

FREE PRESS.

ISAAC H. JULIAN, Editor
SAN MARCOS, TEXAS.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1885.

[ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT SAN MARCOS TEXAS AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.]

All Communications for the Free Press should be sent to on Monday to ensure insertion the same week, and all advertisements and business notices not later than Wednesday noon.

Positively no communication published unless the writer's real name accompanies it, not for publication unless desired; but for our own benefit and protection.

The late Lord Aylesford's brother, Hon. D. H. Finch, represents his stock interest in Texas.

Gov. Ireland states in his message that, owing to short crops, we are having in Texas the hardest times which have prevailed in twenty-seven years.

Another lunatic asylum was burned on the 18th inst. This time it was at Kankakee, Ill. Seventeen of the inmates perished in the flames.

Editor Clarkson has not come forward with his indubitable proofs of Gov. St. John's perjury. At last accounts the Governor had called Mr. Clarkson a liar and Mr. Clarkson had not proved that the governor was mistaken.

With the exception of Mr. Greeley, no man has ever been nominated or elected to the presidency by either of the two great parties who was not a lawyer or a successful soldier, until the Republicans nominated Blaine.—[N. Y. Sun.]

Referring to St. John's request to Clarkson to either furnish the proofs or withdraw the charges, the Chicago Times said: "Mr. St. John asks too much. There would be no campaign lying if the editor of the organ was expected to prove his assertions, and what would a campaign be without campaign lying?"

Dr. Deems recently said: "The one paramount political issue of the day is the destruction of the liquor traffic. No party exists in America whose preservation is comparable in importance with the destruction of the traffic." The minds of thousands of thoughtful men are reaching the same conclusion.

The loss of stock consequent on the recent severe weather must be immense, hundreds of thousands of cattle have drifted down from the northwest against the fences below and are perishing of cold and hunger. It is estimated that full fifty per cent of stock throughout the State has perished, but as that it may not prove so bad as that.

The Earl of Aylesford, the dissolute English nobleman who some time since settled and made large landed investments about Big Springs, died a short time since. His body was embalmed to be sent back to England. Although so great a moral wreck, he came of respectable stock, being it is said a direct descendant of Sir Henage Finch, an eminent lawyer of a former century.

We have been unable to glean from the detailed proceedings in the papers just what has been done in the Legislature. We fear we shall miss the letters of J. E. Lamb, who reported the leading matters for our columns during the last two sessions. Are there not some members or employees of the present Legislature who will kindly favor us with occasional similar letters?

A fearful tragedy occurred at Overton, on the International road on Monday morning. Two men boarded the train and refused to pay their fare, and in attempting to put them off they mortally wounded conductor Frazer and a brakeman named Parmer badly. Some think the men intended robbery or perhaps personal revenge.

It would seem from latest advices that the Exposition at New Orleans is in a critical position. The employees, including the electric light company, have not been paid and strikes are threatened. The receipts thus far are quite inadequate to pay expenses. It would seem now that Uncle Sam may have to come to the rescue in order to save the enterprise from failure.

Vanderbilt has tendered to Gen. Grant and wife as a gift the full amount of the \$150,000 Grant borrowed of him. They at first accepted but afterwards declined. The matter was shaped for restoring him to his rank on the retired list as General. A bill to that end has passed the Senate. Several leading Southern and Democratic members favored the measure, among whom was Senator Maxwell of this State. The House has not yet taken action on the subject.

OUR EXPOSITION LETTER.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., Jan. 10th, 1885.

The financial straight in which the Exposition Management finds itself now the World's Fair is at the scene of success as an exhibit, while it is to be regretted, could not well be helped. It needs \$300,000 to set it well on its feet, which it would have acquired from gate money had the weather permitted the attendance of visitors. But New Orleans with over \$115,000,000 of taxable property will not let the Exposition suffer for lack of the paltry sum of a quarter, or even a half a million dollars. A mass meeting was held Thursday evening, when the Finance Committee, through Director General Burke, stated the fact of their embarrassment, and went to work to remedy the same. A committee was appointed to raise the needed funds, and as charity begins at home, it set out by subscribing \$25,000. It will report to-night, and no one doubts the requisite amount will be forthcoming.

A lump of silver bullion from Chihuahua, Mexico, is shown in Main building. It weighs 5640 pounds, and is valued at \$115,000.

A small but select party of excursionists from New York reached the city aboard the steam yacht Yosemite, the first of the week.

