below zero.

DURING the frohest in Hardis Creek, Ky., Mr. Boss and his wife and seven children were drowned.

An earthquake shook Zebec, Bohemia, so violently the other day that the people fled to the open country.

PETER SHINKLE, ninety-three years of age, who eloped with a Cincinnati woman last winter, has deserted her.

Not a nail is used in the construction of a house in Japan. They are put together by a method of mortising.

ANNIE DELLEY, aged 80, was burned to death the other morning while alone in her room, in New York city.

In a free fight one day last week at Allendale, S. C., three persons were killed and several persons wounded.

CHRISTMAS parties in Tampa died on water-melons, cucumbers, tomatoes, snap beans, early potatoes and oranges.

Two negroes accused of shooting white men were taken from the jail at Brooksville, Fla., the other day and shot dead.

NELLIE L. ROSSITZ, a girl of 18, is at the head of the silk-culture industry of the country. She lives at Philadelphia.

AFTER killing his wife at Hanover, Germany, Christmas day, Col. Henry P. Rathbone, of Albany, N. Y., committed suicide.

The Yuma Indians on the Colorado bury water-melons in the dry desert sand, and preserve them all winter, fresh and crisp.

Dr. SARAH STOCION has been appointed physician in the woman's department of the hospital for the insane in Indianapolis.

The storm at Toronto was unabated on the 4th and the country roads and railways were blocked. Traffic almost suspended.

The steamboats Colorado and City of Alton burned to the water's edge, the other morning, near the Sectional docks, at St. Louis.

The reduction of the public debt for December was about \$12,000,000. The reduction for the year has been about \$110,000,000.

At the Maryland Club dinner the other day, strawberries at \$3.50 a basket were among the "delicacies of the season" served.

An election for congressman has been ordered for January 17 in Boston owing to the resignation of Governor-elect Robison.

BRIGADIER-GEN. ANDREW A. HUMPHREY died very suddenly on the night of the 28th ult., at his residence in Washington City.

The Ohio liquor dealers in state convention declare against the Scott law and say it is inimical to the best interests of the state.

A COUSIN of Emma Bond committed suicide the other day at Taylorville, Ind. Supposed cause, worry over the outrage and pending trial.

J. N. WEATHERS, sheriff of Madison county, Miss., died the other day of hydrophobia. He was bitten by a rabid dog two months ago.

SARAH TURNER, of New Haven, wants a pension. She served as orderly in the war, being dressed in man's attire and called Jim.

A WOUNDED soldier who lives in Burlington, Iowa, declines to draw any more pension money because he has recovered from his wounds.

A LARGE number of frost bitten sailors landed the other day at the Marine hospital at New Haven, Conn. Most of the sailors were Japanese.

A LARGE number of boarders and sisters at Notre Dame convent, Montreal, are ill from being poisoned by eating pie made from tainted meat.

TWELVE graduates of Phillips Exeter Academy, New Hampshire, have been governors of states, the list including Cass, Everett, Butler and Dix.

A BRIEF report from Jerseyville, Ill., on the 6th, says the court house and jail were burned and four prisoners in the latter suffocated to death.

A HEAVY thunder and lightning storm passed over New Haven, Conn., one day last week. While it prevailed a strong smell of sulphur was noted.

GEORGE GOODNOW, of Savannah, and Mr. McGriff, of Cochran, Ga., both colored preachers, have gone crazy, each thinking he is John the Baptist.

RECENTLY, agents of a number of Minnesota flour mills have been soliciting orders for American flour, in view of the short wheat crop in Canada this year.

The postmaster-general is preparing a bill to have introduced into congress to exclude newspapers publishing literary advertisements from the pound rate.

The dwelling house of Milton Highland, near Mechanicstown, Ohio, burned on the night of the 2d, and his two daughters, aged 14 and 8, perished in the flames.

At Rockford, Ill., on the 4th was reported the coldest day for forty years. The thermometer was about 25 below all day, and at 8 o'clock at night it was 32 below.

