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SATURDAY PRESS.

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Dame Gossip.

[Contributed to the SATURDAY PRESS.]

Dame Gossip on her constant round
Through th' streets and by ways of the town,
Picks up each tale and scrap of news
That might the curious amuse,
And carries all from door to door,
From poor to rich, from rich to poor.
She tells what this girl said to Ed,
How that one jilted Jee or Fred,
How A had woo'd and won his bride,
How B had liv'd, how C had died,
Describes the dress worn by Miss D,
Tells all she said to Willess E,
And as if this were not enough,
She pants and then gets in a huff
Because she cannot think of all
That F had said to Emma Hall.
"And G, —" she stops and whispers low)
"I told me this, it must be so:
And I, myself," she says to J,
"Think he will marry Sarah Gray."
To Aunty K she goes to tell
What she had heard from madam L,
'Bout M, and N, and Mr. O,
And then—"declares it can't be so."
And P,—she hails him in the street,
Says she is happy thus to meet,
And asks if he has heard the news
"About that oldest girl of Q's"—
That "she and R had run away
And were married yesterday."
She chats a while and bids "good-day,"
Then stops and and says: "One moment, stay,—
Captain S returned from sea,
And dined with us last night at T."
Again she bows and passes on,
And P is glad when she is gone.
"Ah! U," she says to Ella V,
"Are just the girl I want to see;"
And on the sidewalk, face to face,
She holds the maid in close embrace,
And whispers something in her ear
So low that no one else can hear.
Once more her restless, tireless feet,
Are plodding onward through the street;
But no—not long; her steps she stays;
She halts, and to herself she says:
"This is the house of Mr. Brome;
I wonder if his niece is home?"
Before the door she stops a spell,
Then mounts the steps and rings the bell.
The door is op'n'd, she enters in,
She bows, is seated, and begins:
"Miss W, I've come to call
And tell you—well, I'll tell it all."
As she begins they hear a sound;
She stops and both turn quickly round.
"'Tis Mrs. X, and Mrs. Y,
And little baby too, oh my!"
Cried old Dame Gossip as she kiss'd
The little baby's dimpled fist.
All seat themselves; the greetings past,
She tells her tale from first to last.
When she concludes her fearful tale
The ladies all are deathly pale,
And she, herself, is white as death,
And almost gasps to get her breath.
"Oh my! how horrible if true!"
"It cannot be!" "What will she do!"
They all exclaim in accents wild.
"Oh yes, 'tis true!" Dame answers mild.
Again they all exclaim, "Oh my!"
"Who told you this?" asked Mrs. Y.
"It was—no—yes—wait, let me see;
It was—O yes! 'twas Mrs. Z!" G. S.

What Became of Consul Caius.

In the neighborhood of Marseilles, not long ago, was discovered an ancient Roman burying ground, containing, among other interesting graves, that of Consul Caius Septimus, wherein a quantity of antique weapons and coins were found, and, moreover, an amphora—the inscription upon which was all but illegible—containing a small quantity of a thick, reddish liquor. The amphora, emptied of its contents, was submitted to the inspection of an eminent archæologist, who, after bestowing extraordinary pains upon the deciphering of the mutilated characters engraven upon its surface, declared it to be his opinion that they indicated the presence of genuine Falernian within the vessel, adding that Caius Septimus, a jovial Consul of considerable repute as a judge of good wine, had obviously ordered that a flask of the best vintage in his cellar should be buried with him. The scientific gentleman who had discovered the Consul's grave and taken possession of its contents, upon learning the true character of the liquid relic in question, at once started for Paris with his Falernian in a glass decanter, and there arrived, invited a dozen of his friends, members of the Academy of Inscriptions, to a dinner at one of the leading restaurants. At dessert he produced the "Consul's wine," carefully poured it into tiny liquor glasses and handed it around to his guests, exhorting them to drink it, reverently and upstanding, to the immortal memory of Caius Septimus. The glasses had scarcely been emptied when a telegram was brought in by the head-waiter on a salver, and laid before the founder of the feast. He opened and glanced at it, and fled from the room with a cry of terrible agony. One of the startled Academicans picked up the message and read it aloud. It ran as follows: "Marseilles, 7 P. M.—Don't drink contents of amphora. Not Falernian at all. Have deciphered inscription on foot, which previously escaped my notice. Red liquid is the body of Consul Caius, liquefied by special embalming process." But the friendly warning came too late. The archæologist and his academical colleagues had drunk up the Consul to his last drop.—*London Telegraph.*