Senor J. Hattori, a distinguished official from the University of Tokio, Japan, is a recent arrival in America. He comes to this country in the educational interest of his empire.

Chief Gaul, of the Sioux Tribe of Indians, accompanied by his wife and child, and interpreter Young, of Standing Rock Agency, Dakota, are guests of Commissioner Fleming, of Fargo, at the Dakota Department, in the government building. The Chief is a boon companion of Sitting Bull, the wild Indian who helped to massacre General Custer on the Little Big Horn, Montana, in 1876.

To give your readers an idea of the interest Mexico is taking in the Exposition, it is only necessary to state that their elegant round iron building now being erected with cost high on to \$175,000, not to mention the expenses incurred in putting up their barracks, about an equal amount. There is sufficient to see in any one building to repay anybody for a visit down here.

There is no little interest being taken in the displays at the World's Fair by the various railroads. With the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul in the lead, the Richmond & Danville East Tenn., Va. & Georgia, the Queen & Crescent, Balto. & Ohio, the Chesapeake & Ohio, the Northern Pacific, the Union Pacific and other lines, a great exhibit can be seen in the way of agricultural productions, mineral ores, bullion, &c.

ST. LOUIS LETTER.

ST. LOUIS MO. Jan. 15th 1885.

EDITOR FREE PRESS: A storm of sleet and snow prevails here to-day, and the side walks are deserted by the throng of pedestrians who huddle together in the middle of the streets, the perilous conjunction with hacks, cabs, trucks and vehicles of every description, man and beast struggling to keep their footing up and down the slippery highways. This will long be remembered as the winter of hard times: never in the history of St. Louis were so many men and women out of employment. Charitable societies, wealthy individuals—here and there—and the municipal authorities are busy relieving "cases of destitution, but the work is a fearful task in this vast wilderness of shanties and "dingy buildings of unseemly brick" along the endless nameless girls come every day in squads to streets and alleys of this big city. Half-naked, half-starved boys and the different police stations and carry away to their homes the scanty rations doled out by a precarious public charity. Your correspondent never before witnessed such multitudes of famished and almost naked men crowding the court rooms and corridors of the public buildings to shelter themselves from the pitiless storm. The police are continually driving them out into the streets, threatening them with arrest, but the poor fellows come right back again, knowing very well that the police have no right to harm them and no place to keep them. In the midst of all these calamitous scenes, it must be said to the credit of the rich people of the "West End," that they have been discreet and abstemious in their conduct, and have carefully avoided the usual fashionable and expensive "entertainments," rather choosing to meet quietly at their churches and organizing and contributing aid to those less fortunate in the possession of this world's goods.

The third trial of Jack Hays for the murder of Mr. Miller four years ago has again resulted in a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree.

His counsel are working hard for their unfortunate young client, and are confident of "reversing" their case for the fourth time in the supreme court. Your readers will remember that Jack Hays is the young stock dealer who shot and killed a saloon keeper named Miller on Grand Avenue several years ago, whilst he, Hays, was on a protracted spree.

Last Monday Thos. T. Crittenden stepped down and out, and John S. Marmaduke was sworn in as Governor of Missouri. Governor Crittenden in the last days and hours of his official power was crowded with applications for pardons to such extent that they got the old man "rattled," and then he refused to pardon any body and retired amidst the howls and curses of the "pardon contingent."

John S. Marmaduke was a rebel Brigadier General, and it is said holds his high office without any thanks to politicians and political rings, and evidently intends to run things just to suit himself.

Governor Marmaduke has already appointed a new Board of Public Commissioners for St. Louis, the old Board having resigned in time to keep the new Executive from removing them.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

[From Our Regular Correspondent.]
WASHINGTON, JAN. 13, 1885.

The monotony of the week that has passed was broken by the celebration of the anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, "Jackson's day" as it is called. Another event was the advent and departure, all in forty eight hours, of Col. Lamont the private secretary of the president-elect. Col. Lamont came to look for a home, and to scan the field of his future labor. He had not been in the city before. He has a wife and children and must have a house. He did not succeed in getting a house, but will try again, after the fourth of March, when a few hundred residences will doubtless be vacated.

It is difficult to believe that only six weeks more remain of President Arthur and a republican administration. Preparation is sleepless, and expectation is on tip-toes for the fourth of March. It is estimated that there will be 250,000 visitors here at the inauguration. I cannot think that there will be so many, but the number will doubtless be large. As a usual thing the interest of the country in Washington matters ceases with the adjournment of Congress, but this year it will grow with the inauguration of a new president, a new policy, the appointment of a new cabinet, and numerous other changes in all the departments of the public service.