Gov. GLICK, of Kansas, has ordered a special election for March 1st, '84, to elect a successor of the late Congressman Haskell, from the Second congressional district.

RECENT news from Cairo states that the British fleet will be sent to the Red sea. Beyond her previous orders to protect Egyptian interests, England will take no further measures.

It is reported that Thurman will be a candidate in Ohio for senator. He is a man of intelligence and good sense. The democrats of Ohio might select a better man but we doubt it.

UNUSUALLY cold weather was reported at Minneapolis on the 3d, and all through Minnesota and Dakota. At Bismarck the thermometer is hovering around 30 degrees below zero.

An old woman who was mysteriously murdered last week near Toronto, Ont., was in the habit for many years past of carrying \$2,000 in gold in bags suspended around her neck.

The flood in the Ohio river at Cincinnati last week invaded many cellars, and business men were removing their goods to places of safety, the gauge of the water marking 46 feet, 8 inches.

A SPECIAL from Quincy, Ill., says Rev. H. Warden, 70 years old, was attacked at his gate the other night by three footpads, robbed and so brutally beaten that it is thought he cannot recover.

THE jury in the Emma Bond case returned a verdict a little before 8 o'clock on the evening of the 2d inst., as follows: "We, the jury, find the defendants not guilty of the crime charged."

NEWS from Boston reports the officials of the New York and New England railroad as receiving a telegram from President Clark, announcing the property of the company placed in the hands of a receiver.

TWENTY thousand coal miners in the bituminous regions of Westmoreland, Blair, Bedford, Huntington, Center and Clarfield counties, Pa., are preparing to resist a proposed reduction of wages.

BRECKENRIDGE, Minn., was nearly destroyed by fire the other day. Among the buildings burned are the Sherman House, the county offices, and nine business buildings. The loss will reach \$75,000.

GREAT excitement prevailed in the city of Denver on the 4th over the alleged forced marriage the night before of a 14-year-old white girl to a coal-black negro. The girl's mother is also married to a negro.

DEPUTY TALANDIER's paper published at Paris of a recent date states that it is known that in a few days numerous reprisals against the English will occur in Ireland to avenge the execution of O'Donnell.

THE Commissioner general of the land office, upon evidence showing fraud in making entry, cancelled twenty-one entries last week of public land in Colorado, twelve in Dakota and seventeen in New Mexico.

The residence of W. H. Jones, in Milford, Neb., burned on the night of the 3d. The family were driven out into the cold and before they could obtain shelter Mrs. Jones and one of the children had their feet frozen.

A TELEGRAM has been received at Washington from Minister Morton, at Paris, stating that the limit of admission of American pork products is to the 20th of January at the ports of Havre, Bordeaux and Marseilles.

A RECENT cable message from Minister Hunt of his arrival at Tonkater Harbor has in charge the bodies of DeLong and comrades, and is bringing them home via St. Petersburg. He expects to reach New York by the 1st of February.

In view of the developments as to cutting freight rates eastbound from Chicago, Commissioner Fink has ordered a reduction to go into effect last Saturday and remain until arrangements are made for the maintenance of regular rates.

THE supervising architect of the treasury has completed plans for government buildings in Quincy and Peoria, Ill., and will soon advertise for proposals for their construction. A new public building will also be erected at Terre Haute.

LIEUT.-GEN. SHERIDAN received the other day a telegram from Major-Gen. Pope at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, saying he thought the white boy Charley McComas is with a band of Chiricahua Indians daily expected to reach San Carlos agency.

It is reported at Paris that the government has decided to prohibit the importation of American salted meats until the chambers have pronounced upon the bill which the ministers of commerce will introduce at the beginning of the next session.

SEVERAL citizens of Mitchellville, Iowa, were recently taken strangely ill, swollen eyes, rough skin and dry-coated mouth being the principal symptoms. It has been discovered that gin weed ground with buckwheat flour was the cause of it.