The annual rainfall of the United States is more even and well distributed than that of any other temperate country. The maximum fall is near the coast, on the sugar lands of Louisiana, where the annual average is 63 inches. Up the Mississippi Valley, as far as Wisconsin, this maximum gradually decreases to 10 inches. On the other continents, the inland districts are always deficient in rain; but 55 inches, 50, 47, 45, are the figures that express the rainfall at various points throughout this inland strip of our country. A narrow belt of abundant rains on the Atlantic coast decreases from 60 inches in Georgia to 42 in Maine. On the Alleghany belt, 30 to 36 inches is the average, and 30 to 32 in the Lake district. East of the Mississippi, inclusive of the Mississippi Valley, therefore, is the best watered country in the world. West of this, a rainfall of 20 to 35 inches extends some three degrees, and then comes the expanse of arid land, having an annual fall of from 15 inches on the plains to 30 inches in the mountains, and 3 inches in the valleys. These arid valleys and plateaus, within reach of well-watered mountains, are, therefore, just the places for irrigation, as their capacity of fertility is great, and water the only need. Westward still, in California, is an average fall of 20 inches; and on the northwest coasts, one of 65 inches—a very exceptional humidity. The most remarkable fact in all this is the unusually high average of the central strip up the Mississippi.

Rochefort's letter to the *Intransigeant* from Geneva says: Roussakoff joined the Nihilists only a few days before the assassination of the Czar. Rochefort supplements the letter by a telegram stating that Roussakoff had confessed nothing. The Nihilists pretend that they have taken every measure to keep themselves informed as to what passes in his prison and that in a few days they will be able to publish an accurate report of all interrogations to which he has been subjected. Rochefort's dispatch adds: Had the first shells missed the Emperor three others would have been thrown before he reached the palace.

Queer Happenings in War.

At the battle of Franklin, says the Detroit *Free Press*, the first shell sent from the first Union fieldpiece to open fire killed 26 Confederates. The next five shells from this same gun either failed to explode or cleared the advancing lines. In this same fight the horse of a Confederate Colonel was cut square in two by a shot and the rider escaped unhurt. Ten minutes after a Union officer behind the earthworks stumbled and fell forward on the ground and broke his neck.

In one of the assaults on Fort Wagner, in Charleston harbor, the ironclad fleet, assisted by land batteries numbering 27 heavy cannon, bombarded the fort for two hours before killing a single soldier. From 70 to 80 heavy cannon were hurling three tons of iron into the fort each minute, and yet no one was hurt until more than 300 tons of "solid death" had been wasted. As an offset to this, witness the work of a single solid shot thrown from a Federal gunboat on the lower Mississippi. A Confederate flying battery was just taking position, and one piece had already opened fire. The Federal shot was directed at this piece. The big mass of iron struck the six-pounder square on the muzzle and upset gun and carriage. A piece of the muzzle weighing about 20 pounds was broken off and this flew to the left and killed two men. The big shot next struck and exploded a caisson, killing three more men and wounding two others. From the caisson it turned to the right, killed a horse, smashed a wheel for a fieldpiece and crushed the leg of a sergeant to a bloody mass. Three men were wounded by smaller fragments or flying splinters. The one shot so disorganized the battery that it limbered up and dashed away to cover.

A Union gunboat on the White river threw three shells into a Confederate camp, killing near 50 men and routed a force of 800. Within a week after that event the Confederate General Selby planted four pieces of flying artillery on the levee within 400 feet of the same gunboat at anchor, and without the least cover for men or guns, kept up the fight for more than an hour, or until the gunboat backed out of it and steamed away.

The chances in a lottery can be figured down fine, and a certain per cent. of escapes is allowed in a steamboat explosion, but he who goes to war has nothing to console him. He may dodge a 100-pound shell and be killed by two buckshot. He may receive a dozen bullets and live on, or the first one may be fatal. He may ride in the wildest charge unhurt, and he may be killed by a stray bullet beside his camp-fire.

The Obelisk's Soliloquy.

