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Friday Morning, March 15.

THE season opens delightfully; plant for 15,000,000 bales of cotton. Let us get the price down to 5 cents.

THE Legislature neglected to pass a good road law. This failure of duty will be severely felt for the next two years.

VAST quantities of whisky are manufactured from corn, and we hope the planters of Mississippi will cease to plant it.

IF any storm gets in its work without having been foretold by the New York Herald, it will have to start up very early in the morning. Yet that great journal could not or would not foretell the effect that followed the passage of the Silver Bill.

OUR people should plant this year for a very large crop of cotton, for they cannot reasonably expect to realize more than from 5 to 8 cents a pound. The lower the price the more they will need of it. If the South will produce and house say 15,000,000 bales, we can manage to get along for awhile.

THE New York Herald says: "Our exhibit at the Paris Exposition promises to be very fair. Between five and six hundred of our leading merchants and manufacturers have obtained space, and it will be seen by reference to other columns that nearly all of our great industries are fully and respectably represented."

THE editor of the Jackson Times says the Democratic members of the last Legislature waded through blood to get there. The editor doubtless thought he saw the marks the blood left on their legs. He oughtn't to judge by appearances too often, for the marks on some of their legs were caused by their wading out in the sloughs and dirty pools after huckleberries.

THE Mobile Register declares that the account telegraphed by one McCormick, from Alabama, that he had been shot at and wounded in the cheek, and that a second shot was stopped by a map in his pocket, is wholly false. The Register declares that no living being heard of this matter before the spy telegraphed to Washington. "If such an attempt at violence occurred at or near Mauvilla, this imposter did not inform the citizens of Mauvilla of the fact. No one there ever heard of the occurrence. No one upon the train which brought McCormick to Mobile ever heard of the occurrence. No one at Mobile heard of it until they saw McCormick's account of it in the dispatches, and no one has since then heard of it from any other source. Not a State or Federal officer in Mobile county was informed of it." It is highly probable that this tool "put up the job" to influence public sentiment at Washington.

THE highly Reform Democratic Legislature of the State of Mississippi waded into power through the blood of dying victims of party intolerence and party hate, and amid the graves of mutilated and dying Republicans.—[Jackson Times.

In the name of Cardozo, Ames, Warner, et al., what has put the old Wheezer in such good humor. The above reminds us of a whiff of Jim Redpath's breath. *Waded into power through the blood of dying victims!* Whew! And amid *the graves of mutilated and dying Republicans!* Jerusalem! So they put them in their little eternal beds "mutilated and dying," did they? Couldn't even wait for the poor fellows to die, but chucked them into their graves alive? 'Orrible, 'orrible! As this is soothing and interesting, we would like to hear more of it. Where did this occur, and when? Can't the Wheezer give us a list of the names of those gentle Republicans who were buried alive?

Senator Gordon's Bond Bill.

The telegraph yesterday gave us the prominent features of a very important financial bill recently introduced in the Senate by Gen. Gordon, of Georgia. The triumph of the South and West on the silver question gives prominence to the measure introduced by the Senator from Georgia. If the same sections determine that some such policy shall prevail, they have the power to enforce their determination. New England and Wall street have at last been made to feel the great power of the agricultural West and South. Ever since the war the whole policy of the Union—executive, legislative and judicial—has been shaped in the interest of the creditor classes of the Government. The treasury notes which circulate among the great masses of the people have been persistently dishonored, while the bonds have been held sacred. The bondholder has never had to ask twice for his gold interest, while the Government has constantly discriminated against its own currency. Silver was demonetized in the interest of the bondholders and gold-bugs, and until now the protests of the vast majority were totally unheeded. The remonetization of silver was the first step on a wiser and more liberal financial path, and if some measure like that advocated by General Gordon be enacted, it will be the second step.

The Senator's bill provides for 3 per cent. bonds of the United States ranging from $20 to $1,000 and redeemable at maturity either in *legal tender* or coin. The small denominations of the bonds will cause them to be sought after by those who wish to invest small amounts where they can remain in absolute safety. From the nature of the bonds the holders can realize on them at any moment. Their being payable, either in *legal tender* or coin, will enhance the value of legal tender, and resumption will follow without any strain on the business interests of the country.

The bill is a good one, but we think it could be made better by adding the interconvertible feature—that is, by making it compulsory on the Treasurer to exchange the bonds at par for greenbacks or vice versa, at the option of holders. This would maintain the financial equilibrium at all times notwithstanding any efforts by speculators that might be attempted in the future.