It is edifying to see the desperation with which a large number of drones and sinecurists are trying to get themselves converted into real civil service reformers and Democrats. Many of them are shuffling over with an alacrity that is not graceful.

Congress is at work on the appropriation bills. The navy bill has been passed by the house, and the consular and diplomatic bill is under discussion. I heard a republican statesman, so called, bewailing the fact that the trained and improved consular and diplomatic personnel which, he said, had been established in the last eight years by Evarts and Frelinghuysen, must give place to Democratic bunnies and ward politicians. Well, it will be a pity if it is so, but if this noxious class must have officers, by all means let's send them to the foreign courts where they will have nothing to do, and will therefore be incapable of harm. Modern diplomacy is an anachronism and a farce. There is not the slightest necessity for our sending representatives to foreign governments, or for foreign governments to send representatives here. We have no foreign relations. Steam and electricity and the press, have made the ambassadorial establishments of contiguous states useless, then how utterly needless to keep them up between our country and trans-Atlantic powers. It would be better to recall our flimsy ships cruising in foreign seas, exposing our weakness, and costing millions annually. It would be better to dismantle our diplomatic establishments in European capitals. The press with steam, and the Atlantic cable will furnish us prompt and more accurate information than can possibly be obtained by our heavy representatives abroad.

We shall know State secrets as soon as they are known by kings and their ministers, for we will get them from the same source, the press.

A Valuable Horse-Book for Twenty-five Cents.

"A Treatise on the Horse and his Diseases" is the title of a valuable manual of 91 pages of which 2,500,000 have been sold. For sale at the Free Press office, price 25 cents. Will be sent by mail, postage paid on receipt of price.

Gov. Ireland's Message.

We regret that our space will not permit our giving the Governor's Message in full. Below we give the headings of the Fort Worth Gazette, which are a summary in themselves, and also on editorial review by the same paper:

The State's growth and prosperity unprecedented, notwithstanding the poor crops.

The watered lands should be dedicated to the public use—a revision in the lease law necessary.

The State's rapid progress in wealth and population urgently demand a new census.

The financial depression reviewed—the special treasury funds should be used in emergency.

The condition of our railways, schools, penitentiaries and asylums—other topics.

As a state paper, Gov. Ireland's message is an admirable document in many points. The recommendations made in it are not likely to suit everybody, and probably it was not made up with that purpose in view; but even on those points where we dissent from his conclusions it cannot be denied that his statements are fair, and his handling of the subjects treated of sensible and liberal in tone. In its entirety the message is "meaty" and will have weight upon the course of legislation this winter.

The first topic of leading importance touched upon is the public school lands and their disposition. Discussing the leasing of these lands the governor seems to find difficulty in avoiding a tangle. He does not believe those lands capable of supporting an agricultural population should be leased for a long term of years, nor should any lands be so leased as to allow their inclosure in large tracts without ample passage-ways around or through them. At least one-half the agricultural lands in each county should, he thinks, be reserved from lease and left open to actual settlers. This is similar to Mr. Gibbs' plan, which he proposed last summer. If it is necessary to except lands from the operation of the lease law for the benefit of settlers, that is an unqualified admission that the leasing of lands keeps out settlement. To hold the contrary, as the lease advocates do, that leasing does not deter settlement, is to put the governor in the ridiculous attitude of advising a remedy for an evil that does not exist. The Democratic platform upon which the canvass was made and the present governor and legislature elected pledged the party to such legislation respecting the school lands as will not retard the settlement of the West. If the governor's plan is regarded, it will be necessary to divide the West up into leasing and non-leasing districts, which, if attempted, will be found utterly impracticable.

The recommendation of a provision for the taking of a state census upon which to base a reapportionment of the legislative districts will meet a cordial approval in North and West Texas. The Gazette has printed columns in favor of a state census and a redistribution of representative power, and has repeatedly exposed the unfairness toward the growing West of the existing legislative districts. The governor's championship of the proposition will renew discussion of the matter throughout the state, and will doubtless lead to the enactment of a law looking to a state census.

The recommendation of a revision of the assessment laws to prevent the escape of property from being taxed; of having all legal fees and costs paid in the counties where they are incurred; reducing the rafter forces; increasing the penalty against "pistol-toters"; these are the most important topics to which legislative attention is called for rectification of the existing laws. A strong appeal is made for economy and the cutting off of all expenses that can be dispensed with without crippling the public service. This suggestion first of all should command the attention of the law-makers, and if there is any place for "retrenchment and reform" it should be looked after.