Why was I born? and why did I ever consent to leave my own dear land of Egypt? What a beastly and infernal climate! Hot, cold, wet, dry—everything by turns and nothing long, like the temper of Cleopatra when I used to see her driving Mark Anthony half out of his head with her whimsies. In all my 3,000 years' experience of my own country I never saw a day like this. I shall have to buy an ulster. My very heart is soaked with water and my back aches with the rheumatism as I lie here on this confounded scaffold. By all the gods at once, from Osiris down to the little gods whose names I can't think of, with this abominable cold in my pyramidion I wish I hadn't consented to take the trip. That Yankee commander Corringe has fooled me to my death. I haven't seen a glimpse of the sun for weeks. In old Heliopolis I was warm all the time. Here I will have to have an umbrella and a pair of arctics or I shan't survive the winter. What a fate! To leave my native Nile mud and cloudless skies to go to pieces in such a spot as this! By the bones of the Pharaohs I'd rather be a mummy, varnished, stuffed with cloves and shelved in the Great Pyramid than to stand up here—if I ever do get on my legs again—to be stared at by school girls and thin women in spectacles. I used to see donkeys enough in Alexandria but I see more of 'em here—only they are a little differently built. Great Cæsar! What is that on the back of my neck? A chunk of ice, as I'm a hoary sinner. Well, may the gods come and rescue me or I'm done for. Oh! Memnon, what a pain in my back! If I didn't hate pans I shouldn't say this was anything but a luxorious place to live in. Wish I had a bed of hot sand to lie on. Oh, oh!"—*N. Y. Graphic.*

A Massachusetts newspaper puts thus tersely the reasons for exempting mortgages from taxation.

1. Because to tax them taxes the poor man's estate twice, the rich man's once. The poor man, buying property under a mortgage, incurs a debt. The creditor may be taxed for his loan, but he charges this over to the debtor. As an act of justice to the debtor class, exempt mortgages from taxation.

2. Because it is poor policy to levy taxes which cannot be collected with a reasonable degree of uniformity. Credits are personal property. Loans on mortgages are credits and they largely escape any taxation.

3. Because real estate owners can better afford themselves to pay the small amount of taxes collected from mortgages, than to have the rate of interest kept up 1 per cent. on the total of mortgage loans.

4. Because the surest way for the State to encourage industry is to be just toward it. The plea of the poor man to the State should always be that of Diogenes to Alexander—"Get out of my Light."

5. Because this measure and no other applies to all mortgages, present and future; because this measure and no other renders unnecessary any new contract between the debtor and the creditor.

6. Because all other remedies impair the obligation of existing contracts, or violate the Constitution, or open the door to a new bargain between the debtor and the creditor, in which the advantage will be on the side of the latter.

7. Because exemption, pure and simple, is the only measure perfectly intelligible to the assessors, which gives the people no puzzling problems to submit to lawyers and fight out in courts.

8. Because any other measure will fail of enactment, or if enacted, will fail to accomplish the object desired.

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Wheat, Corn, Cracked Corn, Oil Cake, Middlings, Mixed Feed, etc., always on hand.
14 3m LAINE & CO.

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.
Established 1836.
Unlimited Liability to Stockholders.
Assets.....$31,296,100
Reserve.....$ 6,750,000
Income for 1879:
Premiums received after deduction of reinsurance.....$ 5,382,295
Losses promptly adjusted and paid here.
1 3m BISHOP & Co., Agents.

FIREMAN'S FUND
Insurance Company.
A Leading Home Company.
Assets, June 30th.....$767,307.17
Additional Cash Capital (now being called in) 350,000.00
Total Assets.....$1,117,307.17
THE FIREMAN'S FUND INSURANCE COMPANY basis its claims to the best patronage upon its sound financial condition, reinforced by its accession of capital, giving it over a million dollars in assets; its extensive system of Agencies, insuring it a large premium income, without the necessity of heavy concentration of lines; its adherence to the best principles and practices of Underwriting; by open, fair and clearly expressed contracts, and prompt and equitable adjustment and payment of legitimate losses.
For seventeen years it has been favorably known as a conservative underwriter, and during that time has paid over
$4,000,000 IN LOSSES,
Passing triumphantly through the heaviest conflagrations known in modern history.
BISHOP & Co., Agents,
1 3m Honolulu, H. I.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE CO.,
OF LONDON AND EDINBURGH.
ESTABLISHED 1809.
CAPITAL $1,097,248
Accumulated and Invested Fund. 2,928,118
THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE BEEN APPOINTED AGENTS for the Sandwich Islands, and are authorized to insure against Fire upon favorable terms.
Risks taken in any part of the Islands on Stone and Wooden Buildings and merchandise stored therein, Dwelling Houses and Furniture, Timber, Coals, Ships in harbor with or with out cargoes, or under repair.
804 1y ED. HOFFSCHLAEGER & CO