To show how unwise and impracticable some of the legislation that was secured at the last session is, we will refer to the Act that attempts to regulate the freight on cotton on railroads. The Act provides that no road in the State shall receive more than $1 per bale for each bale of cotton transported 100 miles, or less; $1 50 for each bale of cotton transported 150 miles or less; $2 for each bale of cotton transported more than 150 and less than 200; $2 50 for each bale of cotton transported more than 200 and less than 250 miles; $3 for each bale of cotton transported more than 250 and less than 300 miles; $3.50 for each bale of cotton transported more than 300 and less than 350 miles; provided, that this applies to cotton shipped from any point within this State, the distance from the point of shipment to destination as expressed and required by the shipper.

To start on, the above can only apply to one or two roads in the State. It will not touch the Mobile and Ohio and New Orleans, St. Louis and Chicago roads, for they can accept the terms *in the State* and then charge what they please after they cross the State's line. If a merchant at Brookhaven or Grenada wants to ship cotton to New Orleans, the road will sign for it at the rate fixed by law to the State's line, and then charge what it pleases thence to New Orleans.

The rate fixed is not a fair one, for it provides too much for long distances and too little for short ones. A railway had nearly as soon transport cotton 300 miles as 100, yet this law allows it to charge over three times as much to do it.

COL. S. BASSETT FRENCH, Secretary of the Lee Monument Association, says Mississippi is the banner State outside of Virginia, in aid of the glorious work. The Association expects to begin work on the statue next Fall. Kemper county in this State, in proportion to her means, is probably the banner county of the State. James H. Neville, Esq., is the Agent for that county.

THE Hinds County Gazette thinks Cooper's Well, in that county, would be a good location for the State Agricultural College.

Blannerhasset's Residence.

Editor of the Herald:

In your paper of yesterday, in the local column, appears a so-called correction of A.'s allusion to Blannerhasset's residence in the neighborhood of Port Gibson at the time of his arrest, and reference is made to Wirt's speech describing the residence of the former on the Ohio river, with a sly hint that "all school-boys of years past recollect the scholarly description," etc., of that home of Blannerhasset.

For the information of your correspondent, I beg to state that there is no error in the allusion of "A." to the fact that Blannerhasset's residence being in "the Mississippi Territory," and refer him to page 375 of Monette's Valley of the Mississippi, and he will read a full account of the surrender of Aaron Burr at the mouth of Bayou Pierre, when he was taken to Natchez before Judge Rodney, of the Superior Court, and having entered into recognizance with his sureties in $10,000, (which he forfeited,) was discharged from custody. The account goes on to state: "About this time, Herman Blannerhasset and Comfort Tyler, two prominent adherents of Burr, arrived at Natchez, and commenced their residence in the Mississippi territory, *some weeks after the arrival of Mrs Blannerhasset.*" The italics are mine, to show that the residence of Blannerhasset was in the neighborhood specified by me. He was not arrested at the same time with Burr, but at a subsequent date. In conclusion, it is not necessary that he (Blannerhasset) should always have resided at the Island so beautifully described, and, if I mistake not, Wirt speaks of that home as being ruined, etc.

A.

The Curious Facts About Gas.

New York Evening Post.]

Whether or not the use of olefiant gas as an illuminating agent tends directly to superinduce a state of mental imbecility we are not prepared to say, with a tolerable measure of confidence. Granting that it will not do to assume that one thing is the cause of another because the two are frequently found in company, we nevertheless note the well nigh universal juxtaposition of any two things as tending at least to suggest the relation of cause and effect.

Meaning to assert no more than this, we wonder that no curious investigator of mental phenomena has thought of collecting the facts about gas, which would make a very curious chapter if set in orderly array. His point of departure, of course, would be the manifestly insane tendency of all human beings who use gas to reduce their supply of light in the hope of thereby reducing the cost of their light. We call this a manifestly insane tendency, because it is a direct attempt to subvert a law known to be as persistent as the law of gravitation itself. Every person who ever had gas to pay for knows experimentally that the less gas he burns the more gas he must pay for. It is not easy to explain this, but experience teaches it—not the experience of one man, but the uniform and universal experience of householders. Yet in practice we fly in the face of this law constantly. When a gas bill which was expected to be for four dollars appears in the house through the aperture under the basement door, and the good housewife finds that it amounts to seven dollars, she straightway institutes a system of supervision which shall diminish the consumption of gas in the house one-half. She reduces the number of burners employed, and forbids the full use of any one of them. She follows the careless members of the family about the house, turning down every burner not immediately needed, until it shows only a blue point of flame, insufficient to light her feet out of the room. She compels the members of the household to feel their way about the house, as ferryboats do in a fog, and gives them a chance to study the nature of the sense of feeling by means of experimental investigation with their shins. It is certain that she thus reduces the amount of gas consumed to one-half the amount used the month before; and it is equally certain that the bill at the end of the month will be increased in a similar proportion.