BEFORE one officeholder goes out of office another is making ready to take his place. Under date of the 3d at Denver it is rumored that Judge Moses Hallett, of the United States district court of that city, will succeed McCree as judge of the Eighth judicial circuit.

The old St. Nicholas hotel building at St. Louis burned on the night of the 4th. The fire exhausted itself by midnight, having consumed everything in the building. Charles E. Lewis, undertaker, occupied two rooms. Loss \$85,000. Other losses not ascertained.

THIRTY-eight gentlemen of New York city, claiming to be descendants of revolutionary officers and soldiers, have organized themselves into a society for the preservation of all historical documents relating to their forefathers. John Austin Stevens was elected chairman.

MISS H. MULLER, who with her sister Eva Muller visited this country last year, was re-elected on the London School Board for Lambeth. She was returned at the head of the poll, receiving a higher number of votes than any one of the other fifty-one successful candidates.

LAST week a westerly gale at Pittsfield, Mass., did considerable damage, chimneys and trees being leveled all over the town, and a number of people in the streets lifted from their feet and thrown to the ground. A business block and the high school building were unroofed.

The State Journal says cholera is raging among the hogs at various points in Nebraska. It is as yet circumscribed, but will certainly spread if the utmost precautions are not taken. We trust the word of caution will be quietly but emphatically passed by the state press.

COUNTY AUDITOR BREWSTER, of Cincinnati, says he has discovered a million dollars fraudulent increase of valuations of property for taxes on the books, made for the purpose of getting a fee for procuring the refunding excessive taxes. He says this has been done since 1883.

RECENT news from Paris reports that the government has telegraphed Admiral Courbet, urging him to follow up his victory at Sontay with the utmost promptness and energy compatible with prudence. It is reported that Admiral Courbet will make an attack upon Hongkong before marching against Banchow.

The dwelling of J. V. Gainer, of Duke Center, Pa., an employee of the Keystone Oil Company, caught fire from over-pressure of gas while Mrs. Gainer was absent the other day, and in a few minutes it was in ashes. Four little children, aged from 1 to 6 years, were left in the house, and all perished in the flames.

On the afternoon of the 4th the Tabor opera house at Denver, Col., one of the finest buildings of the kind in the country, was discovered on fire, and the destruction of the entire building was threatened for a time, but the flames were confined to the fifth story. Damage \$20,000. The theater proper was untouched.

A FIRE, believed to be of incendiary origin, broke out at Wheeling, W. Va., on the morning of the 6th in the extensive brick building occupied by Bixley Bros. as a wagon factory; Dobbs & Reisinger's bent wood works, and Bettz & Trading's planing mill. The loss of Bixley Bros. is \$15,000, the other losses, \$20,000.

JOSEPH PALMER, of Cincinnati, has made confession that he and Wm. Berner killed Kirk for his money. The one striking the first blow was to have \$50 in excess of the other. He says Berner struck the first blow, and both pounded Kirk's head with a hammer and club. Palmer is a light mulatto, aged 19, and Berner is a German, aged 18.

The London Times of a recent date says it has the best authority for stating that China wants peace, and if France will return to her original position in Tonquin and abstain from further hostile action on the Red river a pacific agreement is almost certain. China will abate some of her first pretensions if France will show a conciliatory spirit.

A PROMINENT gentleman of Pittsburgh, Pa., states that everything published concerning the object of the meeting of Catholic bishops at Balti-

more is incorrect. He says the real business of the meeting is to devise a system of church government which will allow priests greater liberties, and that this is necessary to prevent rebellion.

Geo. W. MCCREARY, judge of the Eighth United States judicial district, embracing Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Nebraska and Colorado, recently forwarded his resignation to President Arthur, to take effect March 1st, '84. He has engaged with the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad for a series of years to fill the position of general counsel.