THE
New England Mutual Life Insurance Co.
OF BOSTON, MASS
INCORPORATED, 1835.
The Oldest Purely Mutual Life Insurance Co. in the United States.
Policies Issued on the most favorable Terms.
Example of Non-Forfeiture Plan
INSURED AGE, 35 YEARS—ORDINARY LIFE PLAN
1 Annual premium continues Policy 2 years days
2 Annual premium continues Policy 4 years 1 days
3 Annual premium continues Policy 6 years 27 days
4 Annual premium continues Policy 8 years 46 days
5 annual premium continues Policy 10 years 56 days
Assets. : $18,500,000!
Losses Paid through Honolulu Agency. $49,000
CASTLE & COOKE, AGENTS
19 FOR THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS. 1y

Boston Board of Underwriters.
AGENTS for the Hawaiian Islands.
809 1y C. BREWER & CO.

Philadelphia Board of Underwriters.
AGENTS for the Hawaiian Islands.
809 1y C. BREWER & CO.

F. A. SCHAEFER,
AGENT of Bremen Board of Underwriters,
Agent of Dresden Board of Underwriters,
Agent of Vienna Board of Underwriters.
Claims against Insurance Companies within the jurisdiction of the above Boards of Underwriters, will have to be certified to by the above agent to make them valid. (842 1y

Insurance Notice.
THE AGENT FOR THE BRITISH Foreign Marine Insurance Company, (limited), has received instructions to reduce the rates of Insurance between Honolulu and Ports in the Pacific, and is now prepared to issue Policies at the lowest rates, with a special reduction on freight per steamers.
THEO. H. DAVIES,
1y 810 Agent Brit. For. Mar. Ins. Co. Limited

TRANS-ATLANTIC
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF HAMBURG.
Capital of the Company & Reserve..Reichsmark 6,000,000
" " their Re-Insurance Companies " 101,650,000
Total.....Reichsmark 107,650,000

NORTH GERMAN
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF HAMBURG.
Capital of the Company & Reserve..Reichsmark 8,800,000
" " their Re-Insurance Companies " 35,000,000
Total.....Reichsmark 43,800,000

SCHWEIZERISCHE LLOYD
RUCK VERSICHERUNGS GESELLSCHAFT
OF WINTERTHUR.
Capital of the Company.....francs 5,000,000
THE UNDERSIGNED GENERAL AGENTS of the above three companies for the Hawaiian Islands, are prepared to insure Buildings, Furniture, Merchandise and Produce, Machinery, &c., also Sugar and Rice Mills, and vessels in the harbor, against loss or damage by fire, on the most favorable terms.
831 1y H. HACKFELD & CO.

HAMBURGH-BREMEN
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.
THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING BEEN APPOINTED Agents of the above Company, are prepared to insure risks against fire on Stone and Brick Buildings, and on Merchandise stored therein, on the most favorable terms. For particulars apply at the office of 834 1y F. A. SCHAEFER & CO.

HAMBURG-MAGDEBURG
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF HAMBURG.
BUILDINGS, MERCHANDISE, FURNITURE and Machinery Insured against Fire on the most favorable terms.
A. JAEGER, Agent for the Hawaiian Islands.
834 1y

UNION INSURANCE COMPANY
OF SAN FRANCISCO.
Marine.
INCORPORATED, 1865
CASTLE & COOKE, AGENTS
819 For the Hawaiian Islands. 1

Insurance Notice.
THE UNDERSIGNED ARE PREPARED to write upon Merchandise, per first-class vessels between this and the Coast Ports, covering loss or damage, if amounting to 10 per cent. or more, on the sound value of the whole shipment at port of delivery, upon favorable terms.
BISHOP & Co.
Agents of the Firemen's Fund Insurance Company.
Honolulu, Jan. 30, 1880. 848 3m

Rhenish Westphalian Lloyd
INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF M. GLADBACH, Rhenish Prussia.
Aachen and Leipzig Insurance Co.,
Limited,
OF AACHEN. (AIX-LA-CHAPELLE.)
ALL CLAIMS FOR PARTICULAR AVERAGE sustained by Goods arriving here, and insured in the above Companies, have to be made with the cognizance of and certified to by the undersigned, in order to be valid. (842 1y) J. C. GLADE, Agent.