Curiously enough, nobody learns by experience of this sort. Month after month the lessons of experience are defied. Everybody knows that the rule is a fixed one—the less gas burned, the greater the cost will be—and yet everybody persists in trying to reduce gas bills by sparing the gas. Logically the right course would be to light all the burners in one's house and keep them burning as nearly all the time as possible.

The late Bishop Whitehouse, of Illinois, made some curious experiments on this subject several years ago. Having discovered the fact referred to, that the less gas he burned, the more he was required to pay for it, he determined to subject the law which appeared to govern the phenomena of gas consumption to a severe scientific test. He carefully shut the gas off the meter in his house, had a carpenter securely fasten all the doors and windows, and went to England to attend the Pan Anglican Council. When he returned, the official reader of meters visited him and inspected the dials in his cellar. Then came the bill, and the law was firmly established, for the good Bishop was charged for a third more gas a month during the time of his absence than he had ever been asked to pay for before.

It is a curious set of phenomena which here invite investigation, and we thus briefly refer to them in the hope that we may stimulate some scientific inquirer to explain them.

The Law of the Madhouse.

New York Herald.]

How many really sane people are confined in lunatic asylums in this State is not easily to be got at. Miss Dickie was undoubtedly one, and an inquiry, elsewhere recorded by a Herald reporter in the Insane Asylum on Blackwell's Island, undoubtedly reveals two more. Under the law as it stands there is every opportunity for the evil disposed to secure the committal of relatives or friends who are "in the way." In the private asylum the illegally detained have not very much chance to get out, if their relatives are only zealous in reiterating the patients' insanity and rich enough to pay their board. In the public asylums the patient has a better chance of getting out when cured or when he has remained long enough to establish that he never was insane, because he is kept at the public expense, and the public is interested in lessening its taxes. The great evil exists in the want of safeguards against the committal of those who are not insane. When we reflect on the terrible thing it must be for a sane person to find himself forced into living with lunatics, and how great the chances are that such a person would go mad in earnest, we think that something should be done to make such committals impossible. The bill introduced into the Assembly by Mr. Thair, which is appended to our reporter's story, contains some excellent provisions, chief among which is a regular trial, of which the alleged lunatic will have due notice, and at which except in clearly defined cases, he or she will be present. The bill may be susceptible of judicious amendment, and it should receive full discussion, but the Legislature should certainly make an end this session of a system which can be, and has been, used to deprive sane persons of their liberty. The changed law should apply to all insane institution, public and private.

IN times of great excitement even the prayers of the period are apt to show evidences of the prevailing feeling, and many very strange petitions to the throne of grace have been offered up. But surely there can be no more curious than the following, which has just been discovered, or rediscovered, and published. It is the prayer of a pious but belligerent old Scotchman, made about 1804, when Great Britain was threatened with invasion by Napoleon. It runs thus: "God bless this house and all within twa miles ilka side this house. O bless the cow, and the meal and kailyard, and the muckle town of Dumbarton. O God bless the Scotch Greys that are lyin' in Hamilton Barracks. They are brave chiels—they are no like the foreign whalps that dash their foot against a stone—as if a stone had a soul to be saved. O, put a strong dyke between us and the muckle French. O Lord, preserve us frae a' witches and warlocks, and a' lang nebbet beastes that gang through the heather. O Lord, put a pair o' branks about the King o' France' neck—gie me the halter in my ain hand, that I may lead him about when I like; for Thy sake. Amen."

AN Iowa deaf mute has invented a novel fire-escape. It is a cap or turban to be placed on the head and fastened securely under the chin. It contains enough material to form a small balloon, and when inflated looks like one. It is so arranged that, when placed on the head in its collapsed condition, the air can enter it from underneath and expand it. In case of danger, it is adjusted firmly on the head, and the wearer then jumps boldly from the window of the burning building; the air instantly rushes into the turban, swells it into a balloon, and, buoyed by it, the wearer comes down so gently as to strike the ground with little force. The inventor asserts that with it one can jump safely from a fourth-story window; but to make certain of it and to impart confidence to the jumper, there is a pair of huge padded shoes to be fastened on the feet so as to ease the concussion.