The Victoria Advocate, whose editor is one of the directors of the New York, Texas and Mexican railroad, has this to say: "San Antonio's proposed railroad to Aransas Pass lacks a vital deal of being a certainty. In the meantime the chances are that the Eads measure will be endorsed by congress and deep water at Galveston thereby become an accomplished fact. It is not a question of what we would like to have happen, but what is most likely to happen. Within the next ninety days it is believed the question of pushing the New York, Texas and Mexican westward from this city will be determined in favor of such extension. Should the line reach Galveston next summer, it would tend to strengthen the demand for deep water at Galveston, and to that extent lessen the necessity of connecting San Antonio directly with the gulf. Therefore, we think the San Antonio Express is correct in remarking that if the people of that city "sit quietly and silently by and make no effort to controvert the action of the Galveston people," the result may prove disastrous to the Aransas Pass railroad scheme.

A Letter from St. John.

Worcester, Jan. 15.—A letter from ex-Governor St. John to local prohibitionists was published here today. He says: "The whole story to the effect that I, or the prohibition committee, have received a single penny, pledge or promise any party, person or persons, directly or indirectly, in connection with the campaign, except my personal expenses paid by the prohibition committee, is infamously and maliciously false."

Democratic State Editorial Association.

Special Dispatch to the Globe-Democrat.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., January 8.—St. Jackson Day was observed by the Democratic State Editorial Association in their annual meeting and banquet. Thirty-five papers were represented in the business meeting. Resolutions were passed endorsing McDonald as Indiana's choice for a Cabinet position; approving the course of the Indianapolis Sentinel during the campaign and commending its proprietor, John C. Shoemaker, to the incoming Administration for recognition, and urging the selection of Enos B. Reed, of the Indianapolis People, as State Fish Commissioner.

The following officers were elected: President, W. Scott Ray, Shelbyville Democrat; Vice Presidents, Harry Francis, Michigan City Dispatch, and J. Poppogate, New Albany Ledger; Secretary, Luther Short, Franklin Democrat; Chairman Executive Committee, John B. Stoll, South Bend Times.

After the election of officers speeches were made by ex-Governor Hendricks and Geo. W. Julian. Tonight about 200 politicians, statesmen and editors sat down to a banquet at English's Hotel.

The association appointed a committee to arrange an excursion to New Orleans during the Exposition, and adjourned to meet at Lake Maxinkuckee next June.

Temple Houston's Bill.

Temple Houston of the Panhandle district has introduced a bill in the senate providing for the sale of school lands to heads of families at \$2 00 per acre in quantities not less than 160 acres nor more than 640 acres, payment to be made in thirty years, and unpaid principal to bear 5 per cent. No patents to be issued until after three year's occupancy. The bill is hedged with provisions to prevent the accumulation of large bodies of land in the hands of single proprietors. It is a bill in the interest of home seekers and bona fide settlers and as such should receive the endorsement of those who have the best interests of the country at heart. It will give the first comer a choice of land, and the use of land surrounding until settlers file on all available for settlement. It is such a bill as should have passed ten years since.—[Stock Journal.]

The Austin Statesman makes brief mention of the death of an aged Texas veteran:

Mr. Aaron Burleson, one of the oldest and best known citizens of this county, died suddenly at his home, near Govalle, some two miles east of Austin, yesterday morning. Mr. Burleson had not been in good health for some time past, and while out walking in the neighborhood of Mrs. Hamilton's place, with a domestic, remarked that he felt too tired to proceed further, and sank to the ground. When friends came he was in a dying condition, and shortly expired. He was a brother of General Ed. Burleson, and was in the regiment commanded by the latter at the battle of San Jacinto. He was a man universally liked for his integrity, and when differences arose among his neighbors was often called in to act as mediator. All honor to his memory.

The following paragraph is significant, coming from the Foreville Chronicle, a paper published in a local option town:

Whiskey has died out, everybody is sober, and local option once more prevails.

To the Travelling Public.

OFFICE OF ST. LEONARD HOTEL, MAIN PLAZA, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, 1884.

Editor San Marcos Free Press: As I desire to make "The St. Leonard Hotel" a popular resort for stockmen, where they may enjoy all the substantial comforts of a first-class hotel, I have reduced my rates to correspond with the times, to

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