GERMAN LLOYD
Marine Insurance Company of Berlin.
FORTUNA
General Insurance Company of Berlin.
THE ABOVE INSURANCE COMPANIES have established a General Agency here, and the undersigned, General Agents, are authorized to take
Risks against the Dangers of the Seas at the Most Reasonable Rates, and on the Most Favorable Terms.
815 1y F. A. SCHAEFER & CO., General Agents.

WILDER & CO.,
Agents for the Hawaiian Islands,
—OF THE—
Mutual Life Insurance Co.
OF NEW YORK,
Largest, Safest and Most
ECONOMICAL LIFE INS. CO.
IN THE WORLD!
Assets...(1880)...$90,000,000
ALL CASH.
Now is a Good Time to Insure
None but First-Class Risks Taken.
847 3m

ASTOR HOUSE
DINING AND
LUNCH PARLORS,
Nos. 76 and 78 Hotel Street,
HART BROTHERS, Proprietors.
Board by the Day, Week or Transient

BILLIARDS,
Cigars, Cigarettes and Tobacco,
Soda Water and other Iced Drinks.
Meals Served in First-Class Style
AT ALL HOURS.
HENRY J. HART, 849 9 ELLIS A. HART.

The Germania Market
HAS BEEN THOROUGHLY RENOVATED, and is now constantly in receipt of the best of
BEEF, MUTTON, VEAL AND LAMB,
From Choicest Herds.
Pork Sausages, Bolognas, Head Cheese, German Sausages, &c., always hand; as also the best of Poultry and Fish.
Our Meats are all cut and put up in Eastern style. All orders faithfully attended to, and delivered to any part of the city.
17 6m RAUPP & SCHRADER, Proprietors.

KNOWLES' STEAM
—AND—
Vacuum Pumps.
THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE JUST RECEIVED per Amy Turner, from Boston, a full assortment of these celebrated Pumps, which are guaranteed to be cheaper and better than any other style of pump imported. We call the attention of planters particularly to the Vacuum Pump, which is less complicated and more serviceable than other pumps.
847 3m 15 tf C. BREWER & CO.

H. HACKFELD & CO.
OFFER FOR SALE
INVOICES OF NEW GOODS
JUST RECEIVED PER
"ATALANTA," FROM BREMEN,
(To be followed by the "Kate" and "Talent,")
And per Steamer, via Panama.
INVOICES OF
The Following Goods
Are now in our possession:
DARK BLUE DENIMS:
New Prints, Star Pads, &c.,
Brown Cottons, Horrock's White Cottons, A & B
Turkey Red Cotton, Tickings,
Blue Cotton Drill, Blue and Fancy FLANNEL,
Lastings, Italian Cloth, Reps,
Fancy White and Black DRESS GOODS,
Jacquard, Mohair, Mousselines, Jaconets, &c.,
Barege, Curtains, Lambrequins, Table Covers, &c. &c. &c. &c.
TAILORS' GOODS:
Buckskins, Doeskins, Coatings, Diagonals,
Printed Moleskins, Brown Cords,
White Linen Drills, &c.
An Assortment of Shirts,
Woolen, Flannel and Cotton Mixed,
Merino and Cotton Undershirts,
Wool Jackets, Shawls, Blankets, Towels, &c.
HOSIERY:
Socks and Stockings, Balbriggan,
Children's &c.
Silk Handkerchiefs, Foulards,
T. R. and Fancy Cotton Handkerchiefs,
Neckties, Wool and Silk Braids,
Ribbons, Thread, Buttons, &c.
India Rubber Coats and Overalls
Fancy and Toilet Articles: Florida Water,
Genuine Eau de Cologne, Philocome,
Combs, Tooth Brushes, Lubin's Extracts,
Feather Dusters, Harmonicas,
Violin Strings, Playing Cards,
Looking Glasses, Vienna Chairs.
STATIONERY:
Blank Books, Ledgers, Journals,
Day Books, Copy and Receipt Books,
Gold Leaf, WRAPPING PAPER,