OWING to a financial muddle in Chicago whatever city indebtedness is contracted will for some time be paid in non-interest-bearing warrants, payable out of the tax levy of this year when collected. To insure payment in full it will be necessary that their sum total shall be kept from fifteen to twenty per centum inside the amount levied, inasmuch as the collections are sure to fall short by about this percentage. The Chicago Times says that "these warrants will have to be given to all the city employees in lieu of cash, and nearly all of them will of course be thrown upon the market by the holders, who are for the most part dependent upon their salaries for their daily bread. The result cannot be other than a heavy depreciation variously estimated at from fifteen to fifty per centum."

MR. SNITZLER, of the Kemper Herald, called in to see us a few days ago, and entertained us with a pleasant chat concerning the newspaper business. His idea of "cash in hand" for subscriptions and foreign advertisements is the only safe plan, and ought to be adopted by every paper in the State.—[Homestead.

You are exactly right, friend, and if they will let us have a voice in the next meeting of the Press Association, we think we will carry along a few figures to show how we, as a fraternity, have injured ourselves financially, have weakened our influence, and how we have done injustice to our home patrons. We think the State papers have done enough of free advertising, and have printed enough papers for free distribution, to call a halt.—[Kemper Herald.

THE Vicksburg HERALD has belittled the Legislature from the beginning to the close of its session, and now says it "will compare favorably with any similar body in the country." What does this mean? Has that paper changed editors? Or have its its editors changed their minds?—[Holly Springs South.

It means that there is room for improvement in all the Legislatures we have read of lately. We are beginning to believe that "similar bodies" resemble each other.

AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANCIAL COLLEGE.—The trustees of the "Agricultural and Mechancial College of the State of Mississippi," were appointed by the Governor on 11th inst., as follows: *State at Large*—A. M. West, Holly Springs; Frank Burkitt, Okolona; Chas. L. Gilmer, Sharon, Madison county. *Congressionals Districts*—1st. W. B Montgomery, Starkville; 2d. Thos. C. Dockery, Love's Station; 3d. Wm. B Augustus, Macon; 4th. L. B. Brown, Enterprise; 5th. J. M. Causey, McComb City; 6th. D. L. Phares, Woodville.—[Jackson Clarion.

MR. MOODY, in one of his closing services at Springfield, Mass., last week, advised young converts to eschew Freemasonry, Odd Fellowship, theaters, card-playing, horse racing, novel reading and business partnerships and marriage with unbelievers. He was particularly strenuous on this last point, hoping that the time will come when ministers will preach against such marriages, and refuse to perform the ceremonies, as Mr. Spurgeon already does. He also queried whether Deacons and others in the Connecticut Valley who raise tobacco do it for the glory of God.

SENATOR DAWES, of Massachusetts, has written a letter to the Rev. O. P. Gifford, of Pittsfield, saying that the latter was mistaken in a recent temperance address, when he spoke of sixteen Senators as drunk on the night the Silver Bill was passed, and that in all his twenty years in Congress he never knew of a more quiet time. A good many newspaper correspondents who were present at the night session seem to have shared in the clergyman's mistake.

Pennsylvania Opposed to a Change of Tariff.

HARRISBURG, March 14.—The Senate by an almost unanimous vote, adopted the following: "Resolved, That we hereby respectfully but most earnestly urge upon our Senators and Representatives in Congress the importance of united action on their part in opposing any change of the present tariff system as far as the same affects the material interests of this State."

Quick Work.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., March 14.—The new wooden bridge across the Raritan river, at this point, was completed by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company late last night, and the first through train since Saturday's fire passed over the river this morning. The new structure is 900 feet long, cost $20,000, and was put up by five hundred men in little over four days.

The Ohio Senate for Free Trade.

COLUMBUS, O., March 14.—In the Senate the Senate Joint Resolution asking Congress to make no change in the tariff laws which protect American industries, was reported back by the Committee on Federal Relations with a substitute declaring for free trade. The substitute was agreed to; yeas 16, nays 15.

A Negro Lynched for Committing a Horrible Crime.

PENSSACOLA, FLA., March 14.—A negro raped a five year old child here recently, and the child subsequently died. The negro was lynched by a mob last night, the Sheriff and posse fired on the mob, killing one and wounding five dangerously.

An Old War Vessel.

LONDON, March 14.—The Daily News has a special from Plymouth, that the Wevern turret ship, built for the Southern Confederacy, but detained by the Government, and ever since moored in the harbor, has now been brought to the Davenport dockyard to be prepared for commission.

New Silver Dollars.

NEW YORK, March 14.—The first of the new silver dollars made their appearance on Wall Street this morning. There being a limited amount the supply was soon exhausted; the desire to obtain them as tokens being general, and buyers paying a fraction above par in gold.

Storm in Ohio.

CINCINNATI, March 14.—A storm for the past two days has been very destructive in the interior, especially to railroad property. A large portion of Mansfield, Ohio, was covered to a depth of three feet. Street car stables at Zanesville were demolished.