The postmaster general has recently issued an order changing the rate of postage on a number of articles heretofore rated as third-class or printed matter, paying postage at the rate of one cent for every two ounces. Under this order these articles will hereafter be classified as merchandise or fourth-class matter, upon which the postage will be one cent per ounce.

JUDGE DUNDY, of the United States court, has appointed William B. Smythe, of Keokuk, receiver of the Hastings & Grand Island railroad. He also granted a temporary injunction restraining the Burlington & Missouri and Republican Valley roads from crossing the Union Pacific at Grand Island until the right of way has been obtained the damages ascertained.

LOUIS GRIFFIN, of Salem, Ohio, had a quarrel with his 17-year-old son the other day, and followed him into a piece of woods near their home. Soon after a shot was heard, and young Griffin emerged from the woods with the information that his father had killed himself. The former had a bullet in his left breast. Young Griffin was not apprehended, and has disappeared.

The funeral of Gen. Humphreys took place from his late residence on the afternoon of the 2d, in Washington City. In accordance with the wishes of the family, there was no military display. The secretary of war and a number of army officers and their families, and many prominent people were present. His remains were deposited in the congressional cemetery.

The secretary of the navy has issued an order to suspend work in the Boston navy yard on the 15th of January and dismiss at least half the force. The breaking up of condemned vessels will continue and the yard be converted into a rope walk. An order for closing the League Island navy yard and converting it into a construction yard for steel vessels, will be issued soon.

The steamer Carrier was sunk the other morning at the head of Little Hurricane Island, three miles below Owensboro, Ind. She struck the timber during a dense fog. In swinging round she stove in forty feet of her hull on the starboard, sinking over her hurricane roof at the stern, and to her boiler at the head. One deck hand and two deck passengers, Italians, were drowned.

N. C. IRWIN, governor of Idaho Territory, has recently returned to the treasury of the United States a draft for \$650 sent him as salary for the quarter ending Oct. 30th, and declines also to receive the salary due him ending Dec. 30th. He states that he has been unable to attend to the duties of the office since July 1st, and does not consider that he can conscientiously accept pay.

SOME steps are being taken to recover the treasure supposed to be lying in the wreck of the British frigate Hussar in the bottom of the East river, New York, just below Port Morris. The Hussar was wrecked in 1780, while on her way to Norwich, Conn. She is supposed to have had on board nearly \$1,000,000 intended for payment of British troops; also seven American prisoners chained to the gun deck.

CAPT. G. E. TISON, of the Hall Arctic expedition, Lieut. H. J. Hunt, United States navy, one of the hunters of the Rogers in her expedition in search of the Jeannette; Lieut. Garlington and Lieut. P. H. Gray have appeared before the Arctic board and presented plans to receive Lieutenant Greeley. Lieut. Garlington proposes that the coming expedition be commanded by himself, and the relief ship by Lieut. Caldwell.

The Iowa legislature is to present Kate Shelly on the 15th of January '84, the day it takes possession of the capital at Des Moines, with a handsome medal of the value of \$150 and \$200 in money, in recognition of her heroic act in preventing, on the night of July 6th, '81, at the risk of her life, a disaster on the Chicago & North-western railroad, near Moingona, Ia., which would have resulted, but for her, in an appalling loss of human life.

The President's reception on the 1st was largely attended and more than usually pleasant and successful. About half the members of congress are absent from the city, but those in the city were present, together with members of the cabinet, diplomatic corps, justices of the supreme and district courts, officers of the army and navy. The attendance of the people in the city and district was good, and nothing occurred to mar the pleasure of the participants. The decorations at the Executive Mansion were simple but tasteful.

The Union Pacific Railroad Company, failing in their contract with Laramie county, Wyoming, to construct a road north from Cheyenne to the Black Hills and Montana, for which the company was to get \$400,000 in aid of the scheme, with twenty months to begin work, the county yesterday, by the action of its board, abrogated the contract. Three hun-

drored thousand dollars of said bonds were passed over into the hands of the Cheyenne, Black Hills & Montana Company, which will commence work at once. There is much rejoicing over the event.