Grain Elevators in Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 14.—The Emperor has signed a charter authorizing L. B. Shaw, E. G. Burgess, T. B. Lane, and other New York capitalists, to erect and operate grain elevators throughout the Empire.

A Reliable Article.

It is a pleasure to commend an article of a thoroughly reliable character, and we do not hesitate to do so in speaking of DOOLEY'S YEAST POWDER, which an experience of over ten years convinces us is the best and most reliable baking powder in the market.

UNITED STATES BONDS.

Great Demand for Government Bonds, and Growing Distrust of Savings Banks.

NEW YORK, March 14.—It is stated that the demand for Government bonds from leading cities, is steadily increasing. Since Monday, orders have been received from Cincinnati amounting to $250,000, and equally large sales have been made to financial institutions in Cleveland, Chicago and St. Louis. Orders from the West are generally divided into small amounts, and it is believed chiefly for investment by persons who have formerly deposited in savings banks. Heavy dealers in Government securities state that within the last two or three days over $1,000,000 of bonds have been sent to Boston, and that correspondents write that drafts upon savings banks in that city, during the last week for reinvestment in Government bonds, are heavy. Some savings banks of this city are disposing of part of their mortgages to secure more available assets. Two of these institutions invested yesterday $250,000 each in Government securities at a single bank. This dealer stated that over $10,000,000 Government bonds changed hands last week in this city alone, an amount unprecedented in any single week since the time of the placing of the 4½ per cents. A letter received yesterday from a prominent St. Louis banker, stated that there was a growing distrust of savings banks, and of real estate security in the West, and unusually low prices of United States bonds had stimulated the demand, principally among small investors.

Supposed Secret Agreement Between Russia and Turkey.

LONDON, March 14.—A special from Berlin to the Times says the Anglo-Austrian demand that the whole of the Russo-Turkish agreement shall be submitted to the Congress, arises from the belief that special and secret arrangements have been entered into independent of the principal treaty. It would be clearly useless to examine the latter unless Russia guarantees that it contains all that has been done.

The Journal De St. Petersburg's intimation that Russia will refuse to submit all points of the treaty to the Congress, and its statement that if the mission of the Congress is to result in peace, subjects not of European character and which might lead to excited and resultless discussion, must be set aside, has strengthened the current belief in a secret treaty.

Italian Interference with the Vatican.

LONDON, March 14.—The Times has the following: "Rome, March 13.—The Government's action touching the Bishopric of Salerno must lead to a conflict with the Vatican. The Royal procuration maintains that seven Archbishoprics and seventeen Bishoprics in the former Kingdom of Naples, are under Crown patronage by virtue of a concession of Clement IIV. to the Emperor Charles V.

The Rome correspondent of the Times states that the Italian authorities notified the Bishop of Salerno that his appointment is void, as the patronage of that See is vested in the King and not in the Pope.

England to Participate in the Congress.

LONDON, March 14.—The Chancellor said in the House of Commons that England had agreed to go into the Congress. The Chancellor also said he could not enter into details, but he might say that in the Congress each Power would retain liberty of action. It is not intended that the majority should be in the minority. England will maintain her views in the Congress, and will require, before entering it, that every article of the treaty of peace shall be placed before the Congress in such manner that the Congress can judge whether the articles are to be accepted or not.

A Sad Death.

BALTIMORE, March 14.—Charles Samuel Hoffman was locked up last night at the Middle Police District Station, and when the turn-key made his rounds this morning, Hoffman was found dead in his cell. He was a German, about 45 years of age, a harnessmaker by trade, and is said to have been a sojourner in nearly every part of the United States. At the break out of the late war, he enlisted in Company H., First Georgia Regiment, and was severely wounded in one of the battles in Virginia. He was discharged, but on recovering again entered the Confederate service, and served during the war.

The Day for Meeting of the European Congress.

LONDON, March 14.—A special from Vienna to the Daily Telegraph says that Russia has intimated her desire that Congress meet on the 30th of March, which is the 22d anniversary of the signature of the treaty of Paris. The Austrian Government firmly anticipates that the Congress will assemble on that day, but it seems hardly possible everything can be ready so soon.

Severe Storm in West Virginia.

WHEELING, W. VA., March 14.—The heaviest storm ever experienced in West Virginia, passed over Jefferson county Monday night. A number of houses were unroofed. Hail stones larger than eggs fell for an hour, breaking glass, killing cattle, hogs and sheep. The heavy rain which followed washed out the growing wheat, inflicting heavy loss. The damage is estimated at from $950,000 to $100,000,000.