A WAR last week broke out between the U. P. and the B. & M. at Grand Island. The B. & M. road have for several days been purchasing land in the city and had secured some tracts of property sufficient to give them the right of way into town to their depot grounds. Late Saturday night the U. P. commenced laying track each side of the land purchased by the B. & M. company. An injunction was issued against the U. P. by parties interested in the B. & M. but for some reason service could not be made during Saturday and the U. P. continued to lay track all day Sunday and during Sunday night. The end will probably result in a big fight between the two companies.

Annual Meeting of the State Board of Agriculture. PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., Dec. 10, '83. MR. EDITOR:—The annual meeting of the State Board of Agriculture will take place at Lincoln, Nebraska, on January 15th, 1884, in the Capitol building at 3 o'clock p. m., when the annual reports will be made and the places of the expiring members of the Board will be filled by election.

The officers for the ensuing year will be elected, and a premium list adopted and such other business as may come before the Board, in the interest of agriculture in Nebraska, be transacted. Yours very truly, etc., D. H. WHEELER, Sec'y.

RECENT reports from St. Petersburg and Vienna, throw a different light on the character of the Czar's recent injuries. According to the last advices, a deliberate and nearly successful attempt made on Alexander's life, and the facts have been hidden from the public, although they have probably been made known to the European governments. While out-weighing some members of a party of peasants fired three shots at the Emperor, one of the balls striking him in the shoulder and inflicting a painful wound. The Czar's horses took fright and ran away, overturning the sleigh and throwing him out. The miscreants were pursued by the police and guards, but all succeeded in escaping temporarily, there being no direct evidence against such peasants as were arrested on suspicion.

The Institute of the Immaculate Conception, Sisters of Notre Dame, at Belleville, Ill., burned on the night of the 5th. There were about sixty pupils in the school, ranging from 20 years to full grown, all girls, and several teachers, besides other inmates of the building. A number of pupils are known to have jumped from the third story and badly injured or killed. The scene of the fire was one of the wildest excitement and terror, and in one hour the entire building was a mass of ruins. When the ruins were sufficiently cool, volunteers went to work to bring out the bodies. It was a terrible sight. At times the searchers would find two or three charred masses huddled closely together, seemingly seeking protection in one another from the advancing flames. It is supposed that 22 pupils and five Sisters perished in the flames.

ALMOST everybody admits there is something wrong in our system. The United States, as a nation, is to-day the richest in the world; but the riches are in the hands of a moneyed few, and this accumulation of wealth impies a threat to the freedom of the people. If the few can buy legislators, they can buy votes, they can buy soldiers. It requires no prophet to see that, if matters go on as they are going in Wall street, the end will be bloodshed. As a matter of policy, the monopolists are fools. Like many a throned simpleton of the past, they are straining the bow of tyranny to the snapping, and they will be left helpless before the multitude. There is an old book, which is thumbed in black and gold by many a hypocrite, whose daily life is falsehood and fraud whose rule is cruelty, whose wealth is ill-gotten, who "puts on all the tariff will bear," who is a fashionable thief and a respectable scoundrel. That book has in it a golden rule, taught by a penniless Wanderer of Galilee, and the rule has a modern sound out: "Live and let live."—Inter-Ocean.

FINAL PROOF. U. S. Land Office, Grand Island, Neb., Dec. 12th, 1883. NOTICE is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before C. A. Newman, Clerk of the District Court at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, on January 19th, 1884, viz: Daniel Mock, Homestead No. 7314, for the S. E. 1/4 Section 6, Township 19 north, of Range 3 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: John Hammond, Peter Plant, of Columbus, Platte Co., Neb.; John W. Glick, of Plattsmouth, Platte Co., Neb.; and Michael McCallan, of Lookout, Platte Co., Neb. C. H. HOSTETTER, Register.

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